



Community by community, terrorist groups are extending their reach, widening their networks with more fighters, funding, and weapons increasingly flowing between regions and across the continent — and forging transactional relationships with organized crime and piracy groups, with online platforms adding a powerful tool to more traditional means of spreading violent ideologies.

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As you are aware, there have been longstanding calls for the Security Council to rise to the challenge of laying the foundation for a new generation of African Union-led, United Nations-supported peace operations on the African continent.

The objective should be to ensure that the African Union has an enhanced ability to plan, deploy, manage, sustain and finance its peace support operations, illustrating the strong partnership between the African Union and the United Nations, and the need to collectively and effectively address the evolving threats to peace and security in Africa.

Security Council members themselves have increasingly acknowledged the AU's proactive role on matters of peace and security in Africa, including its enhanced capacity to respond rapidly to conflicts and crisis on the continent, particularly through the deployment of peace support operations. This demonstrates recognition for the commitment of African leaders to support peace operations by African States and for the African

These groups should complement and take advantage of all the other ongoing efforts in Africa, including those of the UN's own 45-member Global CT Coordination Compact, the GCTF co-chaired by Egypt and the EU, its inspired institutions, the Global Coalition's Africa Focus Group, and of course those of bilateral and regional bodies, including the African Union. For its part, UNOCT will continue to make available our technical assistance and capacity-building programmes we lead, including major multi-agency efforts.

Excellencies,

Stemming the increasing terrorist threat demands a more robust collective response.

UNOCT looks forward to its continuing cooperation with the African Union and with African States. Let us work together to strengthen multilateral collaboration and confront transnational terrorist threats that are more persistent, diverse, and complex than ever.

Thank you.