



Forum International de Dakar
sur la Paix et la Sécurité en Afrique

Dakar International Forum
on Peace and Security in Africa

6TH EDITION OF THE DAKAR INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON PEACE AND SECURITY IN AFRICA
18-19 NOVEMBER 2019, DAKAR

THEME OF THE FORUM:

PEACE AND SECURITY IN AFRICA: THE CURRENT CHALLENGES TO MULTILATERALISM

The issue of security in Africa is becoming increasingly complex, with fundamental changes contributing to a climate of instability and uncertainty. Security threats and challenges, such as violent extremism, are evolving and becoming inextricably linked with illicit trafficking in drugs, weapons and human beings, as well as cybercrime and fighting for control of resources. Various regions across the continent have seen an upsurge in intercommunal conflicts, further complicating the situation.

The origins of this amalgamation of violence lie in socio-economic causes and situational factors including poverty, unemployment, climate change, natural disasters and epidemics.

New forms of military response are therefore needed, requiring a major transformation of African Defence and Security Forces, not only through the long-term provision of sufficient funds, but also through the supply of equipment specially adapted to harsh terrains. Armed forces deployed in the field will be charged with containing ever-changing threats. Moreover, it is imperative that international and regional strategic partnerships be redefined in order to better coordinate the efforts of the United Nations, the European Union, the African Union and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs). These multilevel interactions and the time they allow for discussion are intended to deepen our understanding of security challenges so that lasting peace through practical solutions may be ensured.

In order to achieve sustainable peace and stability across the continent, military responses must be integrated with political crisis recovery processes, as well as development and economic growth policies based on medium- and long-term strategies which promote improved governance and more inclusive management of resources.

This environment has given rise to growing concern among civilians and private sector stakeholders regarding insecurity, crises and conflicts. It is therefore paramount that they are accorded a greater role in the process for peace, security and development.

Ultimately, the changing nature of conflicts and the different groups of stakeholders now involved in peace and security must be regarded in the wider context of multilateralism in crisis. Relations between African States and international partners are characterised by developments that go beyond conventional trade. Forms of cooperation have diversified but are rendered more complex by a combination of unilateral approaches and international involvement, particularly with regard to peacekeeping operations. Current relations with African States blur the agenda for peace, making coherent and effective initiatives difficult to achieve.

Over the last six years, within this dynamic of international meetings for peace, security and sustainable development, the Dakar International Forum on Peace and Security has become an essential event.

Following the Elysée Summit in 2013 and the commitment of His Excellency Mr. Macky Sall, President of the Republic of Senegal, the first five editions have provided an opportunity to assess threats, to share experience, and to discuss and put forward suitable and coordinated responses for peace, stability, security and sustainable development in Africa.

The 2019 Forum will continue to build on this momentum. This year, it will go beyond identifying changes in current security challenges and offer inclusive solutions based on the reality of the current situation in Africa. This 6th edition of the Forum will be held on 18 and 19 November 2019 at the Abdou Diouf International Conference Centre (CICAD), and will focus on "Peace and security in Africa: the current challenges to multilateralism".

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

More specifically, the purpose of this Forum is to:

Review the mechanisms for collective security and for the prevention of conflicts and violent extremism in Africa.

Put forward solutions to overcome the limitations of peace-building operations in Africa and the current crisis of multilateralism.

Review the governance of strategic territories and resources to ensure security in Africa.

Strengthen collective security approaches in order to ensure greater involvement of citizens in the process for sustainable stability and peace.

EXPECTED RESULTS

By the end of the Forum, the aim is to:

provide solutions to strengthen the effectiveness of mechanisms for collective security and for the prevention of conflicts and violent extremism,

put forward strategies to ensure a stronger approach to multilateralism, a prerequisite for the success of peacekeeping operations,

define the governance of territories and resources so as to make a greater contribution to security and development,

develop strategies for building trust between public and private stakeholders with respect to resource management in Africa,

take into account the role of civilians, in particular women and young people, in restoring a climate favourable for development.

PARTICIPANTS

Approximately 450 participants will be present in Dakar on 18 and 19 November 2019, including top-ranking regional and international stakeholders, (political leaders, Defence and Security Forces, experts and academics, diplomats and representatives from international organisations and civil society, etc.).

ORGANISERS

The 6th edition of the Dakar International Forum on Peace and Security in Africa has been organised by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Senegalese Abroad (MAESE), in collaboration with many of our partners.

The Forum will also benefit from the involvement of various organisations, such as the Centre for Advanced Study of Defence and Security (CHEDS) of Senegal, and the European Strategic Intelligence Company (CEIS), charged with, in particular, various organisational and communicational aspects of the event.