

RESOLUTION ON ENVIRONMENT

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Sixty-Second Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 21 to 23 June, 1995,

Recalling its Resolution CM/Res.1409 on the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) adopted by the Forty-Ninth Ordinary Session held in Dakar, Senegal, from 22 to 28 June, 1992,

Recalling further its Resolution CM/Res.1508 (LIX), the State of the ICND negotiations adopted by the Forty-Ninth Ordinary Session held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 31 January to 4 February, 1994, as well as the Resolutions CM/Res.1402 (LVIII), CM/Res.1535 (LX) and CM/Res.1571 (LXI) on issues relating to Desertification Control,

Aware of the fact that the June 1992, Rio de Janeiro Conference on Environment and Development has established the link between the healthy management of the environment and sustainable development,

Considering in particular all the Instruments adopted by both the Rio de Janeiro Conference and during the post-Rio period, namely Agenda 21 – Convention on Biological Diversity and on climate changes and the Convention on Desertification,

Aware of the need to achieve, very quickly and within a short period, the eradication of poverty and under-development in Member States,

Considering, in this regard, the basic principles enshrined in Document Doc. CM/1892 (LXII) on the *Cairo Agenda* adopted by the Seventeenth Extra-Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers held in Cairo, Egypt, from 25 to 28 March, 1995, on the socio-economic recovery of Africa,

Reaffirming its attachment to the principles and strategies contained in the Lagos Plan of Action (LPA) and the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community (AEC),

Considering that the convention on Biological Diversity and the change have entered into force and are now operational:

1. **URGES** Member States to get more involved in the global struggle to protect the environment and natural resources of Africa, particularly within the framework of International Institutions;
2. **INVITES** Member States who have not yet signed and ratified all the legal instruments emanating from the Rio de Janeiro Conference, and more particularly the Convention on Desertification, to do so as concrete proof of Africa's high interest in the issue;
3. **REQUESTS** the OAU Secretary-General to take the necessary steps to place sustainable management of the environment at the center of all development programmes within the context of its future activities based on Agenda 21;
4. **REQUESTS** the OAU Secretary-General, in collaboration with specialized African sub-regional institutions and Regional Economic Communities, to take the necessary steps to ensure the coordination and follow-up, at continental level, of the implementation of Agenda 21 and the various conventions adopted within the context of the establishment of the African Economic Community;
5. **COMMENDS** the effort of the International Community aimed at effectively implementing the decisions of the Rio de Janeiro Conference (UNCED) and **URGES** it to continue to extend its valuable financial support to Africa for the implementation of these decisions at continental level.

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