

**Security Council**

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**Letter dated 24 May 2023 from the Permanent Representative of
Malta to the United Nations addressed to the President of the
Security Council**

The Permanent Mission of Malta has the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 24 May 2023 from the Head of the European Union Delegation, Olof Skoog, on behalf of the European Union and its member States to the President of the Security Council, in connection with tomorrow's briefing on peace and security in Africa: predictable, sustaining and flexible resources (see annex).

We should be grateful if you could have the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vanessa **Frazier**
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations



Annex to the letter dated 24 May 2023 from the Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I am writing on behalf of the European Union and its member States.

We wish to thank the Swiss Presidency of the Security Council for its initiative to hold a briefing on predictable, sustainable and flexible resources in the context of peace and security in Africa. This discussion is extremely timely following the release of the Secretary-General's report on the financing of African Union peace support operations, which we believe has brought new momentum to this process.

African countries have long been requesting sustainable, predictable and reliable funding for African-led peace support operations. In the current context of increased risk of instability, conflict and new threats, as described in the Secretary-General's report, this issue is even more topical and needs to be addressed.

The European Union is the African Union's number one partner on peace and security issues in terms of political, financial and technical support. From the establishment in 2003 of the African Peace Facility to the creation in 2021 of the European Peace Facility, the European Union has been a key partner of Africa on peace and security, and in particular a strong supporter of African-led peace support operations. We will continue to do so, as reiterated at the sixth European Union-African Union Summit, held in February 2022, and demonstrated through the decision to allocate €600 million of the European Peace Facility from 2022 to 2024. We see our substantial investments as an endeavour towards stability and prosperity in Africa, as well as a bulwark against the perils of regional and global threats.

The European Union is committed to the adequate, predictable and sustainable financing of African Union-led peace support operations and supports the use of United Nations-assessed contributions for such operations authorized by the Security Council, and the implementation of the African Union human rights compliance framework in that context.

We furthermore stress our commitment, both financially and politically, to operationalizing African Union policies in human rights due diligence, which reflects a key pillar of European Union external policy. The European Union has been funding the tripartite United Nations-African Union-European Union project for enhancing and operationalizing the African Union human rights compliance framework, a critical step towards access to United Nations-assessed contributions.

We commend the African Union and its member States for adopting the consensus paper on the financing of peace and security activities in Africa. We also welcome the progress made towards the operationalization of the Peace Fund of the African Union and we encourage African Union member States to take and endorse further steps. Burden- and responsibility-sharing, including from the African Union, is key, especially to ensure greater ownership by the African Union.

We take note of the African Union Peace and Security Council ministerial-level meeting on 12 May 2023, at which the three African members of the Security Council (A3) were requested to resume consultations with the relevant stakeholders towards the adoption of a Security Council resolution on financing African Union-led peace support operations. We look forward to engaging with the A3 and other stakeholders in this process in the coming months.

(Signed) Olof **Skoog**
Ambassador
Head of Delegation