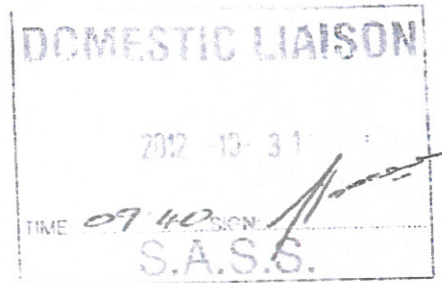


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DAY ONE:

**DRAFT REPORT OF MEETING HELD
IN ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**



ON 24 OCTOBER 2012

PURPOSE

The multi-disciplinary team headed by Director: Mr S NTOMBELA SSA:FB) consisted of [REDACTED] General DLADLA (SAPS), Colonel (Special Forces); Lt-Colonel , [REDACTED] FB and Mr M APHANE (DIRCO). The team left South Africa for Addis Ababa on 24-10-2012 in order to engage with the Security Establishment of Ethiopia on security matters related to concerns around the Chairperson of the African Union Commission (AUC), Dr NC DLAMINI-ZUMA.

The following meetings were scheduled by the Head of Station;

- Meeting Ambassador PEPANI
- Meeting with National Intelligence and Security Services (NISS)
- Meeting with Head of AUC Safety and Security Division (AUC SSD)

Meeting on arrival 24 Oct 2012

On arrival the team convened a meeting with Acting Director Mr NTOMBELA, outlining the purpose of the visit. He mentioned that the visit was aimed at meeting the local state security apparatus to discuss all security related issues around the Chairperson of the AUC. This was also aimed at making an overall intervention for the security of the AUC Chair and this also included getting the assurances from the host country service

The Acting Director then requested [REDACTED] to make remarks on the purpose of the visit. [REDACTED] remark was that the team needed to ask the question of security around the AUC Chairperson in a manner that is not intrusive but asked in good faith. Furthermore, the General said the team needed to unbundle the issues as they are raising them with the Host Service so as to avoid creating an impression that South Africa was declaring a vote of no confidence on the handling of AUC Chairperson's security.

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██████████ also thought that it would be necessary to reflect on the issue of last year that was involving his department and the arrest of DMI officer by the Ethiopians. According to him, the Host Service did not want to meet with him during his visit despite the fact that they had shown willingness and commitment to do so.

The Acting Director concurred with the sentiments raised by ██████████ on the aspect of managing the issues and the sensitivities that comes with issue of the obligation the Host country to protect all AU and member states in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The Acting Director further pointed out that the issue at hand was about to receiving briefing and update on how they are proceeding about the issue of an unnamed state alleged to be seeking to cause harm to the Chairperson on 24 October 2012. He also intimated that this issue was then followed by another alert which further pointed out a potential assassination plot that was allegedly hatched to be carried out at a different venue that it been planned earlier.

The Team adopted the following approach to engaging the Ethiopians:

The team agreed that the correct approach to engage the Ethiopians would be to say that South Africa is pleased with manner in which they have provided and elevated security arrangements around the Chairperson despite the fact that the alert provided to them does not add up in some respect.

The expected outcome:

- To develop a security capacity to deal with security challenges as well as to render security service capacity as and when the travels around the continent
- To establish a multi-disciplinary coordinating structure that is not intrusive but that would be perform specific functions for the protection of the AUC Chairperson
- To ensure that the work of the task team is coordinated through NICOC or cluster

Recommendations

- That the VIP protection team capacity be increased from one Officer to a of several officers to be constituted by SAPS and would perform duties on a rotational basis.
- Special Forces to explore ways of strengthening security capacity to cover travels of the Chairperson when she visits hot spot in the continent
- To create a Nodal-point in the Office of the Chairperson to facilitate the flow of information between her office and the Nodal point.
- As a means of ensuring an inclusive nature of the security of the Chair, SADC needs to be influence to participate in proving security to the AUC Chairperson

- The task team would also want to prioritise on building relations with NISS as the latter is the primary provider of security to the Chairperson
- support the idea of utilising the medical capability of the Cubans medical contingent currently stationed in Ethiopia

DAY TWO:

**DRAFT REPORT OF MEETING WITH
THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF
NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY SERVICES
IN ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA
ON 25 OCTOBER 2012**

The South African delegation to the above –mentioned meeting was led by Director S. M. NTOMBELA composed of the following members: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Colonel MOLEFE (Attache) and Messrs M. APHANE [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

The Delegation was warmly welcomed by the Director of Foreign Service of NISS Mr. Hadera ABERA and [REDACTED] (Head of Liaison). He congratulated South Africa for the election of the new Chairperson of the African Union Commission (AUC) Director NTOMBELA thanked the Director of Foreign Service for the warm welcome to him and his delegation. He then indicate the purpose of the visit to Addis Ababa firstly to expressed the gratitude for the manner in which NISS has handled the issue of security of the African Union Commission Chairperson as well as the speedy responds to the request forwarded from SSA to NISS. He further expressed condolences on passing away of the beloved leader, Prime Minister Meles ZENAWI.

The Director of NISS Foreign Service pointed out that he had received the request from SSA FB with names of the person who pose a potential threat to the Chairperson of the AUC. In this regard, gave a brief that upon receipt the Service auctioned the operation to check the names from all entry points especially those bordering Sudan; airports through immigration. He further pointed-out that their investigation could not establish the existence of the names provided. He requested that the information be beefed-up in terms of the details on specifics of the individuals involved. Furthermore he reiterated the point that NISS would do everything possible to ensure the safety of the Chairperson of the AU. He emphasised the

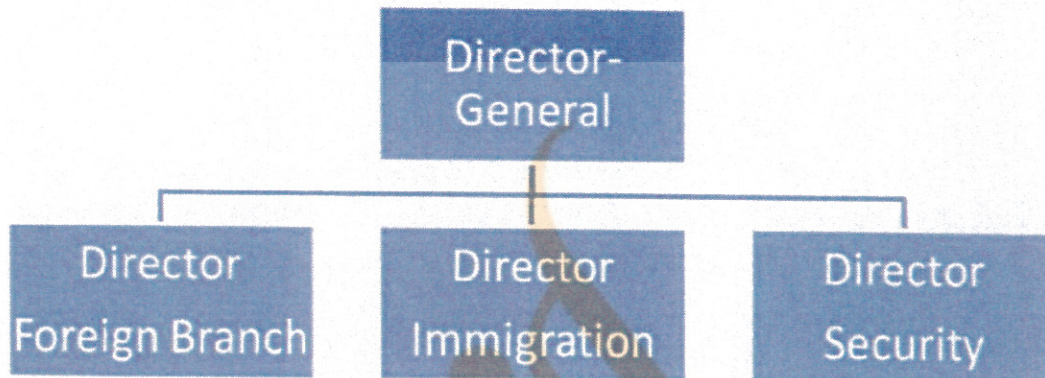
point that there has been never a threat that developed into a situation where a diplomat is killed in Addis Ababa with exception of the former Egyptian President **MUBARAK** whose life was threatened in 1987. However he pointed out that NISS has foiled a number of terrorist activities aimed at Ethiopia. In this regard he requested there be a process of sharing intelligence on continuous basis between the two Services. He further indicated that NISS had had good working relations with the South African Secret Service under the former Director-General Mr T. **DENIS** and that this could form the basis of close cooperation between the two Services. He also made reference to the agreement between the two Services regarding the drafting of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

The Acting Director of SSA FB responded by pointing out that the two countries occupy strategic location in the continent and that their respective governments had cooperated on numerous issues. He also intimated that the SSA was looking forward to future cooperation between the two Services on matters of Security, information sharing, assistance to issues that cannot be handled by one service such as Terrorism, Cyber threats especially those that could be directed to the African Union.

The Director SSA requested a briefing on the security assessment of the region as well as the one of the African Union. He further enquired for an indication on the security of the Chairperson when she travels around the continent to hot-spot areas in particular. The Director NISS Foreign Service pointed out that he would not have the details on the assessment due to the short notice to which the meeting arranged. However he would consult with different branches of NISS especially the one dealing with VVIP Protection.

He committed that the assessment could be covered within the context of issues that would be contained in the MoU. However he would arrange an exchange meeting of experts to discuss the regional security situation and that of the security of AU. In his response he pointed out that the VVIP Service does not belong to his portfolio but to that of Security. He then briefed the delegation on how NISS is structured:

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The Director NISS request the Director SSA-FB to share the details of the threat against the AUC Chairperson as they did not pick anything from their side but would like to find out the background to the threat. This would enable NISS to have a better assessment of the threat. He also requested SSA to share any threat that may be picked-up against or directed against AU and the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia as the issues of terrorism are not confined within the borders of FDRE. The Director SSA- FB responded by outlining the following types of threats that could impinge the success of the AU Chairperson in her work:

- Threats that could arise from those who oppose the principles of the AU Constitutive Act – the coup plotters and those involved in unconstitutional change of governments;
- Those who may not want the Chairperson to visit the hot-spot like Somalia and Mali to address the issues pertaining to peace and stability;
- Threat from the emanating from extremist groups like Alshabaab directed at the AU as vulnerable target
- Threat emanating from forces outside the continent who may not wanting to stall implementation of the AUC programmes
- The Acting Director pointed out that there was no specific threat other than the reported potential threat reported against the life of the AUC Chairperson

██████████ further expressed the sentiments of the Director SSA-FB by expressing South Africa's gratitude for the manner NISS in which the security of the AUC Chairperson and the feed-back on the request pertaining the threat. He emphasised the need to liaise at an expert level between the two Services on matters of cyber threat against the AU.

The Director SSA FB requested the facilitation by NISS Director with VIP Security department of NISS so that he can express the same gratitude on the protection of the AUC Chairperson. He further asked if NISS could facilitate the licensing of the additional number of fire-arms for the VIP protection. The NISS Director responded by indicating that he would facilitate the experts meeting with the department of Security to engage on the details.

The Director SSA-FB concluded by extending a wish to meet the Director-General NISS either by the Acting Director-General; himself or both of them as soon as it that meeting could possibly take place.

General Egziabher MEBRAHTU's briefing was in line with issues that were covered by SSA delegation led by [REDACTED] : Refer to paragraphs below :

Daily update on the State Security Agency (SSA) task team visit to the Headquarters of the African Union Commission (AUC) 10 October 2012

1. Introduction

1.1 Following the engagements of 09 October 2012, the SSA Task Team proceeded with its programme on 10 October 2012. This programme entailed the following:

- Courtesy call on the South African Ambassador to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and Permanent Representative of South Africa to the African Union, General LC PEPANI.
- Meeting with the Head of AUC Security and Safety Division (SSD), General Egziabher MEBRAHTU, Deputy Head of SSD, Colonel Sadeen Garba SHEHU and the SSD Operations Officer [REDACTED]
- Meeting with the AUC Facilities Manager, Dr Auguste NGOMO.

2. Courtesy call on the South African Ambassador to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and Permanent Representative of South Africa to the African Union, General LC PEPANI

2.1 During the courtesy call the following points were raised by the Ambassador:

- Since the July Summit of the AU which elected Dr DLAMINI-ZUMA as the AUC Chairperson, a number of countries that had opposed the latter's election had changed their attitude and expressed willingness to cooperate with the South African Embassy.
- Significant developments in this regard took place, chief amongst which was the re-call of the previous French Ambassador¹, Mr Jean-Christophe BELLARD and his replacement by Madame Brigitte COLLET. In addition, the United States (US) Embassy in Addis Ababa had also indicated

¹ He had tirelessly campaigned against the candidature of Dr DLAMINI ZUMA

willingness to facilitate a meeting between Secretary of State, Hillary Rodham CLINTON and the newly elected AUC Chairperson Dr DLAMINI-ZUMA. In this regard the Ambassador also recalled that the US, through its Embassy in Addis Ababa, had also played a significant behind the scenes role in campaigning against Dr DLAMINI-ZUMA. Furthermore, the majority of African countries who had campaigned against SADC candidates are beginning to express willingness to co-operate with the newly-elected Chairperson. Countries like Nigeria, Kenya and others have indicated readiness to turn a new leaf for the sake of the African continent.

- On the other hand, developments in the host country including the unfortunate and untimely demise of former Prime Minister Meles ZENAWI have presented an opportunity for both RSA and Ethiopia to repair the damaged relations between the two countries. However, the Ambassador also emphasised the tenuous internal situation in the host country mainly characterised by ongoing tensions between the ruling minority Tigrayans² and the rest of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front (EPRDF). These tensions have recently been exacerbated by what appears to be the tightening of the grip on power by the Tigrayan Peoples' Liberation Front (TPLF) which is the dominant partner in the EPRDF.
- Nonetheless, developments in the host country point towards the emergence of possibilities for a substantive turn around in RSA-Ethiopia relations including the forging of business ventures and an opportunity for both countries to learn from each other's experiences³
- With regard to the request of the task team to conduct an inspection at the official residence of the Chairperson, Ambassador PEPANI gave members of the task team an explanation of some of the difficulties the Embassy had experienced in accessing that site. It was only after prolonged persistence that a delegation from the Embassy, DIRCO, AU and the Station led by the Ambassador was finally given permission by Dr Jean PING to visit the official residence on 05 October 2012⁴.
- Ambassador promised to share with the SSA task team a copy of the inspection visit to the official residence.
- In conclusion, the leader of the task team [REDACTED] thanked the Ambassador for the opportunity to make a courtesy call to on the Ambassador and expressed a desire to work closely with the Embassy and the station in ensuring that Dr DLAMINI-ZUMA's tenure at the helm of the AUC was a productive one in furtherance of the objective of securing peace security and sustainable development for the people of Africa

3. Meeting with the Head of AUC SSD

² Since the death of former Prime Minister ZENAWI, thirty seven (37) new Generals from the Defence Force have been promoted, thirty four (34) of which are Tigrayans.

³ The Ambassador stated his disappointment with regard to the recent developments at South African Airways (SAA) and pointed to how RSA could tap into the vast experience of Ethiopian Airlines in addressing issues of turnaround strategies and general management of airlines.

⁴ Refer to task team report of 09/10/2012 for full details.

After the courtesy call on the Ambassador the team and the Head of Station (HOS) proceeded to the a meeting with the Head of the SSD General Egziabher **MEBRAHTU** who was joined by his deputy and Nigerian national Colonel Sadeeq Garba **SHEHU** and SSD Operations Officer Mr Christopher S **KAYOSHE** from Rwanda.

In his introductory remarks the HOS [REDACTED] thanked the Head of SSD for the opportunity to meet and introduced members of the SSA Task Team He further elaborated that the meeting was a follow up on earlier engagement with the Head of SSD. During the meeting the following points were raised:

- The international security environment; the situation on the African continent and the Horn of Africa in particular had changed thereby meriting a re-assessment of the threats facing the AU. In this regard, the increased involvement in conflict resolution especially in areas like Somalia, Mali and others increase the prospects of attacks on AU personnel and property. Coupled to the above, recognition had to be made of the fact that in the past eighteen (18) months the size of AU personnel had quadrupled.
- It was also felt that the increase in the number of meetings and events hosted by the AU and Ethiopia compounds the security threats and risks.
- The Head of SSD gave the SSA delegation a brief on the personal security deployments level around the Chairperson of the AUC in line with what was mentioned in the report of SSA Task Team dated 09/10/2012.
- He lamented the absence of an approved security policy and standard operating procedures and the fact that their past attempts to access senior AUC management had yielded no tangible results. *He then expressed a feeling that the finalisation of the existing draft policy should be one of the first priorities of the incoming Chairperson.* Furthermore, the Head of the SSD was of the view that the creation of a Security Advisory Board residing in the office of the Chairperson was of paramount importance.
- General **MEBRAHTU** also reiterated the need for RSA assistance in capacity building; enhancement in safety and security and the development of security systems and standards in line with international best practice.
- He further lamented the lack of requisite attention to security by senior management of the AUC and gave the example of the cumbersome chain of command.⁵ Consequently, it would be in the best interests of the AU, AUC and in securing the safety of personnel and property for the line of command to be streamlined such that security reports directly to the AUC Chairperson.
- The meeting concluded by an agreement that any further engagement between the AUC Security and RSA in relation to training should take place within the context of all AU protocols including Host Country Agreement.
- All pertinent issues raised by the Head of SSD and his delegation should be duly packaged and presented directly to the incoming Chairperson in a meeting to be facilitated by the HoS.
- The SSD made a promise that he and his staff will provide an efficient service, to protect and support the incoming Chairperson of the AUC.

⁵ Currently, the Head of SSD reports to the Head of administration who in turn reports to the Director of Administration who reports to the Commissioner of Human Resource, who reports to the Deputy Chairperson of the AUC

4. Meeting with the AUC Facilities Manager

This meeting discussed the following:

- Mr **NGOMO** ascertained it would take a period of two months to complete the refurbishment and the purchasing of furniture for the official residence. He also added that there are three companies from Spain, RSA and the USA that were short-listed for the installation of the electronic security systems for the Office and the Official Residence.
- The current official vehicle of the Chairperson is five years old.
- The AU is guided by the European Union (EU) blacklisting framework in selecting airlines to be used by the Chairperson. The AUC Chairperson uses the following commercial airlines: Lufthansa, European and other Star Alliance airlines including South African Airways. She would travel first or business class depending on availability.
- The Chairperson's entourage ordinarily travels economy class except in cases where the trip is longer than eight (8) hours.
- Mr **NGOMO** further elaborated the following additional travel arrangements in respect of the additional VIP protector from RSA:
 - the AUC would cover the initial travel costs from RSA and on subsequent trips when travelling with the Principal. In such a case the AUC would also cover the subsistence allowance, travel and accommodation costs.
 - In cases where the accommodation costs exceed the AUC norms, the VIP protected would be required to pay the costs and claim the difference arising therefrom upon return.
- He also shared with the delegation concerns regarding the recent transfers against the letter and spirit of declared staff transfers and appointments. This has led to a situation where tension, anxiety and uncertainties among senior staff⁶ are rife. *The team asserts that these developments hold the potential of heightening tensions and suspicions particularly in relation to perceived post-PING movement of senior staff as already elaborated in the SSA POA and IP dated 07/10/2012 (section dealing with assumptions and principles).*

CONTINUATION OF THE MEETING ON 25 OCTOBER 2012,

AT THE SOUTH AFRICAN EMBASSY

Upon arrival of the Chairperson to Ethiopia, the host country of the AUC, security was provided by NISS against the background that were raised which are poor capacity to provide and protect.

AUC security is unarmed

General Egziabher **MEBRAHTU** lamented on the challenges.

⁶ A case in point is the proposed transfer of Dr Abdul-Hakim **ELWAER** the Director of Human Resource and Administration to Human resources Science & Technology

Whilst NISS provided security for the AUC Chairperson, AU did not arrange accommodation and resources for food.

General Egziabher **MEBRAHTU** also mentioned that the protectors slept in corridors for four days without food and water provided.

The current situation is that they are provided with accommodation without food and water. This creates a gap since they have to go out of the hotel to get food and water, leaving the Chairperson unattended, therefore vulnerable.

To this effect a decision was taken at the meeting that on her return from South Africa the accommodation and food costs will be factored as part of the AUC Chairperson's account.

This has been done to avoid creation of a perception that South Africa is taking over the provision of the protection of the Chairperson from NISS and AUC.

SECURITY

It was agreed in the meeting that SAPS will avail resources and advance team. AUC Head of Security would avail buy-in and programme of the Chairperson when she visits hot spot areas.

There was also a decision that moving forward there must be a clear division of responsibilities to all role players. (**SSA, SAPS, MILITARY**)

A decision was taken that issues relating to VIP Protection will be dealt with by SAPS, that is including:

- Fire arm licensing for additional security personal including future co-operation with NISS and SSD.
- SAPS would provide cover for State Security to access AUC building and official residence to execute its CI and TSCM functions.

End

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