

**MONROVIA DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT OF THE HEADS
OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT, OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN
UNITY ON GUIDELINES AND MEASURES FOR NATIONAL AND
COLLECTIVE SELF-RELIANCE IN SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC ORDER**

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity;

Recalling our resolution CM/ST/ 12 (XXI) endorsed by the Tenth Ordinary Session of the Organization of African Unity held in Addis Ababa on 25 May 1973 containing the African Declaration of Co-operation, Development and Economic Independence;

Recalling the recommendations of the 11th Extraordinary Session of the Council of Ministers of the OAU on Economic Development and cooperation held in Kinshasa in December 1976;

Having taken note of the Interim Report of the Secretary-General on Development and Economic Integration of African contained in Doc CM/983 (XXXIII) including its annex I – Colloquium of the prospects for Development and Economic Growth in Africa especially to the year 2000 - and annex II – Development strategy for Africa for the Third United Nations Development Decade;

Aware of the fact that Africa is a vast continent amply endowed with natural resources of all kinds, provided with a potentially rich human resource base and capable of a rapid transformation of its economies and improvement in the standard of living of its peoples,

Determined to ensure that our Member States individually and collectively restructure their economic and social strategies and programmes so as to achieve rapid socio-economic change and to establish a solid domestic and intra-African base for a self-sustaining, self-reliant development and economic growth;

Realizing that the political regime which protects basic human rights and democratic freedom is essential for mobilizing the creative initiative of our people for rapid economic development including scientific and technological innovation;

Recognizing the need to take urgent action to provide the political support necessary for the success of measures to achieve the goals of rapid self-reliance and self-sustaining development and economic growth;

HEREBY DECLARES AS FOLLOWS:

1. That we commit ourselves individually and collectively on behalf of our Governments and peoples to promote the social and economic development and integration of our economies with a view to achieving an increasing measure of self-reliance and self-sustainment;
2. That we commit ourselves individually and collectively on behalf of our Government and peoples to promote the economic integration of the African region in order to facilitate and reinforce social and economic intercourse;
3. That we commit ourselves individually and collectively on behalf of our Governments and peoples to establish national, sub-regional and regional institutions which will facilitate the attainment of objectives of self-reliance and self-sustainment;
4. That, more specifically, we commit ourselves individually and collectively on behalf of our Governments and peoples to:
 - a) Give an important place to the field of human resources development by states to eliminate illiteracy;
 - b) Put science and technology in the service of development by reinforcing autonomous capacity of our countries in this field;
 - c) Self-sufficiency in food production and supply;

- d) **Complete implementation of the programme for the United Nations Transport and communications Decade for Africa;**
 - e) **Sub-regional and regional internally located industrial development;**
 - f) **Co-operation in the field of natural resources control, exploration, extraction and use for the development of our economics and for the benefit of our peoples and the setting up of appropriate institutions to achieve these purposes;**
 - g) **The development of indigenous entrepreneurial, technical manpower and technological capabilities to enable our peoples to assume great responsibility for the achievement of our individual and collective development goals;**
 - h) **Co-operation in the preservation, protection and improvement of the natural environment;**
 - i) **Ensure that our development policies reflect adequately our socio-cultural values in order to reinforce our cultural identity;**
 - j) **Take into account the dimension of the future in the elaboration of our development plans including studies and measures aimed at achieving the rapid socio-economic transformation of our states.**
5. **We hold firmly to the view that these commitments will lead to the creation at the national, sub-regional and regional levels of a dynamic inter-dependent African economy and will thereby pave the way for the eventual establishment of an African Common Market leading to an African Economic Community,**
6. **Resolving to give special attention to the discussion of economic issues at each annual Session of our Assembly, we hereby call on the Administrative Secretary-General, in collaboration with the Executive Secretary-General of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, to draw up annually**

specific programmes and measures for economic co-operation on sub-regional, regional and continental basis in Africa.

Monrovia Declaration Of Commitment Of The Heads Of State And Government, Of The Organization Of African Unity On Guidelines And Measures For National And Collective Self-Reliance In Social And Economic Development For The Establishment Of A New International Economic Order

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