



**Tentative Workshop Agenda**  
**Conflict Prevention in Africa: From Policy to Practice**  
**16-17 September 2019**  
**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

16 September 2019	
8:30 – 9:00	Registration
9:00 – 9:30	Opening Session
9:30 – 11:00	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Session 1</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Conflict Prevention and Sustaining Peace in Practice: What Does it Mean for Africa?</b></p> <p>The last few years have witnessed a renewed focus on prevention. The 2016 twin resolutions introduced “sustaining peace” as both an objective and a process to prevent the outbreak, escalation, continuation and recurrence of violence. “Pathways for Peace” made a compelling case, not only that conflict prevention is cost effective, but more importantly that it works. On its side, the AU has developed a number of policy frameworks that advance conflict prevention and post-conflict reconstruction and development (PCRD), including structural approaches. The challenge facing Africa, and indeed the international community, now is translating these frameworks, policies and concepts into practice, in a manner that leverages the complimentary mandates, resources and expertise of actors from across the pillars of peace and security, development, and humanitarian work, on the local, national, regional and international levels. This session will shed light on the big picture emerging from these recent policy and research breakthroughs and develop recommendations for translating them into practice.</p>
11:00 – 11:30	Group Photo & Coffee Break
11:30 – 13:30	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Session 2</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Conflict Prevention at the African Union: Complementing Crisis Management with Structural Prevention</b></p> <p>To enhance the effectiveness of the AU’s prevention efforts, operational prevention must go hand in hand with structural prevention.</p>

	<p>The various architectures and pillars of the AU (APSA, AGA, etc.) must pull together in a coordinated, coherent and integrated manner. The AU's Continental Structural Conflict Prevention Framework (CSCPF) has been developed to facilitate this Commission-wide coordinated approach to structural conflict prevention and to address the root causes of conflict, by 1) supporting member states preventive efforts, and 2) informing the design and implementation of all the programs and activities of the AU itself. This session will present recommendations for advancing structural prevention within the AU, and explore synergies between political, peace and security and development actors to achieve effective prevention.</p>
<b>13:30 – 14:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>14:30 – 16:00</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Session 3</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>National Ownership at the Core of Prevention: Planning, Institutions and Social Contracts for Prevention</b></p> <p>Prevention works. Many countries, including in Africa, have successfully managed high-risk situations and avoided descent or relapse into violence. While there is no one formula that would work for all situations, since each context is specific to its actors, institutions, and structures, these experiences offer lessons in prevention that can be useful for other contexts. And since prevention is the primary responsibility of the state, this session will examine how states can mainstream prevention in their national policies, so as to become risk-informed, as well as contribute to building institutions, structures and synergies that create incentives for peace.</p>
<b>17 September 2019</b>	
<b>9:00 – 10:30</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Session 4</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Leveraging Pillars of Local Resilience for Preventive Action</b></p> <p>Violence is highly path-dependent: once it takes hold locally, incentives and systems begin to reorient themselves in ways that sustain it. Effective prevention, therefore, requires acting before grievances harden and the threat of violence narrows the choices available for actors in society. Additionally, effective prevention also requires an inclusive approach on both the local and national levels; one that puts emphasis on strengthening/restoring the social fabric and increasing local resilience. This session will highlight lessons learnt and good practices emerging from local efforts in Africa to prevent conflict and enhance community resilience.</p>
<b>10:30 – 11:00</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>

<b>11:00 – 12:30</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Session 5</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Advancing Strategic, Political and Operational Partnerships in Conflict Prevention</b></p> <p>Partnerships are key for effective prevention. The complexity of conflict drivers, the transnational nature of conflict and the political sensitivities surrounding the prevention agenda makes it imperative for the UN and the AU to enhance their cooperation, so as to ensure coherence and complementarity. This session will explore the means to build on the strategic partnership between the UN and the AU, including recent joint frameworks for enhanced partnerships, to advance "conflict prevention" on the political and operational levels.</p>
<b>12:30 – 13:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>13:30 – 15:00</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Session 6</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Financing Sustainable Peace and Development in Africa</b></p> <p>In contrast to the initial optimism regarding an expected increase in financing for sustainable development goals, recent reports paint a more sobering picture. Rather than increasing, official development assistance is stagnating, while foreign direct investment and private lending are falling. In the meantime, humanitarian action and peace operations continue to be overstretched and under-funded. This session will discuss the needed shifts and new financial instruments that would usher an era of transformation from short to long term, flexible and predictable financing. The session will also shed light on the efforts of the African Union, through the Peace Fund, as a main pillar of the APSA (especially windows 1 and 2), to secure African financing to conflict prevention, transformation and resolution and the necessary steps needed to ensure that other fundraising efforts (for example for operationalizing the African Humanitarian Architecture and the African Humanitarian Agency) are integrated, coordinated and mutually reinforcing.</p>
<b>15:00-15:30</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>15:30-17:00</b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Session 7</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Assessing the Effectiveness of Prevention</b></p> <p>Measuring the effectiveness of actions aimed at averting the outbreak, escalation, continuation and recurrence of violent conflict is difficult, but critical. Preventive action is a complex and multi-layered process that involves various stakeholders, making it hard to establish cause-effect relations. This session will shed light on recent efforts and new tools developed to measure the impact of preventive efforts, that takes into account the multi-layered and complex nature of preventions efforts.</p>



17:00- 17:30	<b>Wrap up: Charting the Way Forward for Effective and Sustained Prevention in Africa</b>
17:30	<b>Closing</b>
<div><p><b>Strategic Partners</b></p><p>The Aswan Forum is an Egyptian initiative, owned by Africa and supported by the international community. This event was made possible in part, by the generous contributions of the governments of Japan, Canada, the United Kingdom, and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).</p><div> UK Government  Canada  <small>Empowered lives. Resilient nations.</small></div></div>	