<u>DECISION ON THE SITUATION OF REFUGEES, RETURNEES</u> AND DISPLACED PERSONS IN AFRICA – DOC. EX.CL/340 (XI)

The Executive Council:

- **1. TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the Situation of Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons in Africa;
- 2. EXPRESSES GRAVE CONCERN over the persistent nature of forced population displacements on the Continent, and its negative impact on the lives of the persons affected; and REAFFIRMS the need for Member States to address the root causes as a durable solution to forced displacements;
- 3. CALLS ON the international community to increase its assistance to victims of forced displacements, in both host and home countries, particularly within the context of post-conflict reconstruction with a view to ensuring their long-term interaction;
- 4. REQUESTS the Commission to continue efforts to reactivate the coordination committee on Assistance and Protection to Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons, to finalize the terms of reference for its working group; to submit same for validation to the office of the Legal Counsel and for approval at the next Session of Council;
- 5. WELCOMES the preparatory initiatives taken by the Task Force for the Special Summit of Heads of State and Government on forced displacements in Africa, scheduled to take place in 2008 and CALLS UPON the Task Force to continue the preparation for the successful outcome of the Special Summit;
- 6. TAKES NOTE of the concept paper on the African Union's policy on access to post-primary education for victims of forced displacements and REQUESTS the Commission to submit same for consideration by the Conference of Ministers of Education, scheduled in September 2007 in South Africa, prior to adoption by the Executive Council.

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