



**ASWAN FORUM**  
FOR SUSTAINABLE PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT  
منتدى أسوان للسلام والتنمية المستدامين



Third Edition of the Aswan Forum  
for Sustainable Peace & Development

**Africa in an Era of Cascading Risks and Climate Vulnerability:  
Pathways for a Peaceful, Resilient,  
and Sustainable Continent**

**Agenda**

**21-22 June 2022**

**Cairo Egypt**

21 June 2022

09:00 - 11:00

**Registration and Coffee**

11:00 - 11:15

*Aida Ballroom*

Welcome Remarks

**H.E. Sameh Shoukry**

Minister of Foreign Affairs, Arab Republic of Egypt

11:15 - 11:45

*Aida Ballroom*

**H.E. Abdel Fattah el-Sisi**, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt

**H.E. António Guterres** Secretary-General of the United Nations

**H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat**, Chairperson of the African Union Commission

Opening Session

**Africa in an Era of Cascading Risks: Challenges and Responses**

The current global outlook is characterized by a range of cascading risks and multiple crises that are putting to test national capacities, as well as regional and global frameworks, in an unprecedented manner. Heightened geopolitical tensions, global economic downturn, increased climate change impacts and continued health and socio-economic reverberations of the COVID19- pandemic are all features of a new global landscape, edging towards retreating globalization. Africa, in particular, is greatly impacted, standing today in the face of an emerging global food and energy crisis, while still struggling to recover from the pandemic. This is further compounded by the need to address structural weaknesses as well as preexisting peace and security challenges. The convergence of these cascading risks threatens to aggravate tensions, instability and humanitarian crises, in addition to fueling terrorism, organized crime and displacement.

Against the backdrop of a changing global landscape and shifting priorities, Africa continues to demonstrate resilience in the face of adversity. African leaders have shown strong leadership towards mitigating the adverse impacts of these risks notably through boosting pharmaceutical manufacturing, reinforcing regional integration and inter-continental trade, while working towards strengthening climate resilience, and improving food security. Building on this, Africa must further seize the opportunity to devise long-term sustainable responses and reinforce the continent's ability to anticipate, withstand and prevent existing and emerging shocks and crises. Such efforts must be anchored in a broader global endeavor towards reforming global governance, reinvigorating multilateralism, implementing global pledges and commitments, and embedding risk anticipation and foresight mechanisms into systems. Only then would the international community be better equipped to confront shocks that not only affect individual countries, but reverberate across the global system in its entirety.

11:45 - 13:00

*Aida Ballroom*

This session serves as a conversation-starter and scene-setter to examine pathways to strengthen Africa's ability to address cascading risks, within a broader global push for inclusive multilateralism and renewed partnerships as the continent charts on its trajectory towards sustainable peace, development and resilience.

**H.E Sameh Shoukry**, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Arab Republic of Egypt (Host)

Speakers:

**H.E. Aïssata Tall Sall**, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Senegalese Abroad, Republic of Senegal

**H.E Kobenan Kouassi Adjoumani**, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire

**H.E. Stephen Par Kuol**, Minister of Peacebuilding, Republic of South Sudan

**Ghada Waly**, Director General, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

**Josefa Leonel Correia Sacko**, Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy, and Sustainable Environment, African Union

13:00 - 13:45

Lunch

### Strengthening the Climate Adaptation and Peacebuilding Nexus: The Way Forward

There is increasing attention regarding the far-reaching implications of climate change on socio-economic development, as well as on sustainable peace, security and stability in Africa. In this context, there is a growing recognition of the importance to advance climate adaptation for peacebuilding and devise climate-responsive peacebuilding interventions. The 6th IPCC Report Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability states that "adaptation and development build peace in conflict-prone regions by addressing both the drivers of grievances that lead to conflict and vulnerability to climate change". This alludes to the importance of building synergies between climate adaptation and peacebuilding. On its part, the African Union Peace and Security Council (AUPSC) has underlined the importance of adopting a climate-sensitive dimension in post conflict reconstruction and development (PCRD) efforts. In light of this, climate adaptation efforts provide an opportunity to buttress sustainable peace and development across the continent, while providing special attention to the groups in most vulnerable situations including women, children, youth and others.

Against this backdrop, this session will identify ways in which climate adaptation can be leveraged to advance peacebuilding and PCRD goals in Africa. In this context, it will also discuss lessons learned and best practices in adopting climate-responsive peacebuilding approaches in conflict-affected settings.

Speakers:

**H.E. Yasmine Fouad**, Minister of Environment and COP27 Ministerial Coordinator and Envoy, Arab Republic of Egypt

**H.E. Stephen Par Kuol**, Minister of Peacebuilding, Republic of South Sudan

**H.E. Magnus Nilsson**, State Secretary to Minister for Foreign Affairs Ann Linde, Kingdom of Sweden

**Susan Biniaz**, Deputy Special Envoy for Climate, Department of State, United States of America

**Elizabeth Spehar**, Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, United Nations

13:45 - 15:00

*Aida Ballroom*

**Bankole Adeoye**, Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security, African Union

**Kevin Urama**, Ag. Chief Economist and Vice President for Economic Governance and Knowledge Management, African Development Bank

**Youssef Nassef**, Director of Adaptation Division, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

**Patrick Youssef**, Regional Director for Africa, International Committee of the Red Cross

**Nisreen ElSaim**, Chair, United Nations Secretary-General Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change, and President, Sudan Youth for Climate Change

Moderator:

**Florian Krampe**, Director, Climate Change and Risk Programme, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute

**13:45 - 15:00**

*Salon Vert  
(Roundtable)*

### **Aswan Dialogues**

#### **UN-AU Partnership in Peace Operations** (In Partnership with the Challenges Forum International Secretariat CFIS)

Recent years have seen a strengthening of the AU-UN peace and security partnership, and both organizations have put in place several coordination mechanisms, culminating in the 2017 “Joint UN-AU Framework for an Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security”. This roundtable aims to engage in an informal conversation to take stock of the Joint UN-AU Framework and reflect on how it can better address a changing peace and security landscape characterized by a multiplicity of actors and risks.

Against this backdrop, this session will discuss UN-AU peace and security doctrine and coherence of response mechanisms; UN assessed contributions to African peace support operations and the question of compliance frameworks; and finally, the role of the AU Peace and Security Council and the A3 in the UN Security Council.

Speakers:

**Ahmed Abdel-Latif**, Director General, Cairo International Center for Conflict Resolution, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding

**Jean-Pierre Lacroix**, Under-Secretary General for Peace Operations, Department of Peace Operations, United Nations

**Alexander Zoueve**, Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions, Department of Peace Operations, United Nations

**Osama Abdekhalek**, Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations, Arab Republic of Egypt

**Parfait Onanga-Anyanga**, Special Representative of United Nations Secretary-General to the African Union and Head of the United Nations Office to the African Union, United Nations

**William Azumah Kanyirege-Awinador**, Senior Advisor on Governance and Peacebuilding, Office of the Commissioner, Department of Political Affairs, Peace and Security, African Union

**Fonteh Akum**, Executive Director, Institute for Security Studies - Africa

Moderator:

**Pernilla Rydén**, Director, Challenges Forum International Secretariat, Kingdom of Sweden

**Aswan in Practice:****Advancing Holistic Efforts to Confront Africa's Terrorism Challenge  
A Nigerian Case Study**

As Africa continues to grapple with the proliferation of armed groups and a surge in terrorist violence, Nigeria is particularly impacted, as homegrown terrorist group Boko Haram and the Islamic State of West Africa Province (ISWAP) continue to pose a serious threat in northeast Nigeria. This rapidly unravelling terrorism landscape is further complicated by a mounting caseload of individuals formerly associated with Boko Haram and ISWAP, as waves of mass defection have been instigated following Boko Haram leader's death in May 2021. Tens of thousands of men, women and children have surrendered to Nigerian authorities, marking the largest wave of defections since the group emerged, and further straining national, local and communal institutions and resources.

Against this backdrop, this session will examine how key national and state-level Nigerian policy makers and stakeholders addressed the operational challenges and the opportunities presented by mass defections of individuals formerly associated with terrorist groups. The discussion will take place in light of the outcome of a field study conducted by CCCPA. The findings of the study along with key conclusions and practical recommendations are captured in a report titled: "Advancing Holistic Efforts to Confront Africa's Growing Terrorism Challenge". The report and its findings are the result of consultations, conducted on the ground in Borno State, Gombe State and Abuja with Nigerian authorities and relevant stakeholders, including the United Nations and international partners. The session will offer an opportunity to discuss lessons learned from the Nigerian unique context of addressing the multitude of humanitarian, security and developmental dimensions of counterterrorism, with specific emphasis on handling individuals formerly associated with terrorist groups, including efforts towards advancing holistic, whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches to this multidimensional endeavor. The findings and recommendations of this field study represents the practical manifestation of implementing key conclusions set forth by previous editions of the Aswan Forum for Sustainable Peace and Development.

## Speakers:

**CCCPA Team** (Presentation of report)**Babagana Zulum**, Governor, Borno State, Federal Republic of Nigeria**Garba Abari**, Director General, National Orientation Agency, Federal Republic of Nigeria**Mairo Abbas**, Head Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism, Office of the National Security Advisor**Mohamed Yahya**, Resident Representative to the Federal Republic of Nigeria, United Nations Development Programme**Katharine Brooks**, First Secretary, Lake Chad Basin (Regional) Foreign and Commonwealth Office, British High Commission Abuja

## Moderator:

**Ahmed Abdel-Latif**, Director General, Cairo International Center for Conflict Resolution, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding

**15:15 - 17:00**

*Salon Vert  
(Roundtable)*

## **Aswan Dialogues**

### **Empowering African Youth Voices for a Peaceful and Climate-Resilient Future**

The African continent has the youngest population in the world. Yet, its youth are confronted with a range of cascading risks and multiple crises such as armed conflict, terrorism, climate change, food insecurity and the COVID19- pandemic with their far-reaching impacts. Such risks limit the socio-economic opportunities available for youth, and their ability to envisage a peaceful and climate-resilient future.

Strengthening youth-led initiatives is key to realizing the peaceful and secure Africa aspired by the Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want. The 2022 UN Secretary-General report on Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) also stresses the need to meaningfully engage young people in decision-making, peace processes and in climate action in order to advance effective solutions.

This session will provide an opportunity to build bridges and share experiences between African youth on the frontlines of climate action and the peace and security agenda. It will put a spotlight on the unique contributions of African youth to advance sustainable peace and development. It will also highlight approaches to capitalize on the potential of youth as key agents of change while at the same time also focusing on means to leverage their rich experiences in resilience-building. The outcomes of such discussions will be used as input for the upcoming Conference of Youth (COY17) in the lead up to COP27.

Speakers:

**Ahmed Abdel-Latif**, Director General, Cairo International Center for Conflict Resolution, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding

**Jayathma Wickramanayake**, Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, United Nations

**Chido Mpemba**, Special Envoy on Youth, African Union

**Frederika Meijer**, Representative, United Nations Population Fund Egypt

**Omnia El Omrani**, Egyptian Climate Youth Advocate

**Emmanuel Lubanzadio**, Head of Public Policy, Government and Philanthropy for Sub-Saharan Africa, Twitter

(Roundtable discussion with participants)

Moderator:

**Mariam Allam**, COP27 Presidency Advisor

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**17:00 - 18:15**

*Aida Ballroom*

### **Leveraging Women's Role as Catalysts for Resilience Towards Sustainable Peace and Development in Africa**

The intertwining of armed conflicts and growing threats of terrorism, climate change, and health crises in Africa threatens to reverse peacebuilding and development gains, with women disproportionately impacted. Against this backdrop of cascading risks, women--equipped with their unique knowledge--continue to be at the forefront of both climate change adaptation and building community resilience. Leveraging the innovative and crucial roles women play as catalysts for resilience, peacebuilding, reconstruction, and adaptation, not only furthers the effective implementation of the Women, Peace and Security agenda in Africa, but also consolidates recovery and peacebuilding efforts.

Enhancing the resilience of communities to withstand and respond to emergent security risks by capitalizing on women's roles requires integrated and effective gender-responsive conflict prevention, peacebuilding, and climate change adaptation.

Hence, this session will identify avenues to leverage the transformative potential of women's role in enhancing preparedness, resilience, and coping mechanisms towards more comprehensive efforts and sustainable solutions for durable peace and development.

Speakers:

**Bineta Diop**, Special Envoy on Women, Peace and Security, African Union

**Peter Weiderud**, Special Envoy for Religion in Conflict and Peacebuilding, Kingdom of Sweden

**Zuwaira Gambo**, Commissioner for Women Affairs and Social Development, Borno State, Federal Republic of Nigeria

**Yvette-Kapinga Ngandu**, Commissioner for the Promotion of Gender, Human and Social Development, Economic Community of Central African States

**Susanne Mikhail**, Regional Director, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, Regional Office for the Arab States, UN Women

**Sylvain Merlen**, Deputy Resident Representative, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Egypt

**Basil Jones**, Lead, Program and Policy Coordination, Gender, Women and Civil Society Department, African Development Bank

**Desmond Alugnoa**, Co-founder, Green Africa Youth Organization

Moderator:

**Fauziya Ali**, Founder and President, Women in International Security, Horn of Africa

17:00 - 18:15

Salon Vert  
(Plenary)

### Regional Security Arrangements and AU Post-conflict Reconstruction and Development Efforts in Africa

Guided by the principles of subsidiarity, complementarity and comparative advantage, regional security arrangements are often at the forefront of efforts responding to crises on the ground. The African Union Peace and Security Council (AUPSC) highlighted the critical role of peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction and development (PCRD) in efforts aimed at achieving peace and security in Africa, and emphasized - in its communique of its 1017th session - the need for the AU Commission and the RECs/RMs to further enhance their collaboration and coordination to AU Member States in post-conflict situations. Furthermore, the AU PCRD policy highlights that "the successful implementation of the PCRD policy requires the active engagement of regional groupings and their institutions in order to take advantage of existing resources, mechanisms, processes and synergies"

This calls for the need to further ensure complementarity between the activities of regional security arrangements and AU-PCRD activities in Africa, as restoring and building governance structures, mitigating developmental challenges, and addressing the root causes of conflict are complex and long-term processes. With the launch of the AU Center for PCRD (AUC-PCRD), this presents a viable opportunity to leverage on the role of the AU PCRD Policy and the AUC-PCRD in advancing peacebuilding and PCRD on the continent; in order to lay the foundations for sustaining peace beyond the lifetime of these regional security arrangements.

Against this backdrop, this session will discuss the possible contribution of Regional Security Arrangements such as the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) against Boko Haram, G5 Sahel Joint Force (FC-G5S) and the SADC Mission in Mozambique (SAMIM) to AU-PCRD efforts in Africa, and how to ensure complementarity between the activities of those Regional Security Arrangements and the activities of the AUC-PCRD, and capitalize on the momentum on PCRD in order to advance peacebuilding and PCRD efforts in regional security arrangements' contexts.

Speakers:

**Maman Sidikou**, High Representative for Mali and the Sahel, African Union

**Mamman Nuhu**, Executive Secretary, Lake Chad Basin Commission and Head of Mission Multinational Joint Task Force against Boko Haram

**Sandra Adong Oder**, Acting Head of Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development, African Union

**Thomas Viot**, Chief Investment Officer, African Development Bank

**Cedric de Coning**, Research Professor, Research Group on Peace, Conflict and Development, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs

Moderator:

**Gustavo De Carvalho**, Public Policy Analyst and Consultant



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Messages from Partners:

**Vladimir Voronkov**, Under Secretary General for Counter-Terrorism, United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, United Nations

**Patrick Verkooijen**, Chief Executive Officer, Global Center on Adaptation

### The Climate-Displacement Nexus and Sustaining Peace in Africa: Advancing Durable Solutions

The confluence of conflict, climate change, disasters, and environmental degradation is a growing and pressing challenge across Africa, displacing millions in search of safety and better livelihood opportunities. It is estimated that by 2050, climate change could force 216 million people out of their homes, 86 million of which are in sub-Saharan Africa. According to the IPCC Working Group II report “climate and weather extremes are increasingly driving displacement” in all regions of the world, perpetuating and generating vulnerability. These displacement dynamics trigger a myriad of cascading risks by increasing pressure on essential natural resources such as water and food, fueling tensions between communities and aggravating humanitarian crises; all of which have been exacerbated by the COVID19- pandemic. This has far-reaching implications for peace and security efforts across the continent.

In light of this, breaking the cycle of climate-induced displacement and conflict requires a holistic response that promotes a preventative approach aimed at reducing vulnerabilities, managing fragility and strengthening peacebuilding efforts. Against this backdrop, this session will take stock of the good practices and lessons learned in devising integrated responses to the climate and displacement nexus in Africa and reaching the most vulnerable. It will also identify the necessary resilience-building strategies for institutions and communities to ensure durable solutions to climate displacement challenges; thus advancing sustainable peace and development across the continent.

Speakers:

**Jun Shimmi**, Representative of the Government of Japan for International Peace and Stability and Ambassador for TICAD

**Claudio Afonso**, National Director of Climate Change, Ministry of Land and Environment, Republic of Mozambique

**Caroline Dumas**, Director General's Special Envoy for Migration and Climate Action, International Organization for Migration

**Namira Negm**, Director, African Migration Observatory, African Union

**Kamal Amakrane**, Director, Africa Climate Mobility Initiative

**Al-Hamndou Dorsouma**, Ag. Director and Manager for Climate and Green Growth Division, African Development Bank

**Benjamin Pohl**, Head of Programme, Climate Diplomacy and Security, adelphi

**Hajir Maalim**, Regional Director, Horn and Eastern Africa, Action Against Hunger

Moderator:

**Andrew Harper**, , Special Advisor to the High Commissioner for Refugees on Climate Action, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

9:00 - 9:15

09:15 – 10:30

Aida Ballroom

## Financing Sustainable Peace and Development in the Face of Cascading Risks

In the context of a volatile international situation, the signs of a global economic downturn are becoming more salient. Disruptions to trade and supply chains, inflationary pressures, and reduced investment flows are having a ripple effect across the global economy at a time when the socio-economic impacts of the COVID19- pandemic are still palpable. African countries reliant on food and fuel imports are particularly impacted, with many already faced with spiraling debts and increased budgetary pressures. Progress made in the recovery from the pandemic is hindered, as well as the achievement of the sustainable development goals.

From combatting terrorism, to tackling climate change, and strengthening food security, African countries face a range of cascading risks which bring competing demands and priorities within shrinking available financing. At the same time, there is a real risk that the current geopolitical tensions can lead to a diversion of resources away from support to peace and development efforts in Africa.

In this regard, the session will examine how domestic and external financing and innovative financing vehicles should be reoriented to advance holistic and inclusive responses to these challenges and cascading risks, including across the humanitarian-development-peace Nexus, while continuing to prioritize advancing sustainable peace and development in Africa.

Speakers:

**Børge Brende**, President, World Economic Forum

**Jenny Ohlsson**, State Secretary to Minister for International Development Cooperation Matilda Ernkrans, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Kingdom of Sweden

**Mahmoud Mohieldin**, Egypt's Climate Champion, UNFCCC, COP27; UN Special Envoy on Financing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund

**Elizabeth Spehar**, Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, United Nations

**Kevin Urama**, Acting Chief Economist and Vice President for Economic Governance and Knowledge Management, African Development Bank

**Franck Bousquet**, Deputy Director, International Monetary Fund

**Stephen Hammer**, Advisor, Global Climate Policy and Strategy, World Bank, Climate Change Group

**Nena Stoiljkovic**, Under Secretary General for Global Relations, Humanitarian Diplomacy and Digitalization, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

**Hanaa Helmy**, Head of CSR & CEO, EFG Hermes Foundation

**Vipul Bhagat**, Global Innovative Financing Advisor, UN Women

Moderator:

**Hafsa Maalim**, Partnership Officer & Focal Person on the Peace Fund, Office of the Commissioner, Department of Political Affairs, Peace & Security, African Union

10:45 - 12:15

Aida Ballroom

10:45 - 12:15

*Salon Vert  
(Plenary)***Aswan Dialogues****Climate and Security in Africa: Focus on the Sahel**

(In Partnership with The International Organization of La Francophonie (OIF) and Thinking Africa)

The African continent is disproportionately affected by the implications of climate change, which in turn fuels tensions between communities and aggravates the risks of population displacement, as well as adversely impacts health, food and economic risks. The Sahel has been historically one of the most vulnerable regions to climate implications across the continent. In the period between 80-1970, major droughts resulted in extreme famine and increased displacement of the Sahelian populations. Today, cities of the Sahel are becoming more saturated and poorly equipped to host new populations driven out this time by extremism.

The session aims to share ideas, experiences and practices to understand the risks posed by climate change in the Sahel region and advance consolidated efforts for peace, stability and sustainable development, while ensuring the engagement of young people, women and civil society organizations in local, national and international efforts. Additionally, it will put forward recommendations and possible responses to the humanitarian, security, political and socio-economic emergencies that climate change is accelerating in the Sahel region.

Speakers:

**Ahmed Abdel-Latif**, Director General, Cairo International Center for Conflict Resolution, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding)

**Francis Behanzin**, General, Commissioner Political Affairs, Peace and Security, Economic Community of West African States Commission

**Nathalie Pauwels**, Head of Unit for Stability and Peace, Global and Transregional Threats, European Commission Service for Foreign Policy Instruments

**Safietou Sanfo**, Expert, Public Policies, Agriculture and Combating Poverty in Burkina Faso, Thinking Africa

**Ladji Ouattara**, Head of the Observatory of Geopolitics, and Security in the Sahel, Thinking Africa

Moderator:

**Antoine Michon**, Director of Political Affairs and Democratic Governance, International Organisation of Francophonie

12:15 – 12:45

**Coffee Break****Statebuilding Challenges in Africa:****Resilient Institutions for Sustainable Peace and Development**

As Africa stands today in the face of converging crises and cascading risks, the need to build robust and resilient institutions to prevent, withstand, and cope with emerging threats and crises is more pressing than ever. Equally important is the institutional capacity to provide social services and economic opportunities. Advancing state and institution building requires comprehensive, integrated, and inclusive policies, as well as sustained funding that transitions from short term response to long term investments for inclusive recovery. This approach necessitates engagement and coordination among a wide array of local, national, regional, and international actors,

12:45 – 14:00

*Aida Ballroom*

especially in post-conflict settings, where state and institution building needs to be at the heart of peacebuilding efforts. The recent official launch of the African Union Center on Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development (AUCPCRD) provides a timely occasion to take forward this discussion, grounded in national ownership and priorities.

In this session, challenges facing statebuilding and institution-building in Africa will be discussed as well as lessons learned, good practices and the way forward towards adopting a state and institution building approach that is fit for purpose, particularly in post-conflict settings.

Speakers:

**Stephen Par Kuol**, Minister of Peacebuilding, Republic of South Sudan

**Ahmed Kamali**, Deputy Minister of Planning and Economic Development, Arab Republic of Egypt

**Ashraf Rashed**, Ambassador, Chairperson, National African Peer Review Mechanism, Commission of Egypt

**William Azumah Awinador-Kanyrige**, Senior Advisor on Governance and Peacebuilding, Office of the Commissioner, Department of Political Affairs, Peace and Security, African Union

**Soukeyna Kane**, Director, Fragility, Conflict and Violence Group, World Bank Group

**Yero Baldeh**, Director, Transition States Coordination Office, African Development Bank

**Samuel Rizk**, Head, Conflict Prevention, Peacebuilding and Responsive Institutions, United Nations Development Programme

**Cynthia Chigwenya**, African Youth Ambassador for Peace for Southern Africa, African Union

Moderator:

**Gustavo De Carvalho**, Public Policy Analyst and Consultant

### Aswan Dialogues

#### Advancing Sustainable Peace and Development in the Red Sea

The Red Sea is a region of increasing strategic significance that continues to grapple with a range of security challenges and cascading risks ranging from armed conflict to terrorism which have devastating humanitarian consequences including forced displacement and food crises. Furthermore, pre-existing fragilities within the region are being exacerbated by both the COVID19- pandemic and the far-reaching impacts of climate change.

The session will examine the complexities and challenges across the humanitarian, development and peace nexus in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden region by addressing the nature and scale of systemic risks and examining opportunities for advancing a sustaining peace and development paradigm through regional cooperation. The discussion will address the need for integrated and holistic responses to ongoing challenges, and for sustainable strategies to mitigate risks and foster inclusion and resilience across the region with the active involvement and support of relevant actors, and the international community.

Speakers:

**Aissata Kane**, Senior Regional Adviser for Sub-Saharan Africa, International Organization for Migration

**Amani El Taweel**, Senior Researcher, Al-Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies

**Benjamin Petrini**, Research Fellow for Conflict, Security and Development, International Institute for Strategic Studies - Africa

**Fauziya Abdi**, Founder & Director, Women in International Security-Horn of Africa

**Surer Qassim Mohamed**, Harry F Guggenheim Research Fellow, Pembroke College, University of Cambridge

Moderator:

**Ahmed Abdel-Latif**, Director General, Cairo International Center for Conflict Resolution, Peacekeeping, and Peacebuilding

Salon Vert  
(Plenary)

12:45 – 14:00

14:45 - 16:00

Aida Ballroom

**Climate Risks and Opportunities — The Water-Food-Energy Ecosystem Nexus in Africa:  
Strengthening Cooperation for Sustaining Peace**

The current volatile international situation, with the disruptions in energy and commodity markets, is triggering a food crisis with far-reaching implications on the development and stability of Africa. Many African countries reliant on food and fuel imports are particularly adversely impacted as they still grapple with the socio-economic ramifications of the COVID19- pandemic. Concurrently, climate change manifestations, including frequent and intense droughts, floods, rainfall variability and unpredictability, as well as unsustainable management of natural resources, are jeopardizing water and food security, exacerbating tensions and inducing forced displacement across the continent. Furthermore, the 6th IPCC assessment report highlighted that “climate change has already had adverse impacts on human systems, including on water security, food production and health”. These effects of climate change are cross-border in nature, and thus calls for effective cross-border adaptive and cooperative approaches, including through water-food-energy ecosystems. This is critical to address these cascading risks, with their serious implications for stability and security in Africa.

Against this background, this session will discuss effective cooperation and adaptation measures, including through water-food-energy ecosystems nexus, in the context of cascading risks and rising climate impacts across the African continent. It will also consider relevant approaches on the regional and continental levels that advance sustainable development and promote peace through strengthened cooperation while highlighting the role that partners and financial institutions can play to promote inclusive regional integration.

Speakers:

**H.E. Kobenan Kouassi Adjoumani**, Minister of Agriculture, Republic of Côte d'Ivoire

**Josefa Leonel Correia Sacko**, Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy, and Sustainable Environment, African Union

**Kelly Ann Naylor**, Vice-Chair, UN-Water

**Eduardo Mansur**, Director, Office of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Environment (OCB), Food and Agriculture Organization, United Nations

**Tarek Kotb**, Lead Global Technical Specialist, Water and Rural Infrastructure, International Fund for Agricultural Development (virtually)

**Chioma Ome**, Manager Impact and Innovation, Solar Sister Nigeria

Moderator:

**Mohamed Nasr**, Ambassador, Director of Climate, Environment and Sustainable Development Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Arab Republic of Egypt

**14:45 - 16:00***Salon Vert  
(Plenary)***Aswan Dialogues  
The Culture of Peace in Africa**

(In Partnership with Biennale of Luanda: Pan-African Forum for the Culture of Peace)

This session will provide an overview of the Biennale of Luanda: Pan African Forum for Peace since its conception till the results of the latest edition held in November 2022. It will discuss the Biennale future projects and initiatives, formulated and implemented in collaboration with the Alliance of Partners, as well as highlight the importance of the partnership between the Biennale and the Aswan Forum as key platforms to promote peace, dialogue and sustainable development across Africa and its Diaspora.

Beneficiaries from the projects and initiatives implemented under the Biennale of Luanda will share their stories during the session and through the virtual booths. It will also showcase initiatives that leverage arts, culture and heritage, for sustainable peace and development.

Speakers:

**Ahmed Abdel-Latif**, Director General, Cairo International Center for Conflict Resolution, Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding

**Edouard Matoko**, Assistant Director-General for Priority Africa and External Relations, The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

**José Sita**, Ambassador, National Coordinator of the Biennale of Luanda, Angola

**Grazia Piras**, International Coordinator of the Biennale of Luanda

**Marcos Agostinho**, Director, American Schools of Angola and main sponsor of the project “Resiliart Angola”

**Nadine Abdel Ghaffar**, Founder, Art d’Egypte

**Emanuela Gregorio**, Coordinator of Fashionomics Africa, African Development Bank

**Fathia Souraya Moussa**, Youth Representative of Djibouti, Biennale of Luanda

Moderator:

**Rebecca Anne Proctor**, Art Advisor and Curator

**Looking Ahead: COP27 and Beyond**

As the world is confronted with multiple crises and unforeseen challenges, a growing state of uncertainty has come to dominate the global landscape. The capacities of national governments, as well as regional and global frameworks, to deal with rapid change and continuous disruptions, are put to test.

At the same time, crises can become pivotal moments for bold leadership, innovative policies, and forward-looking strategies in shaping future pathways. The foundations of future growth are often laid as nations and societies respond to the vulnerabilities crises expose. In times of disruption, resilience depends on adaptability and determination. Today’s risks often cut across borders, and no country seems immune to them. Accordingly, there is a pressing need for reinvigorated collective action in the face of global challenges, with emphasis on enhanced cooperation in pursuit of shared objectives.

**16:15 - 17:30***Aida Ballroom*

In this context, this session will instigate a strategic dialogue for future action on peace, security, climate, and sustainable development, as well as identify forward-looking approaches for advancing collective action, bearing in mind key opportunities to achieve this including COP27, the UN Summit of the Future (2023) and other milestones.

Speakers:

**Cristina Duarte**, Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa, United Nations

**Benedikt Franke**, Chief Executive Officer, Munich Security Conference

**Dan Smith**, Director, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute

**Selwin Hart**, Special Adviser and Assistant Secretary-General on Climate Action and Just Transition, United Nations

**Fonteh Akum**, Executive Director, Institute for Security Studies - Africa

**Samuel Rizk**, Head, Conflict Prevention, Peacebuilding and Responsive Institutions, United Nations Development Programme

**Sarah El Battouty**, Global Ambassador, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Race to Zero and Race to Resilience

Moderator:

**Mohamed Nasr**, Ambassador, Director of Climate, Environment and Sustainable Development Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Arab Republic of Egypt

17:30 - 18:00

**The Aswan Conclusions on Sustainable Peace and Development**