

## CONCEPT NOTE

### HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL DIALOGUE ON “PEACE AND SECURITY IN AFRICA IN A GLOBAL ORDER IN TRANSFORMATION”

Held in plenary session on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2026 during the Africa Forward Summit

**THEME:** “Peace and Security in Africa in a Changing World Order”

**DATE:** 12<sup>th</sup> May 2026

**VENUE:** Kenyatta International Convention Center (KICC) Nairobi

**ORGANIZERS:** Republic of Kenya and French Republic

#### **A. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT**

The global peace and security environment is undergoing a profound transformation, marked by the erosion of multilateralism, intensifying competition between major powers, shifting geopolitical alliances, economic shocks, climate change and the rise of non-traditional and transnational threats. These dynamics are reshaping the norms, institutions and instruments that have historically underpinned the collective architecture of peace and security in Africa.

At the same time, Africa continues to face entrenched and emerging drivers of conflict, including terrorism and violent extremism, unconstitutional change of governments, international organized crime, climate-induced insecurity, and incomplete post-conflict transitions. The convergence of these challenges, coupled with a fragmented world order limits Africa’s ability to mobilize coherent collective responses, undermines predictable support for sustainable peace and security operations, and risks eroding hard-won peace gains on the continent.

The discussions that will take place during this session are an opportunity to question the impact of these global changes on Africa’s prospects for peace and security and to propose concrete responses to these challenges.

## B. OBJECTIVES OF THE DISCUSSIONS

The main objective of the session is to inspire a forward-looking exchange on the challenges and opportunities for Africa in terms of peace and security within the context of a profoundly changed world order.

More specifically, the event will aim to: -

- i. Promote effective and inclusive multilateralism: recalling the centrality of multilateralism to advancing peace and security on the African continent, in the face of attacks against it.
- ii. Develop concrete proposals to support African institutions and mechanisms, particularly those led by the African Union, by partners such as France, that are mobilized in favour of strategic autonomy, resilience and collective security capacities on the continent.
- iii. Using concrete examples, highlight the centrality of African solutions and the levers available to promote and strengthen them.

This event will also be an opportunity to present for endorsement by the Heads of State, the work concluded the day before, on 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2026, in the Ministerial meeting, on the reform of the United Nations Security Council and the suspension of veto powers in cases of mass atrocities.

The main findings and announcements of this event will be reflected in a short and operational statement by the Co-Presidencies, the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission.

## C. PROPOSED FORMAT AND SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

The event will be held on a 1+1 format for Heads of State and/or Government and 1+0 for Ministers and will assume the below sequence:

- i. **Opening remarks from H.E. President William Ruto and H.E. President Emmanuel Macron (2x5 minutes)**
- ii. **Impact of the obtaining international situation on peace and security on the African continent – (2x7 minutes)**
  - **Key Speaker 1: H.E. Antonio Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General (UNSG)**
  - **Key Speaker 2: Mahmoud Ali Youssouf Chairperson of the African Union Commission**

iii. Discussions:

1. Regional Cooperation in the Face of Evolving Security and Migration Threats and Challenges (20min = 4x4min)
  - Key Speaker 1: H.E. Bola Tinubu, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
  - Key Speaker 2: H.E. Cheikh Ould Ghazouani, President of the Republic of Mauritania,
  - Key Speaker 3: H.E. Mahamat Idriss Déby, President of the Republic of Tchad
  - Key Speaker 4: H.E. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, President of the Federal Republic of Somalia
  
2. African Mediation for African Crises (10 min = 2x5min)
  - Key Speaker 1: H.E. Faure Gnassingbe President of the Council of Ministers Republic of Togo
  - Key Speaker 2: H.E. Ismail Omar Guelleh, President of the Republic of Djibouti
  
3. Financing African Peace Operations (10 min = 2x4min)
  - Key Speaker 1: H.E. Daniel Chapo, President of the Republic of Mozambique
  - Key Speaker 2: H.E. John Dramani Mahama, President of the Republic of Ghana
  
4. Security Council reform and veto initiative (10 min = 2x3 min + 4 min)
  - Presentation of the ministerial conclusions by J. N. Barrot (3 min) and M. Mudavadi (3 min),
  - Speech by AU champion H.E. Julius Maada Bio, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone (4 min)
  - Speech by H.E. Felix Tshisekedi, President of the Democratic Republic of Congo
  
5. Concluding remarks summarizing key messages, takeaways and potential follow-up points to be reflected in the Summit Declaration (6 min).



#### **D. PROPOSED PARTICIPANTS**

Heads of State and Government and representatives of participating States; Secretary-General of the United Nations; Chairperson of the African Union; AU Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security; Secretaries General of African regional organizations; think tanks.