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SA president and 5 African heads of state vow to work towards ending russia-Ukraine war

Президент ПАР та глави п'яти африканських держав пообіцяли працювати над припиненням російсько-української війни

Африканські лідери пообіцяли спробувати забезпечити припинення війни в Україні з огляду на негативний вплив війни на континент. Глави шести африканських держав провели віртуальну зустріч, організовану президентом Південно-Африканської Республіки Сирілом Рамафосою, щоб обговорити роль африканських лідерів у конфлікті. Міністрам закордонних справ відповідних країн було доручено доопрацювати елементи дорожньої карти. На зустрічі були присутні президент Африканського союзу Отман Газалі, президент Єгипту Абдель Фаттах Ель-Сісі, президент Сенегалу Макі Салл, президент Уганди Йовері Мусевені і президент Замбії Хакаїнді Хічілема. Вони домовилися, що обговорять із президентом росії володимиром путіним та президентом України Володимиром Зеленським елементи припинення вогню та міцного миру.

<https://www.news24.com/news24/politics/government/sa-president-and-5-african-heads-of-state-vow-to-work-towards-ending-russia-ukraine-war-20230606>

African nations to send peace mission to Ukraine and Russia: Ramaphosa

African leaders have vowed to attempt to ensure an end to the war in Ukraine, given the negative impact the war has had on the continent.

Six African heads of state held a virtual meeting on Monday, hosted by South African President Cyril Ramaphosa, to discuss the role African leaders could play in the conflict.

The foreign ministers of the respective countries were tasked with finalising the elements of a roadmap. Given its extensive adverse effects on African countries, leaders on the continent have resolved to play a critical role in attempts to end the war in Ukraine.

This was one of the outcomes of a virtual meeting between six African presidents, which South African President Cyril Ramaphosa hosted on Monday.

Included in the meeting were Ramaphosa's Comoros Islands counterpart, African Union president Othman Ghazali; the president of Egypt, Abdel Fattah El-Sisi; Senegalese President Macky Sall; Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni; and the president of Zambia, Hakainde Hichilema.

According to the South African Presidency, the heads of state deliberated the devastating impact the war has had on the people of Ukraine and Russia, as well as the threats it poses to Europe and the rest of the world.

They agreed that they would engage with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky on the elements for a ceasefire and lasting peace.

READ | African leaders to head to Russia, Ukraine in June to get ball rolling for peace talks

The foreign ministers of the respective countries were tasked with, according to the Presidency, finalising the elements of a roadmap.

"The presidents confirmed their availability to travel to Ukraine and Russia in mid-June," it added.

El-Sisi's spokesperson, Ahmed Fahmy, said the leaders also discussed the details of the African initiative for the mediation between Russia and Ukraine.

"They affirmed that Africa has a firm interest in working towards an end to this conflict, given its enormous negative effects on African countries and the rest of the world in several vital sectors, such as food and energy security and international finance, in addition to their importance to reinforce international peace and stability," Fahmy said.

Fahmy added that El-Sisi confirmed that Egypt hoped that the African initiative would contribute to the settlement of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict, in light of the African continent's extended relations with the two states, as well as the multiple dimensions of the crisis, which has crossed its geographical boundaries to affect different regions of the world, particularly Africa, the Middle East and developing countries.

The Egyptian president stressed that his country, like SA, had adopted a balanced position.

Fahmy added that settling conflicts through peaceful means was important, allowing dialogue to prevail, and mobilising international efforts to reach a solution that takes into account all parties' concerns to ensure global stability and security.

READ | Ramaphosa's 'voluntary' advisor Bejani Chauke in Moscow to help with Russia-Ukraine peace mission

Museveni thanked Ramaphosa for hosting the virtual meeting.

"This war affects all of us, and it can get worse than it is now. It is threatening world peace, plus the sanctions that have impacted banking and marine transport, among others.

"Since we in Africa have our own perspectives, we can share with them how we have solved our problems here.

"Africa has good credentials in solving disputes, like that of South Africa, Congo, Somalia, and many others. I, therefore, pledge our support and contribution to the peace process through dialogue between Russia and Ukraine," he added.