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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
No. prev. doc.:	10983/17
Subject:	Amendment No 1 to the 2017-2018 Action Programme of the African Peace Facility

1. On 12 July 2017, the Permanent Representatives Committee approved Amendment No 1 to the 2017-2018 Action Programme of the African Peace Facility (APF).
2. In line with Article 15(b) of Council Regulation (EU) 2015/322 of 2 March 2015 on the implementation of the 11th European Development Fund, Amendment No 1 to the Action Programme annexed to this note can now be adopted by the Commission.

2017-2018 Action Programme of the African Peace Facility

Amendment No 1

INFORMATION FOR POTENTIAL GRANT APPLICANTS

WORK PROGRAMME FOR GRANTS

This document constitutes the work programme for grants in the sense of Article 128(1) of the Financial Regulation (Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012), applicable to the EDF by virtue of Article 37 of the Regulation (EU) No 323/2015 in the following sections concerning calls for proposals: section 5.4.1 “Grants – direct award (direct management)”.

1. Title/basic act/ CRIS number	2017-2018 action programme of the African Peace Facility (APF) CRIS number: FED/2016/039-433	
2. Zone benefiting from the action/location	African continent	
3. Programming document	2017-2018 Action Programme of the African Peace Facility	
4. Sector of concentration/ thematic area	Peace and Security	DEV. Aid: ¹ Yes (results 1 and 2)
5. Amounts concerned	<p>Total estimated cost: EUR 535 000 000</p> <p>Initial EDF contribution: EUR 430 000 000</p> <p>From the total estimated cost of the programme, EUR 430 000 000 shall be committed initially in 2017 from decommitted funds of 10th EDF projects and the 11th EDF. The EU financial contribution shall be increased up to EUR 535 000 000, subject to the availability of decommitted funds from 10th EDF projects and an amendment of this action programme.</p> <p>The APF is open to contributions from other donors and international partners that will be managed in line with the 11th EDF Implementation and Financial Regulations.</p>	

¹ Official Development Aid is administered with the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries as its main objective.

6. Aid modality(ies) and implementation modality(ies)	Project Modality Direct Management (grants and procurement of services) with African Regional Economic Communities and services contractors Indirect management with the African Union Commission (AUC) and/or African Regional Economic Communities and Regional Mechanisms (RECs/RMs) having passed the pillar assessment. Indirect management with Expertise France			
7 a) DAC code(s)	15230			
b) Main Delivery Channel	Multilateral Organisations - 40000			
8. Markers (from CRIS DAC form)	General policy objective	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective
	Participation development/good governance	<input type="checkbox"/>	x	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Aid to environment	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gender equality (including Women In Development)	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Trade Development	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Reproductive, Maternal, New born and child health	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	RIO Convention markers	Not targeted	Significant objective	Main objective
	Biological diversity	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Combat desertification	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change mitigation	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Climate change adaptation	x	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC) thematic flagship	N/A			
10. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	SDG 16: Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies			

SUMMARY

This action programme contributes to the Peace and Security component of the Africa-EU Partnership via the implementation of actions for the period 2017-2018 funded by the African Peace Facility (APF) under the European Development Fund (EDF).

The EU Global Strategy² defines Peace and Security as one of the vital interest of the EU. It also states that security at home entails a parallel interest in peace in the EU's neighbouring and surrounding regions. The African continent continues to be marked by conflicts of various nature (with roots in ethnic tensions, deficient governance, lack of respect for human rights, hunger, poverty, impacts of climate change, disputes around access to natural resources) that not only hamper economic and social development, but also drive population displacement. 6 out of the top 10 source countries for refugees are African, and a large share of refugees, migrants and internally displaced in Africa remain on the continent. Terrorism has also been on the increase as a consequence of the rise of extremist groups like Boko Haram, Al Shabaab and Al Qaeda. Achieving peace and security in Africa is critical not only to the overall rise and development of the continent, but also to maintaining stability in Europe.

Sustainable peace can only be achieved through comprehensive agreements rooted in regional and/or international partnerships. The African Union (AU) ambition is to achieve a peaceful and secure Africa, and is intent on putting in place functional mechanisms for peaceful prevention and resolution of conflicts with the goal to "silence the guns by 2020". The Joint Africa EU Strategy (JAES) is the basis for AU-EU partnership on peace and security, which is underpinned by the principle of "African solutions for African problems". The JAES, supports, mainly through the APF, the operationalisation of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA), which provides a continental framework within which the AUC, Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Regional Mechanisms (RMs) contribute to prevent, manage and resolve conflicts in Africa.

² Shared Vision, Common Action: A Stronger Europe. A Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign And Security Policy. June 2016.

The present Action Programme is relevant for Agenda 2030. It contributes primarily to the progressive achievement of SDG Goal 16, in particular to its first target ("16.1. Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere"). It will contribute to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development (SDG 16) by supporting African-led efforts to silencing the guns by 2020 and therefore reducing deaths and forced displacement due to violent conflict on the continent. It will achieve this by (1) strengthening the institutional capacities of the AUC and RECs so that the targets defined in the APSA roadmap 2016-2020 can be met, (2) supporting better mediation and conflict prevention management by the AU and the RECs so that an increasing number of conflicts are contained and/or avoided in a timely manner through; and (3) Supporting an early and effective deployment of African troops so that the African-led Peace Support Operations are instrumental in ending and/or containing conflict in full respect of Human Rights and international humanitarian law.

The programme will be implemented primarily through indirect management with the African Union, and through grant or indirect management agreements with RECs/RMs or with Member States' agencies. Service contracts will be procured for technical assistance, audit and evaluation. An administrative arrangement with the JRC is also foreseen to provide further technical support to the AUC in the area of a continent wide conflict early warning system.

1 CONTEXT

1.1. Sector/Country/Regional context/Thematic area

This sub-point remains unchanged.

1.1.1. Public Policy Assessment and EU Policy Framework

The promotion of Peace and Security is one of the key objectives enshrined in the AU's Constitutive Act adopted on 11 July 2000, which also articulates the link between security and development in its preamble. In order to achieve this objective, the Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU PSC) created in 2002 the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA). The APSA provides a continental framework within which the AUC, Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Regional Mechanisms (RMs)³ contribute to prevent, manage and resolve conflicts in Africa. The APSA relies on the functioning of key institutions such as the AU PSC, supported by the AU Commission (AUC), a Panel of the Wise, a Continental Early Warning System (CEWS), an African Standby Force (ASF) and a Peace Fund. RECs and RMs constitute the building blocks of this architecture, collaborating closely with AUC to ensure a common and tailored African response is delivered. In addition, given the evolving nature of transnational threats, RECs/RMs are not always the most relevant actors for intervention since countries affected belong to several of these organisations. As a consequence, new sub-regional organisations carrying out a peace and security operation with an AU PSC mandate have emerged and seek international support to tackle these new challenges. Although they are not formally part of the APSA, they managed peace support operations which are also endorsed by the AU.

The AU's Agenda 2063⁴ outlines the strategic framework for the socio-economic transformation of the continent over the next 50 years. Its aspiration 4, "a peaceful and secure Africa", aims at putting in place functional mechanisms for peaceful prevention and resolution of conflicts in such a way that by 2020 all guns will be silent. This is a commitment that has been developed in the AU initiative "Silencing the guns by 2020" adopted in 2014.

³ Currently, the following organisations are part of the APSA by virtue of having signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the AU: the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU), the Economic Community of Sahelo-Saharan States (CEN-SAD), the Common Market of East and Southern Africa (COMESA), the East African Community (EAC), the Eastern Africa Stand-by Force (EASF), the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Inter-Governmental Authority for Development (IGAD), the North Africa Regional Capability (NARC), the South African Development Community (SADC).

⁴ The Agenda 2063: The Africa we want was agreed in the Solemn Declaration on the 50th Anniversary of the Organisation of African Unity/African Union adopted by African Heads of States and Governments on 25 May 2013.

The APSA Roadmap 2016-2020 is the strategic document paving the way for future collaboration between the AU, the RECs and the RMs in achieving the goals of the "Silencing the guns by 2020" initiative. It identifies five strategic priorities: conflict prevention, crisis and conflict management, post-conflict reconstruction and peace building, strategic securities issues, and coordination and partnerships.

The very foundation of the European Union (EU) lies in efforts to overcome divisions and promote peace. Article 21 of the Lisbon Treaty establishes the aim to preserve peace, prevent conflict and strengthen international security as a core aim of the EU's external action. The EU Global Strategy defines Peace and Security as one of the vital interests of the EU. It also links internal and external security: "Our security at home entails a parallel interest in peace in our neighbouring and surrounding regions. It implies a broader interest in preventing conflict, promoting human security, addressing the root causes of instability and working towards a safer world". Within that framework, the Global Strategy adopts an integrated approach to conflicts as one of the five priorities of the EU's external action. This requires the EU to intervene at all stages of the conflict cycle, acting promptly on prevention, responding responsibly and decisively to crises, investing in stabilisation, and avoiding premature disengagement. The EU recognises that it cannot solve conflicts alone. Sustainable peace can only be achieved through comprehensive agreements rooted in broad, deep and durable regional and international partnerships.

The New European Consensus on Development⁵ considers security and development as important and complementary aspects of EU relations with third countries. This reflects recognition that unless security issues are dealt with, the EU faces an ever-increasing demand for humanitarian aid and an inability to tackle deep-seated poverty in insecure areas. The security situations have also led to an increasing flow of migrants/refugees to Europe from several African countries.

⁵ Joint statement by the Council and the representatives of the governments of the Member States meeting within the Council, the European Parliament and the European Commission: 'The New European Consensus on Development – Our World, Our Dignity, Our Future' 9459/17.

The EU has a wide array of external policies, instruments and tools at its disposal to address political and security challenges, ranging from diplomacy (statements, demarches, mediation, facilitation of dialogue, participation in relevant international fora) and EU external cooperation instruments (both thematic and geographical), to actions under the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), including regular political dialogues with third countries and international organisations, restrictive measures (sanctions), appropriate measures on development cooperation under Article 96 of the Cotonou Agreement, EU Special Representatives, disarmament and non-proliferation activities, and civilian and military crisis management missions under the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP).

The resolve of African partners to promote peace and security on the continent has been strongly supported by the EU from the outset, both politically and financially. The Joint Africa-EU Strategy (JAES), adopted in Lisbon in 2007, defined peace and security as one of the eight areas of partnership (the Africa-EU Peace and Security Partnership). The intent of the partnership is to support "African solutions for African problems". The fourth Africa-EU Summit held in Brussels in April 2014 adopted the Roadmap 2014-2017, which refocused the implementation of the JAES on five priority areas, including peace and security.

The African Peace Facility (APF) is the main tool for implementing the Africa-EU Peace and Security Cooperation. This cooperation consists of three inter-linked priorities: Enhanced dialogue on challenges to peace and security, operationalisation of the African Peace Security Architecture (APSA), and Support to Peace Support Operations (PSOs) in Africa. Through the APF, financed by the EDF for a total envelope of more than EUR 2.1 billion, the EU has been at the forefront of international support to the APSA and providing, in parallel to political backing, substantial and predictable funding to African peace support operations. The APF is a pan-African instrument in nature. Undertakings at national levels (e.g. training and funding of purely national actors) are not eligible for funding. Instead, the financial support must be requested by and provided to the AU and/or the African RECs/RMs included in the APSA or other sub-regional organisations carrying out a peace and security operation with an AU PSC mandate.

1.1.2 Stakeholder analysis

The direct beneficiaries of the APF will be the AU, the RECs/RMs, the relevant institutions/structures within or related to the APSA as well as sub-regional organisations carrying out a peace and security operation with an AU PSC mandate. The final beneficiaries will be the people of the African states who will be less affected by conflicts and who will live in a safer environment. European citizens will also indirectly benefit from a safer African continent, as stability in Europe cannot be dissociated from stability in the European neighbourhood and beyond. The following are the most relevant stakeholders for the APF:

The AU Peace and Security Council (AU PSC) is the primary actor in the area of peace and security in the continent as foreseen by the 2001 AU PSC Protocol. It is the standing decision-making organ for the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts. Its key missions are to provide political leadership, to coordinate the other APSA components, as well as to generate actions. It is composed of representatives of AU Heads of states.

The AU Commission Peace and Security Department provides support to the AU PSC and to the overall AU Commission. It builds upon its various divisions, prominent among which is the Peace Support Operations Division (PSOD). The AU has set up liaison offices in countries affected or at risk of being affected by conflict. Liaison offices contribute to conflict analysis, provide early warning and support the implementation of conflict management activities. The AU is a key stakeholder with regards to APF funded activities as PSO has constantly been an important element of APF support to peace-related activities on the African continent.

The RECs/RMs are key partners of the AU. Their relationship with the continental organisation was established in a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in 2008, and their role in peace and security has been officially recognised in the AU PSC Protocol. Whilst being formally independent, a high level of cooperation is sought between the RECs/RMs and the AU, and several APSA components (i.e. the CEWS and the ASF) hinge on regional mechanisms for their functioning. As such, the RECs/RMs are also entitled to receive funding from the APF, with AU endorsement.

The sub-regional organisations carrying out a peace and security operation with an AU PSC mandate are not formally part of the APSA. However given the evolving nature of transnational threats, RECs/RMs are not always the most relevant actors for intervention since countries affected belong to several of these organisations. As a consequence, sub-regional organisations carrying out a peace and security operation with an AU PSC mandate (such as the G5 Sahel) have emerged and seek international support to tackle these new challenges.

The Panel of the Wise and the African Standby Force also make part of the APSA. They play a critical role in the AU's conflict prevention and conflict management activities and will therefore be supported under the capacity building component of this Action Programme.

The UN is also a key stakeholder in the area of peace and security in Africa, both as a global body implementing its own peace keeping operations, and as an important contributor to AU's PSO' and budget in the area of peace and security. There are strong linkages between AU and UN operations, with UN missions often taking over from AU ones. Peace operations funded by the APF are consistent with UN principles and objectives, and Security Council mandates.

1.1.3. Priority areas for support/problem analysis

This sub-point remains unchanged.

2 RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

This point remains unchanged.

3 LESSONS LEARNT, COMPLEMENTARITY AND CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

This point remains unchanged.

4 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

4.1. Objectives/results

The overall objective of the APF is to contribute to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development (SDG 16) and to the Africa Agenda 2063 by supporting African led efforts "to silence the guns by 2020" and therefore reducing the number of violent conflicts in the continent.

The specific objective of this Action Programme is to effectively support the AUC and RECs/RMs or sub-regional organisations carrying out a peace and security operation with an AU PSC mandate in implementing the African peace and security agenda and to address in a comprehensive ("continuum") manner conflicts on the African continent.

The expected results of this Action Programme are the following:

1. Strengthened institutional capacities allow the AUC and REC's/RMs in achieving more efficiently the targets of the APSA roadmap 2016-2020.
2. Through preventive diplomacy, the AU and the RECs/RMs have managed to avoid and/or contain an increasing number of conflicts in their initial stages in a timely manner.
3. African-led PSOs have been instrumental in ending and /or containing conflicts through early and effective deployment of African troops in full respect of international HR and humanitarian law.

This programme is relevant for the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It contributes primarily to the progressive achievement of SDG Goal 16, in particular to its first target ("16.1 Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere"). This does not imply a commitment by the Regional Organisations benefiting from this programme.

4.2. Main activities

In line with the overall objective of the APF, this action programme will support activities with a continental or regional dimension implemented either by the AU or by RECs/RMs or sub-regional organisations carrying out a peace and security operation with an AU PSC mandate.

Result 1: Strengthened AUC's and REC's institutional capacities result in the targets of the APSA roadmap 2016-2020 being met.

This sub-point remains unchanged.

Result 2: Through preventive diplomacy, the AU and the RECs/RMs have managed to avoid and/or contain an increasing number of conflicts in their initial stages in a timely manner..

This sub-point remains unchanged.

Result 3: African-led PSOs have been instrumental in ending and/or containing conflicts through early and effective deployment of African troops in full respect of international HR and humanitarian law.

This sub-point remains unchanged.

4.3. Intervention logic

This Action Programme aims to contribute towards the achievement of SDG 16 in Africa, in particular target 16.1, and thus at removing a direct cause for forced displacement and helping create the conditions for sustainable social and economic development. This will be achieved through AU and/or RECs/RMs or sub-regional organisations carrying out a peace and security operation with an AU PSC mandate interventions to prevent and, if needed, manage conflicts. In order to be effective these interventions require on the one hand an operational APSA which ensures appropriate capabilities and know-how; and, on the other hand, direct external financial support to African preventive diplomacy initiatives and peace support operations as the AU cannot on its own cover the totality of the costs involved.

In line with the JAES, the basic assumption upon which this Action Programme relies is that the most effective strategy to achieve peace and stability in Africa is by supporting the efforts of the African Organisations that have a mandate to promote peace and security.

5 IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 Financing agreement

This sub-point remains unchanged.

5.2 Indicative implementation period

This point remains unchanged.

5.3 Implementation of the budget support component

This sub-point remains unchanged.

5.4 Implementation modalities

5.4.1. Grant: direct award (direct management)

(a) Objectives of the grant, fields of intervention, priorities of the year and expected results

This sub-point remains unchanged.

(b) Justification of a direct grant

Under the responsibility of the Commission's authorising officer responsible, the grant may be awarded without a call for proposals to the following beneficiaries: The RECs/RMs which currently form the APSA by virtue of having signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the AU in this regard: the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU), the Economic Community of Sahelo-Saharan States (CEN-SAD), the Common Market of East and Southern Africa (COMESA), the East African Community (EAC), the Eastern Africa Stand-by Force (EASF), the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Inter-Governmental Authority for Development (IGAD), the North Africa Regional Capability (NARC), the South African Development Community (SADC).

Under the responsibility of the Commission's authorising officer responsible, the recourse to an award of a grant without a call for proposals is justified because of the particular characteristics of peace and security actions⁶. In addition to the AU, RECs/RMs are the key African intergovernmental bodies with a mandate in the area of peace and security in their respective regions.

(c) Essential selection and award criteria

This sub-point remains unchanged.

(d) Maximum rate of co-financing

This sub-point remains unchanged.

(f) Indicative trimester to conclude the grant agreement

This sub-point remains unchanged.

⁶ Article 128.1 of the Regulation (EU, EURATOM) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012

5.4.2. Procurement (direct management)

This sub-point remains unchanged.

5.4.3. Indirect management with a regional organisation

This sub-point remains unchanged.

5.4.4 Indirect management with a Member State agency

A part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with a Member State agency in accordance with Article 58(1)(c) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 applicable by virtue of Article 17 of Regulation (EU) No 323/2015.

The following Member State agencies can be entrusted with indirect management:

- Expertise France (for the implementation of the support to the G5 Sahel Joint Force, EUR 50 000 000).

The Member State agency will act as the contracting authority for the procurement and grant procedures.

Delegation agreements will be signed with the abovementioned Member State agency.

Payments to the entrusted entity are executed by the Commission.

For support to new peace support operations, the elements required by Article 84(3) second subparagraph of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 966/2012 applicable in accordance with Article 26 of Regulation (EU) 2015/323 will be specified in an additional Commission decision (see Annex I, section 1).

For interventions under this action programme, the contract management cycle is delegated to the entrusted entity.

The responsible authorising officer will ensure that these entities comply with the conditions of points (a) to (d) of the second subparagraph of Article 60(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 applicable in accordance with Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2015/323. Where they comply with those requirements only in part, the Commission will take appropriate remedial measures to supervise and support the implementation of the tasks entrusted to them.

5.5 Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants

This sub-point remains unchanged.

5.6 Indicative budget

The initial EDF financial contribution for the period 2017-2018 will be EUR 430 000 000 - EUR 220 000 000 from funds decommitted from projects under the 10th EDF, EUR 100 000 000 from the Intra-ACP envelope of the 11th EDF, and EUR 110 000 000 from the allocation for unforeseen needs of the 11th EDF regional programme for Eastern Africa, Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean.⁷

⁷ The EU financial contribution shall be increased up to the total estimated costs of the action programme of EUR 535 000 000, subject to the availability of decommitted funds from 10th EDF projects and an amendment of this action programme.

The table below shows the indicative budget breakdown.

	Initial EU contribution (amount in EUR)	Total estimated cost of the action (amount in EUR)
Result 1: The APSA is implemented on the basis of the strategic priorities and objectives defined in the APSA roadmap 2016-2020	56 000 000	57 000 000
5.4.3 – PAGOAs with the AUC (indirect management)	54 000 000	54 000 000
5.4.2 – Procurement in direct management – Joint Research Centre	0	1 000 000
5.4.2 Procurement in direct management – Technical Assistance	2 000 000	2 000 000
Result 2: The AU and RECs/RMs are provided with the financial support needed to allow them to conduct preventive diplomacy initiatives and manage initial stages of conflicts in a timely manner.	0	20 000 000
5.4.3 – PAGOAs Early Response Mechanism III with the AUC (indirect management)		
Result 3: African-led PSOs are provided with financial support required to manage conflict in an effective way.	367 500 000	441 000 000
5.4.3 – PAGOAs with the AUC and RECs/RMs (indirect management)		
5.4.1 – Direct Grants to RECs/RMs (grant direct management)		
5.4.4 – PAGOAs with a Member State agency (indirect management)		
5.9. – Evaluation, 5.10. – Audit	1 000 000	1 500 000
5.11. – Communication and Visibility	500 000	500 000
Contingencies	5 000 000	15 000 000
TOTAL	430 000 000	535 000 000

The APF will continue to be open to additional voluntary contributions from EU Member States and from other donors, managed in line with Council Regulation (EU) 2015/323 of 2 March 2015 on the financial regulation applicable to the 11th European Development Fund, to promote coherence and reduce transaction costs and administrative burden for the African partners.

Retroactive financing

In order to prevent delays and avoid gaps in funding, the AU, the RECs/RMs, or Expertise France may pre-finance certain activities from 1st January 2017, in accordance with Art. 19 of Annex IV of the Cotonou Agreement. Retroactive financing will only be permitted for expenditures incurred after the date of request by the international organisation beneficiary of the action (AU/RECs/RMs/Expertise France), which shall be mentioned in the special conditions of the grant contracts or indirect management delegation agreements to be signed with the AU, the sub-regional organisations or Expertise France.

Eligibility of costs

This sub-point remains unchanged.

5.7 Organisational set-up and responsibilities

This sub-point remains unchanged.

5.8 Performance monitoring and reporting

This sub-point remains unchanged.

5.9 Evaluation

This sub-point remains unchanged.

5.10 Audit

This sub-point remains unchanged.

5.11 Communication and visibility

This sub-point remains unchanged.

Appendix I

Decision-making procedures for the African Peace Facility, 2017-2018

As a general rule, the formal decision-making process for each operation funded by the APF will be launched upon a request from the AU and/or from a REC/RM or sub-regional organisation carrying out a peace and security operation with an AU PSC mandate. When a sub-regional organisation takes an initiative, this initiative shall require the political approval of the AU. Peace operations funded by the APF should be consistent with UN principles and objectives. In this respect, endorsement in the broadest sense should be sought from the UN system, in accordance with the UN charter and in particular Chapters VII and VIII. While seeking this UN endorsement, the decision-making should, however, be flexible enough to go ahead with funding. Procedures that will apply to APF-funded interventions are the following:

1) Standard procedure

Upon a request from the AU or a REC/RM or sub-regional organisation carrying out a peace and security operation with an AU PSC mandate the EEAS and Commission services will present a joint information note on the intervention envisaged including recommendations to the relevant Council preparatory working groups and will seek the approval of the Political and Security Committee (PSC) on political appropriateness of the intervention requested.

For support to new peace operations, once the request has been endorsed by the PSC, the Commission will launch its internal decision-making process. In case of (i) an extension or renewal of support to an existing peace operation or (ii) support to the APSA operationalisation, no Commission decision will be needed.

2) Early Response Mechanism (ERM)

This sub-point remains unchanged.

3) Audit, monitoring, evaluation, technical assistance, lessons learned and visibility

This sub-point remains unchanged.

APPENDIX 2 - INDICATIVE LOGFRAME MATRIX (FOR PROJECT MODALITY)

This appendix remains unchanged.

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