

PRESS RELEASE

LAUNCH OF THE AU-PCRD AWARENESS WEEK

7 – 13 NOVEMBER 2021

Greater Awareness, Stronger Peacebuilding

Addis Ababa, 20 October 2021 – The Commission of the African Union (AU) will commemorate the first Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD), Awareness Week from 7 to 13 November 2021, to raise awareness and address the recovery and reconstruction needs. The event coincides with the 15th anniversary of the adoption of the PCRD Policy Framework by the AU Heads of State and Government in 2006, in Banjul, The Gambia.

Since 2006, the AU has promoted the implementation of its PCRD Policy Framework within the global context of the search for peace and security, complemented by international initiatives. There is, however, a need to increase awareness around AU projects, policies, mechanisms and achievements on post-conflict recovery and reconstruction efforts.

The PCRD Awareness Week offers the possibility to assess, review, redirect and strengthen the collective action amongst AU and African stakeholders, in the reconstruction and development of post-conflict societies in collaboration with the international community. Moreover, the Awareness Week will contribute concretely in addressing the challenges and threats that PCRD processes are facing, notably through analysis of the evolving roles of governmental and non-governmental actors engaged in peacebuilding in Africa. It is expected to contribute to the ongoing strengthening of the implementation of the AU PCRD Framework and ensure increased buy-in from stakeholders in supporting effective PCRD and peacebuilding responses through the mobilization of the necessary human, financial, material and institutional resources, at the national, regional and continental levels.

During this Awareness Week, a High-Level Seminar with African practitioners and engagement with Partners will be organized to reflect on AU's achievements in the past fifteen years as well as new approaches towards an accelerated implementation of the PCRD Policy Framework with concrete peacebuilding outcomes. The AU Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security, Ambassador Bankole Adeoye, will be leading the debate during the two events to be organized from 9 to 10 November 2021, respectively, at the AU Headquarters. Similarly, the AU Peace and Security Council (AU PSC), will also organize a session on Friday, 12 November 2021, to discuss challenges and opportunities of promoting the implementation of the AU PCRD Policy Framework.

Member States, Regional Economic Communities, Regional Mechanisms (RECs/RMs), as well as AU Permanent Missions, AU Liaison Offices and AU Organs are expected to partake these activities to raise the awareness among the entire African Continent and the International Community on the core objectives of the Awareness Week.

The inaugural PCRD Awareness Week serves a milestone renewing the commitment of the AU Commission through the Department of Political Affairs, Peace and Security, to foster post-conflict reconstruction and development towards Agenda 2063 aspirations of a peaceful and secure Africa.

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