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**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
Fourteenth Ordinary Session  
26 – 30 January 2009  
Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA**

EX.CL/453(XIV)c Rev.1

**REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON CONTRIBUTIONS  
16 January 2009**

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1. The meeting of the sub-Committee on Contributions was held in Addis Ababa on 16 January 2009.

**Attendance**

2. The Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Contributions, H.E Ambassador Ali Awidan, the Secretary of the People's Bureau of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia chaired the meeting, which was attended by the representatives of the following Member States: Burundi, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Gabon, Lesotho, Libya, Rwanda, Togo and the Democratic Republic of Congo as Observer.

**Opening Session**

3. The Chairperson of the Sub-Committee welcomed Members and reiterated the importance of the session. He invited members to consider the Report on the Status of Contributions as at 31 December 2008.

4. He also welcomed the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) as an observer and invited H.E. Gerard Mapango, Ambassador of the Democratic Republic of Congo to take the floor and address the Sub-Committee.

5. Taking the floor, Ambassador Gerard Mapango thanked members of the Sub-Committee and the African Union Commission for their understanding and cooperation. He conveyed the message from his Government to members of the Sub-Committee, stating that the Democratic Republic of Congo was aware of its responsibilities vis-à-vis the African community and before posterity, but was currently faced with many types of challenges, particularly the war ravaging the Eastern part of the country, with its negatives impacts at economic level, as well as the global financial crisis of which the country is one of the victims. However the Government has resolved to find a solution to the issue of the temporary and exceptional lifting of the sanction weighing on it by settling its arrears of contributions amounting to **US\$11,155,167.87**, through, among other things, the payment of US\$4,000,000 by bank transfer and the allocation to the African Union, against the cancellation of the corresponding amount of the debt, of buildings for the AU representation in Kinshasa valued at approximately US\$6,000,00. He also reminded the Sub-Committee of the payment in Accra in 2007 of US\$1,000,000.

6. The Chairperson of the Sub-Committee, Ambassador Ali Awidan, once again thanked the Democratic Republic of Congo and Ambassador Gerard Mapango for his brilliant statement and his country's commitment to return to the fold, and encouraged the DRC to work towards this goal. He then requested Ambassador Gerard Mapango to withdraw in order for the Sub-Committee to deliberate on the issue.

### **Adoption of the Agenda**

7. The Sub-Committee adopted the following agenda
- (i) The Statement of Contributions of Members States,
  - (ii) Any Other Business (The Report on the Members States in Conflict Situations).

### **Consideration of the Report on Contributions**

8. The Chairperson of the Sub-Committee explained to members of the Sub-Committee the report on contributions dated 31 December 2008 as follows:

#### **5.1 Regular budget: US\$ 140,037,880**

9. The assembly in its session held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (EX.CL/367(XII)) has approved a total Budget of US\$140,037,880

→ A total amount of US\$ 106,554,655 assessed to Member States on the basis of the approved scale of assessment,

→ US\$ 32,395,800 is earmarked for the specific programmes secured from the partners.

#### **5.2 Member States Contributions**

##### **a) Contributions Received**

10. The contributions received as at 31 December 2008 amounted to **US\$ 91,147 829.52** out of which:

⇒ US\$ 79,878,001.90 was paid towards the 2008 fiscal year's assessment,

⇒ US\$ 10,393,185.62 constituted collection of arrears of the previous years and,

⇒ US\$ 876,642.00 was paid in advance

##### **b) Status of arrears as at 31 December 2009**

11. The total outstanding arrears of contribution as at 31 December 2008, stood at **US\$ 27, 091, 323.14**

Out of the total of 53 Members States, 12 are in arrears of one year and above

N0	Country	Amount (US\$)
1	Burundi	554,906.58
2	Cape Verde	1,187,487.00
3	Central Africa Republic	221,356.38
4	Comoros	76,416.45
5	D.R Congo	11,155,167.87
6	Eritrea	980,365.00
7	Guinea Bissau	31,310.96
8	Sao Tomé & Príncipe	1,595,241.20
9	Seychelles	2,063,645.92

<b>10</b>	Sierra Leone	358,797.00
<b>11</b>	Somalia	263,905.00
<b>12</b>	Sudan	4,539,092.88
<b>Total</b>		<b>US\$ 27, 091, 323.14</b>

- ⇒ 19 Member States are without arrears but have not paid their current year (2008) assessed contributions
- ⇒ 22 countries are up to date with their contributions paid in full, including current year's assessment and
- ⇒ five countries made advance payment for 2009 fiscal year

N0	Country	Amount (US\$)
<b>1</b>	Angola	270,575.53
<b>2</b>	Burkina Faso	125,748.94
<b>3</b>	Congo	146,634.39
<b>4</b>	Kenya	1,389.58
<b>5</b>	Tanzania	332,354.56
<b>Total</b>		<b>US\$ 876,642.00</b>

12. The outstanding contributions from the current year assessment amounts to US\$ 26,406,056.55 as of 31 December 2008. This represents **25%** of the total assessed contribution due from Member States towards the 2008 budget. In other words Member States pay **75%** of the assessed contribution towards the current year assessment. The total contribution not received from Member States on the aforementioned date, therefore stood at **US\$ 53,497,381.69**

## 6. Partners contribution

13. A total of **US\$ 66,079,168.47** has been received from International Partners during the current year to finance programmes of the Commission including contribution to the Peace Fund.

## 7. Matters for consideration

- a) As per the decision of the 11<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Executive Council the following countries were under sanction:
  - i. Cape Verde
  - ii. Democratic Republic of Congo
  - iii. Eritrea
  - iv. Sao Tomé & Principe
  - v. Seychelles

14. Though Cape Verde and the Democratic Republic of Congo paid a portion of their arrears, they are still in arrears of more than two years.

- b) The Comoros, which also has two years of arrears, is added to the above list of the countries under sanction. This brings the total number of Member States under sanction to six.

15. Thus the following six Member States shall be under sanction as there is no improvement in their arrears position and/or they have outstanding contributions of two and more years of assessed contribution:

- i. Cape Verde
- ii. Democratic republic of Congo
- iii. Eritrea
- iv. Sao Tomé & Príncipe
- v. Seychelles
- vi. Comoros

- c) The Sub-Committee also decided that the temporary and exceptional exemption from sanction granted to Sierra Leone and Burundi be extended so long as they honour the agreed payment schedules. To this effect the following repayments were made by respective Member States:

Country	Description	Amount (US\$)
<i>Burundi</i>	<i>Arrears as at 31/12/2007</i>	490,973.58
	<i>Current Year Assessment 2008</i>	63,932.78
<b>Total</b>		<b>US\$ 554,906.36</b>

- i. Burundi paid the arrears of contribution beyond the agreed repayment schedule of **US\$ 200,000** per year. Thus the temporary lifting of Burundi from sanction will be extended so long as Burundi honoured the repayment schedule.
- ii. Sierra Leone agreed to pay the outstanding arrears of **USD 1,118,084.68** as of 31 December 2003 up to the end of 2008 in addition to the annual assessed contributions.  
The repayments from year 2004 to date amount to **US\$ 1,204,112.68** while the total assessed contributions for five fiscal years 2004 – 2008 amounted to **US\$ 444,825**.

16. The outstanding contribution for the Republic of Sierra Leone amounted to:

Country	Description	Amount (US\$)
<i>Sierra Leone</i>	<i>Arrears as of 31/12/2007</i>	284,206.00
	<i>Current Year Assessment 2008</i>	74,588.24
<b>Total</b>		<b>US\$ 358,794.24</b>

Though Sierra Leone cleared the arrears before 2004, the assessed contribution for the past four (4) years still remains outstanding.

Thus temporary lifting of Sierra Leone from sanction will not be extended since Sierra Leone does not honour the agreed repayment schedule.

d) Member States in Conflict Situation:

17. At its previous meeting of 27 October 2008, the Sub-Committee listened attentively to the presentation made by the representative of the Peace and Security Department of the African Union Commission on countries in post-conflict situations.

18. Faced with this situation, the Sub-Committee adopted a common position on the exemption of post-conflict countries from contributions. The Sub-Committee commended Member States in post-conflict situations for their efforts to ensure peace and above all hoped for their participation in the comity of African nations.

19. The Sub-Committee however remains open to any proposal from these countries that could clear their arrears of contributions and requested that the report be submitted as it is to the session on 16 January 2009.

20. Furthermore, the Sub-Committee maintained its position and decided on the non exemption from exceptional measures for post-conflict countries.

*N.B : After the meeting, the Chairperson of the Sub-Committee received a letter from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Seychelles, pursuant to the absence of the sister Republic of Seychelles, which has total a arrears of **US\$2,063,645.92**, from comities of African nations since 1992.*

21. The Republic of Seychelles has been under sanctions from time immemorial and strongly wishes to return to the fold by proposing to pay up its arrears of contribution over a three (3) year period, and is awaiting a response to its proposal.

22. On behalf of the Sub-Committee the Chairperson took note of the request from Seychelles and is in favour of the payment proposal and the desire to see the Republic of Seychelles return to the fold.

23. The meeting began at 9h30 and ended at 13h05.

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