



**ASSEMBLY OF HEADS
OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT
Thirtieth Ordinary Session
13 – 15 June, 1994
Tunis, Tunisia**

**AHG/Decl. 1-6 (XXX)
AHG/Res. 228-233 (XXX)**

**DECLARATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE THIRTIETH
ORDINARY SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE AND
GOVERNMENT**

TUNIS DECLARATION ON AIDS AND THE CHILD IN AFRICA

I. BACKGROUND

We the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting at the Thirtieth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government in Tunis, Tunisia, from 13 to 15 June, 1994,

Recognizing the devastating effect facing our African people, we adopted in Dakar in 1992, Declaration AHG/Decl1 (XXVIII) in AIDS Epidemic in Africa as an integral part of our earlier Declaration AHG/Decl.3 (XXVII) on the Current African Health Crisis adopted in Abuja in 1991;

Having reviewed Document CM/1780 (LVIII) on the Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Six Point Action Agenda of the Declaration on the AIDS Epidemic in Africa, we adopted in Cairo, Resolution AHG/Res.223 (XXIX),

In spite of the above concerted actions we resolved to undertake, the magnitude of the problem of the HIV infection and AIDS in most of our countries is on the increase especially among the African children who are the most vulnerable sector of our population. We take note that:

- 1. Some 1 million infections occur annually in men, women and children and that by the year 2000, about twenty million Africans will be infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV);**
- 2. The acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) causes sickness and despair, kills young and middle-aged adults, who are parents, the mainstay of the family, the backbone of the work force, and the care givers to our young;**
- 3. Children are infected by various modes of transmission and that girls are particularly vulnerable to infection by adults through sexual intercourse;**
- 4. To positive gains in the health status of children and women brought about by successful primary health care programmes of immunization, and child survival efforts in most African States are being threatened and will actually be reversed by AIDS;**
- 5. As a consequence of less-than-aggressive preventive efforts in the past millions of children will die from AIDS or be orphaned over the coming decade and will require care and supportive efforts.**

II. COMMITMENT

Prevention is the key to slowing the spread of AIDS in African and curtailing its ultimate impact, attention should also be given to care of HIV/AIDS patients including those with accompanying illness such as tuberculosis;

Effective national HIV/AIDS programmes require broad-based, multi-sectoral support from all sectors of government, and commit ourselves to undertake the following measures to protect our African children.

In the light of the foregoing we commit ourselves:

- 1. Elaborate a “national policy framework” to guide and support appropriate responses to the needs of affected children covering social, legal, ethical, medical and human rights issues.**
 - a. We must recognize that an effective response to the needs of AIDS affected children requires a multi-disciplinary, multi-sectoral response effectively coordinated to avoid duplication of effort and encourage the rational use of resources.**
 - b. We must recognize that the serious effect the AIDS epidemic is having on children must be seen as a national issue, not just the concern of the communities most directly affected.**
 - c. The largest group of AIDS-effect children and those whose parents**

have died in the epidemic. But the hardest hit communities, nearly all children – not just those whose family members have died of AIDS – are adversely affected because of the loss of people they are close to, the trauma of watching their friends become orphaned, and the effects on the community of the loss of so many of its most productive members.

- d. The immediate policy responses should address issues related to food and nutrition, education, nurture of parentless children, medical care for the sick as well as addressing the psychosocial problems resulting from the loss of loved ones and security.
- e. Children who are not at present infected or affected may soon join this group as the epidemic is rapidly developing.
- f. The various actors include concerned ministries, national and international non-governmental organizations, donor organizations and, most importantly, the communities themselves. Communities have the capacity to convert rejection into acceptance and risk-taking into risk prevention. Moreover the individual capacity to act can be reinforced by a supportive community.

2. Protect young people from HIV Infection

- a. We must recognize not only the vulnerability of young people to HIV

infection but that they provide a window of opportunity to eventually break the chain of transmission.

- b. We must therefore encourage and develop strong prevention strategies and interventions based on, among other things, moral and ethical values of our society, appropriate sex education in schools, and as a matter of urgency plans must be drawn up to reach out-of-school youth. Furthermore, young people must be given access to reproductive health care and the knowledge and skills to avoid sexual exploitation and unprotected sex.**

- c. We must give particular attention to the prevention of transmission of infection by adults to young people, through legislation designed to regulate the age consent and by the introduction of measures to improve the economic status of families.**

- d. In addition, we must institute measures to prevent parenteral transmission through transfusion of infected blood or use of contaminated needles and syringes or traditional surgical manipulation made with inadequately sterilized equipment. We should intensify all efforts including social mobilization and introduce legislation to discourage harmful traditional practices.**

- e. Furthermore, to prevent perinatal transmission we must institute counselling services to advise HIV infected women.**

- 3. Promote and support applied research.**
 - a. Promote research efforts based on African experience and tradition and support institutes of research in Africa working mainly in the field of determining the magnitude and extent of HIV infection among children and women and the underlying factors relating to HIV infection in order to orient our response aimed at preventing the spread of infection and alleviating its consequences on children and women.**

- 4. Make define and substantial budgetary provisions to meet the identified requirements for preventive programmes among children and for the care and support of those infected and/or affected by HIV/AIDS.**
 - a. Recognizing the socio-economic constraints to which our countries are subject and the multi-sectoral impact of the AIDS epidemic we shall draw on all possible resources, community, national, bilateral and international, to meet the needs of the programme.**

- 5. Continuously monitor the epidemiological situation and the impact of the action programme and regularly evaluate its implementation in order to effect any necessary modifications or reorientation.**

III. WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO FOLLOW CLOSELY THE

IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS DECLARATION.

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DECLARATION ON A CODE OF CONDUCT FOR INTER-AFRICAN RELATIONS

We, African Heads of State and Government meeting in Tunis, Tunisia, from 13 to 15 June, 1994, on the occasion of the 30th Ordinary Session of our Summit,

PREAMBLE

Considering the Charter of the United Nations Organization, particularly its provisions on security, stability, economic development and co-operation,

Considering the Charter of the Organization of African Unity, particularly its principles and objectives (Articles II and III)

Considering the Abuja Treaty establishing the African Economic Community,

Bearing in mind the resolution adopted by the Dakar Summit (29 June - 1 July 1992) on the strengthening of co-operation and co-ordination among African States,

Bearing in mind also resolution CM/Res.1389 on the right of States to decide on their political options without foreign interference,

Conscious of the magnitude of the challenges facing our continent and firmly resolved to face up to these challenges,

Conscious of the fact that it behoves us, more than ever before, to close our ranks in order to better meet the hopes and expectations our peoples have nurtured for decades,

Considering the proliferation of hot beds of tension in Africa and the serious threat they

pose to the stability, independence and credibility as well as to the development of our States,

Determined to pursue the realization of the objectives set down in the resolution adopted by the Cairo Summit (June 1993) establishing the *Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution*,

Convinced of the imperative need to establish a code of conduct aimed at preventing tensions, divisions and confrontations,

Convinced of our duty to strengthen solidarity, consultation and co-operation among Member States, based on mutual respect and non-interference in internal affairs,

Aware of the need to assert human and moral values based on tolerance and the rejection of all forms of discrimination, injustice, extremism and terrorism,

Considering that fanaticism and extremism, whatever their nature, origin and form, especially fanaticism and extremism based on religion, politics and tribalism which are detrimental to the peace and security of the continent, are unacceptable,

Aware that every co-operation effort is doomed to failure in an environment devoid of stability, trust and security,

Aware also that the time has come to take our destiny into our own hands and to seek African solutions to the problems besetting our continent,

Recalling that the *Charter of the United Nations Organization* reaffirms the faith of the International Community in fundamental human rights, the dignity and sanctity of the human person, and in the equality of the rights of men and women, as well as of nations, big and small,

Recalling also that the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* in its Article 29 stipulates that in the exercise of his rights and freedoms, everyone shall be subject only to such limitations as are determined by law solely for the purpose of securing due recognition and

respect for the rights and freedoms of others and of meeting the just requirements of morality, public order and the general welfare in a democratic society,

Recognizing that the freedom of religious belief and its peaceful expression are a fundamental right of all human beings as enshrined in the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, in the *Declaration on the Elimination of all Forms of Intolerance and Discrimination Based on Religion or Conviction*, as well as in other instruments relating to human rights,

Recognizing further the threat posed by movements based on religious, political and tribal extremism,

Considering that extremism and terrorism under the pretext of sectarianism, tribalism, ethnicity or religion undermine the moral and human values of peoples, particularly fundamental freedoms and tolerance,

In view of the aforementioned:

1. We are determined to intensify political consultations and expand co-operation in order to resolve economic, social, environmental, cultural and humanitarian problems. This common resolve and our growing independence will help overcome all kinds of mistrust, increase stability and build a united Africa;
2. We want Africa to be a source of peace, open to dialogue, co-operation and exchange with the rest of the world, and committed to the search for common responses to future challenges;
3. We fully support the United Nations Organization and the strengthening of its role in the promotion of peace, security and international justice. We reaffirm our commitment to the United Nations principles and objectives as set forth in the Charter and condemn any violation of these principles;
4. We reaffirm our deep conviction that friendly relations among our peoples as well as peace, justice, stability and democracy, call for the protection of ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious identity of all our people including national minorities and the creation of

conditions conducive to the promotion of this identity;

5. We are determined to combat racial or ethnic hatred in all its ramifications as well as any form of discrimination and persecution against any individual on religious or ideological grounds;

6. We are resolved to develop and strengthen the amicable relations and cooperation existing among our States and to promote friendship among our peoples. The challenges facing us can be met only through concerted action, cooperation and solidarity;

7. Mindful of our obligations under the *United Nations Charter* and our commitments vis-a-vis the *OAU Charter*, we reiterate our determination to refrain from the use of force or the threat thereof, against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, and from any other action inconsistent with the principles and objectives of these *Charters*. We reaffirm that the non-respect of the said obligations constitutes a violation of international law;

8. We believe that our relations, both at the bilateral and continent-wide levels should be backed by a new package of concrete security measures paving the way for enhanced transparency among all States. These measures would constitute a significant step towards increased stability and security in Africa;

9. We are determined to cooperate in the defence of the institution of our respective States against hegemony and all other activities carried out in violation of the independence, unity, sovereign equality or territorial integrity of Member States;

10. We unequivocally condemn as criminal all terrorist acts, methods and practises, and resolve to step up our cooperation in order to erase this blot on the security, stability and development of our countries, which poses as much threat to us as arms racketeering and drug peddling;

11. Conscious of the fact that the peaceful settlement of disputes constitutes an essential component of the duty devolving on States to refrain from the use of force or the threat

thereof or aggression – conditions essential for the maintenance and consolidation of international peace and security – we pledge ourselves to adopt effective measures aimed at preventing situations of emerging conflicts through political means, including regional initiatives and to seize the Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution Mechanism thereof, thereby paving the way for the peaceful settlement of any disputes that could erupt. In this connection, we commit ourselves to seeking new forms of cooperation especially in regard to exploring a range of methods applicable to the peaceful settlement of conflicts. We emphasize, in this regard, that every possible advantage should be taken of the opportunity provided by the Mechanism as defined in the Cairo Declaration AHG/Dec. 13 (XXIX) of 30 June 1993;

12. We are deeply concerned at the tensions prevalent in the Continent, and reiterate our determination to intensify our efforts towards finding just, effective and lasting solutions by peaceful means to the crucial issues needing attention, on the basis of respect for the principles enshrined in the Charter of the OAU;

13. We express satisfaction at the Declaration adopted by the Assembly of OAU Heads of State and Government in Dakar (29 June to 1 July 1992), the declaration published following the 10th Summit meeting of the Heads of State and Government of Non Aligned Countries (Djakarta 1-6 September 1992) as well as the code of conduct adopted by the 21st Ministerial Session of the OIC (Tunis, 1994) which condemned extremism and terrorism, and called on all States to scrupulously observe, in their relations, the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of other States and to respect the principle of good neighbourliness;

14. We believe that it has become necessary to set down standards and adopt appropriate measures and regulations in our respective States with a view to forestalling the use of issues related to religion or ethnic differences to encourage or carry out, directly or indirectly, activities prejudicial or potentially prejudicial to the stability of any Member State of the OAU;

15. In this regard, we reiterate our commitment to abide by the obligation incumbent on us by virtue of international law, to refrain from organizing, instigating, facilitating, financing, encouraging or tolerating activities that are terrorist in nature or intent, and from participating in such activities in whatsoever manner, and to take necessary operational measures to ensure that Member States' territories do not serve as training camps or indoctrination centres for terrorist elements and movements and as sanctuaries for the planning and organisation of terrorist and destabilization activities directed against the territorial integrity and security of Member States or other States or their nationals;

16. We also pledge ourselves to conform to our obligations under international law to bring to justice or extradite terrorist elements.

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DECLARATION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF
HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT ON
THE SITUATION IN ANGOLA

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in our Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tunis, Tunisia from 13 to 15 June, 1994,

Considering the developments in the crisis in Angola in the light of our Declaration AHG/Decl. 2 (XXIC) Rev. 1, adopted at the Twenty-Ninth Ordinary Session held from 28 to 29 June 1993, in Cairo, Egypt,

Having taken note of the content of the report of the OAU Secretary-General on Angola and the information provided by the Head of State of Angola on the situation in his country including the development of the on-going negotiation which started in Lusaka on 15 November 1993,

Noting with satisfaction the adoption by the United Nations Security Council of some of the concrete measures stipulated in our Declaration and its willingness to implement additional means as contained in paragraph 26 of Resolution 864 (1993) in the event of UNITA not responding to the appeals of the international community to find a peaceful solution to the crisis and not showing any goodwill and the required flexibility for reaching a rapid global solution within the framework of the Lusaka negotiations,

Commending the continued willingness of the Angolan Government to seek for a peaceful solution to the conflict as demonstrated by its formal acceptance of the proposals for national reconciliation formulated by the Special Envoy of the UN Secretary-General and by the three Observer States at the peace process in Angola,

Desirous once again to contribute to the rapid restoration of peace in Angola based on the Peace Agreement signed by the parties following the 29 to 20 September 1992 elections which were considered free and fair by the international community and by the relevant resolutions of the UN Security Council, adopted in this regard on the Angola Questions;

WE DECLARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. **WE REAFFIRM** our total support to the peace process in Angola which, we believe, is the only means for a political solution to the conflict and we reiterate the need to respect the results of the elections, the only guarantee for a continuous democratic process;
2. **WE COMMEND** the formal acceptance by the Government of the Republic of Angola of the proposals for national reconciliation formulated by the Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General and by the three Observer States at the peace process which constitutes a decisive step in conducting a global agreement during the on-going negotiations in Lusaka;
3. **WE COMMEND** the efforts deployed by the United Nations, particularly those of the special representative of the UN Secretary-General and the three Observer States at the peace process in Angola for the re-establishment of confidence and initiatives aimed at providing the parties concerned with compromise proposals on such delicate issues;
4. **WE RECOMMENDED** to the United Nation Security Council to fix a deadline for the parties honour the pertinent clauses of its previous resolutions beyond which all the measures stipulated in Resolution 696 (1993) will be implemented.

PREAMBLE

1. We, the Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), assembled in Tunis, Tunisia from 13 – 15 June 1994, for the Thirtieth Ordinary Session of our summit, have once more critically assessed the prevailing socio-economic situation of our continent and have reviewed the inextricable link between population and development. We note with concern that, our economies have been stagnating and declining, making Africa the most economically under-developed continent in the world. This situation has exposed our population to severe hardships ad sacrifices.

2. In response to this situation, we have adopted various development strategies and plans including in particular the Declaration on Political and Socio-economic Situation in Africa and the Fundamental Changes Taking Place in the World (1990) as well as the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community (AEC) (1991).

3. In spite of these efforts, our countries continue to face various difficulties as a result of an unfavourable international economic environment characterized *inter-alia* by the collapse of prices of commodities of interest to African countries, the excruciating debt burden, the servicing of which is consuming a large part of our export earnings, but the decline, in real terms, of the Official Development Assistance (ODA) to our continent. All these notwithstanding, our countries have embarked on the implementation of structural adjustment programmes and the transformation of our economies.

4. We are aware of the intricate inter-play between population, environment and sustainable development and are mindful of the necessity for African States to evolve population policies and programmes to bring a balance between population growth and the capacity of our countries to provide for the basic needs of our people.

5. We have reviewed the population and development situation in our continent and wish to express our total political commitment to address them in the context of sustainable development. To this end, we reiterate our commitment to provide the basic needs of our people. We realize that this will require the full participation of our people in bringing a balance between our resources and our population growth.

6. In this respect, we wish to stress that population issues should be addressed in the wide contest of the total needs of our socio-economic development. These issues were addressed in the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action (KPA) for self-reliant development (1984) and in the Dakar/NGOR Declaration on Population, Family and Sustainable Development (1992).

PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES

7. Sustainable development requires the integration of population variables into development strategies, socio-economic planning, decision-making and resource allocation at all levels.

8. For a successful implementation of population and sustainable development policies, infrastructure, institutions, the legal framework and human resources are required.

9. Economic integration among our countries is an essential condition for our collective self-reliance and self-sustained development.

10. Africa's efforts will require, supportive international economic environment, addressing the debt burden, the terms of trade and providing adequate international support in the promotion of our development, particularly in industrialization.

11. We are committed to provide the basic needs of our population, particularly food security, drinking water, health services, education and shelter.

12. We reaffirm the rights and responsibilities of individuals and families to participate in decision-making affecting their well-being.

13. In recognition of the critical role of women and their major contribution to socio-economic development, we reaffirm our commitment to the enhancement of women's rights, status and needs.

14. We are aware that peace, security, stability and the rule of law are necessary prerequisites for our development and the welfare of our people. To this end, we have adopted the Cairo Declaration on the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management

and Resolution within the OAU (1993).

15. We reaffirm our solidarity in dealing with out development and population problems. In this respect we reaffirm the sovereign rights of each of our countries to formulate its population policies with freedom, dignity and respecting intrinsic values of its people, taking fully into account its moral and cultural factors.

16. We commit ourselves to exert every effort to address the root causes of the problems of refugees ad displaced persons, through conflict prevention, management and resolution; through democratization and the respect for human rights; and by the encouragement of voluntary repatriation of refugees to their respective countries of origin, once the conditions of their exile have disappeared.

DECLARATION

17. We have considered the Dakar/NGOR Declaration on Population, Family and Sustainable Development adopted by our Ministers Responsible for Population Matters and the 3rd African Population Conference (APC) held in Dakar in December 1992.

18. We hereby endorse the Dakar/NGOR Declaration and affirm that it is an indispensable population and development strategy that will take Africa to the end of this century and beyond.

19. We stress the need for a sustained effort in the formulation of explicit population policies and the design of strategies for implementing the policy measures and the

associated national population programmes by our Member States. To this end, we urge our Member States to establish and/or strengthen national institutions to address, on a continuous and consistent basis the issues of population and sustainable development and in particular to take the necessary measures for the implementation of the commitment made on the Dakar/NGOR Declaration.

20. We commit ourselves particularly to do all within our power to empower women to play their full role in society through the elimination of inequality between men and women, providing educational opportunities to attain their full potential, the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women and ensure their full access to the means of production including land.

21. We commit our selves to address in a comprehensive manner the development of our youth to achieve their full potential through the provision of education, counselling, support services and gainful employment opportunities.

22. We further commit ourselves to improve the living conditions of our rural population, including nomads, through specific policies and programmes designed to meet basic needs particularly food, drinking water, health, education and shelter within the framework of our population and sustainable development policies and strategies.

23. We commit ourselves to increase in our regular respective budgets the necessary resources needed for the implementation of our population policies and programmes.

24. We urge the International Community to provide our countries with the necessary

assistance to achieve the above objectives and to support our efforts for the implementation of the Dakar/NGOR Declaration in particular to:

- a. expand our health infrastructure to ensure adequate coverage of our population in each Member State in order to adequately provide for mother and child health services and family planning;**
- b. assist Member States in the implementation of their information, education, communication (IEC) strategies, in service delivery, capacity building for statistical data collection, analysis, research and reporting capabilities to enhance the management of population and development matters; and**
- c. review and formulate legal systems with a view to establishing the necessary legal framework to create a positive environment for the full participation of women in their own development and the development of our countries.**

25. We endorse the establishment of the African Population Commission and request it to cooperate with other institutions in the implementation of population activities in Africa.

26. We encourage Member States to cooperate and exchange experiences in the field of population and development, particularly in research, statistics and policy issues, to foster collaboration among African researchers and planners in this field with the view to creating an enabling environment for the establishment and effective functioning of the African Economic Community. We also encourage the South-South cooperation in the field of population and development activities.

27. We call upon the OAU Member States to make all the necessary preparations at the national level and to participate actively at the Cairo Conference, in view of the fact that this major international event will be taking place on the African soil for the first time.

28. We wish to express our appreciation and congratulations to the Government and the People of Arab Republic of Egypt for hosting the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD).

29. We express our appreciation to the UNFPA and other donors for assisting African countries in implementing their population programmes and request them to continue providing that assistance. We also request the donor countries and NGOs to increase their technical and financial assistance to population programmes in Africa.

30. We request the Secretary-General of the OAU in collaboration with the Executive Secretary of the ECA to monitor developments in population activities in Africa and to submit periodic reports to the OAU Council of Ministers and to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government.

DECLARATION ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

We, the Heads of State and Government, meeting in Tunis, Tunisia from 13 – 15 June, 1994 at the invitation of the Tunisian Government to participate in the Thirtieth Summit of the Organization of African Unity,

Aware of our historical responsibility in providing our peoples with comprehensive and sustained development so as to step into the twenty-first century, under propitious condition that enable our people to achieve their legitimate aspirations for progress and peace ad contribute with other peoples to the civilization of mankind,

Convinced that the focal role of man, as objective and supreme beneficiary of development, and that there is need to entrench the human dimension in all policies seeking the economic development of our countries;

Proceeding from our firm determination to stand up to the challenges dictated, on the one hand, by he changes affecting our African societies and their economies and, on the other, by the numerous imbalances in world economic transactions and the deteriorating volume and prizes of African exports that deprived Africa of the resources it needs to finance sustained development and on-going progress, in addition to the recurring problems, caused by balance of payments of external debt servicing.

Faced by increasing social problems and their aggravation, such as rising unemployment, higher poverty rates, a growing illiteracy, pervasive corruption and social marginalization and the inability if family relations and traditional frameworks of social solidarity to assume their role as protectors of the vulnerable groups, and of the values, social ad civilization ethics of our societies,

Considering the need to withstand all forms of intolerance and extremism that, nurtured by poverty, deprivation and marginalization, rely on them to contain the very bases of social peace, political stability and national cohesion;

Convinced that human rights are and indivisible whole encompassing political, economic, social, cultural and environmental dimensions;

Convinced that the ability of social, economic and investment conditions to develop human skills are basic and indispensable elements to support the democratic transition process in our African countries on the basis of sagacious options and widespread popular participation likely to root the foundations of the civilian society and strengthen its potentials for self-development;

Believing in the rationale of a balanced development that takes account of the needs of the present and the requirements of the future, striking a balance between the aspirations of the present ad the rights of the future generations to live in a cohesive economic, social and environmental climate, as called for by the International Community in the Declaration of the United Nations World Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro;

Considering that both developing and industrialized countries share a great number of social problems due to the fundamental changes that occurred in the development patterns and the quality of international relations in the 90s;

Convinced of the importance of the African Common Position in human and social resources development in Africa as defined by the Conference of African Ministers of Human Resources Development, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 20 and 21 January 1994, and endorsed by the OAU Labour Commission;

Determined to contribute to the World Summit on Human Development scheduled to be held in Copenhagen in March 1995:

WE DECLARE in accordance with the Common African Position that:

- 1. there is need to reaffirm our commitment to human development as a basis for cooperation among states to underlie a human and social order founded on justice, dignity, tolerance and mutual respect;**
- 2. there is need to understand the real problems of the African continent so as to identify the means whereby to solve them with the needed seriousness and draw up the sectoral and comprehensive plans therefore;**
- 3. there is need to promote the conditions that lent themselves to comprehensive**

development in a climate of political stability, peace and security;

- 4. there is need to consolidate a democracy founded on participation, encouraging initiatives and organizational patterns that would enable our societies to influence development and rely on their own capacities so as to shield themselves against all forms of violence, extremism and discrimination;**

- 5. there is need to take action national, regional and international levels with a view to mobilizing efforts in support of the educational, training, health and information sectors, and in order to eradicate the social ills, primarily poverty, unemployment, illiteracy and prevent the unravelling of the family fabric; in order also to work out programmes that make it possible to secure the economic and social merging of the vulnerable groups, primarily women, children, youth, the elderly and the handicapped;**

- 6. there is need to take action, in the scope of an exchange of interests among States, to consolidate all forms of joint development in favour of the progress of mankind and in order to safeguard international peace and security;**

- 7. there is need to encourage the merging and consolidation of natural developmental efforts in Africa so as to curb the on-going deterioration of the terms of trade that adversely affect the African countries and to work out new forms of international cooperation that take into account the value of social efforts and the difficult conditions in which they are made and, in this connection, alleviate the burden of the external indebtedness of Africa and**

enable the investment of due external debts in programmes relevant to the development of human resources and for environmental purposes;

8. there is need to ensure, through bilateral cooperation programmes and those of the United Nations and other international institutions, a close relationship between economic and social development and always bear in mind that the progress of man and his optimum prosperity are the highest objective of mankind at the threshold of a new century.

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TUNIS DECLARATION ON THE 1969 CONVENTION

GOVERNING THE SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF REFUGEE PROBLEMS

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, assembled here in the City of Tunis in Tunisia, on the occasion of the Thirtieth OAU Summit of Heads of State and Government, take note of the fact that this year marks the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the adoption of the 1969 OAU Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa and the Twentieth year since it entered into force. As we take account of the refugee and displacement problem in Africa today, we consider that these important anniversaries should provide an opportunity for us to highlight the contribution and the convention has made to refugee protection and to the promotion of solutions for refugees in Africa.

One quarter of century ago, the consolidation of nationhood, democracy, national unity, social and economic progress in our newly independent States was often characterized by strife, conflict, and political instability. These, along with the continuing liberation struggles in the remaining colonial, racially-dominated and foreign-occupied territories, led to continued increase in the number of refugees in the continent posing complex legal, political and humanitarian problems for both the countries of origin and countries of asylum/.

It was against this background of the specific aspects of the African refugee problems that the keenly-felt need for a regional legal regime to complement the universal one was finally met when 41 Heads of African State and Government signed the 1969 OAU Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems on 10 September 1969 in the City of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Today, the wisdom of having taken this decision continues to demonstrate itself. The Convention has ensured the very survival of the institution of asylum itself and its humanitarian character where the character of refugee flows has sometimes threatened the very fabric of brotherhood and peaceful coexistence between States. With 42 accessions so far, and complemented in turn by other regional human rights instruments such as the African Charter on Peoples' and Human Rights, it continues to provide a solid cornerstone for refugee policy and state practice in the reception of, grant of asylum to, and treatment of, asylum seekers and refugees, as well as for the implementation of voluntary repatriation. We also take pride in the fact that the Convention has provided positive inspiration for legal developments elsewhere, such as the Cartagena Declaration on Refugees in Latin America. We call on all those Member States who have not acceded to it to do so without further delay, and re-dedicate ourselves to a more effective implementation of the Convention through, *inter-alia*, the promulgation of appropriate

national refugee legislation.

While we express great satisfaction over the very positive contributions made by the Convention towards the protection of refugees in Africa and the promotion of durable solutions for them, we do not lose sight of the continuing crisis of displacement in the continent. We therefore reiterate once more our unflinching determination of eradicate the root causes of refugee flow in Africa in line with the resolutions we have adopted as well as create a more dynamic African society characterized by the rule of law, tolerance, democracy and economic and social development. In doing so, we are cognizant of the fact that Africa is host to the largest number of refugees and displaced persons in the world namely, 7 million and 15 million respectively. In dealing with this scourge we are confident that we can count of the support of the larger international community to make our efforts successful.

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**RESOLUTION ON DISSOLUTION OF THE
OAU LIBERATION COMMITTEE**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tunis, Tunisia from 13 to 15 June, 1994,

Recalling the resolution adopted by the First Assembly of Heads of State and Government to establish the OAU Coordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa in May 1963,

Noting with satisfaction the good work done by the Committee throughout the years in implementing our decisions, assisting and expediting the process of decolonization and the elimination of apartheid,

Gratified to note that out of twenty-two countries which gained independence after the founding of the Organization in May 1963, eleven have attained self determination and independence through, among other means, the direct assistance of the Liberation Committee:

- 1. EXPRESSES its profound appreciation to all OAU Member States and the international community as a whole for the commendable role they played throughout the struggle against colonialism and apartheid;**
- 2. RECOGNIZES that the mandate given to the Liberation Committee in 1963 has been satisfactorily accomplished;**
- 3. DECIDES to formally terminate that mandate and directs that a solemn one-day Session of the Committee be held in Tanzania by the end of July or early in August 1994 for that purpose;**
- 4. URGES all African Heads of State and Government, particularly those from countries which had received direct assistance from the Liberation Committee to attend that meeting;**

5. **PAYS SPECIAL TRIBUTE to the staff of the Executive Secretariat at all levels for their dedication and commitment which made it possible to implement the policy decisions of the Committee;**

6. **EXPRESSES ITS DEEP APPRECIATION to the Government and people of United Republic of Tanzania, the Frontline States and all other countries for providing dependable rear bases as home of the Executive Secretariat and its Sub-Regional Offices as well as their effective and multifarious assistance to African Liberation Movements;**

7. **ENDORSES all the decisions and recommendations of the Sixty-First Ordinary Session of the Coordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa as amended by Council.**

RESOLUTION ON THE EVALUATION OF THE RESULTS
OF THE URUGUAY ROUND OF MULTILATERAL TRADE
NEGOTIATIONS OF GATT

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting at its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tunis, Tunisia, from 13 to 15 June, 1994,

Bearing in mind the significance of Africa's participation in international commercial relations as a major source of foreign exchange that is required for financing the development of its countries,

Concerned about the continued deterioration of Africa's terms of trade with the industrialized countries, the collapse of commodity prices, the loss of market share and the resurgence of protectionist trade practices that characterized the international trading system since the period preceding the launching of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations in September 1986 in Punta Del Este Uruguay,

Aware that on 15 April 1994 in Marrakesh in the Kingdom of Morocco the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round was signed by the Ministers of the participating countries at the Uruguay Round,

Taking into account the Tunis Declaration and the resolution on the Uruguay Round of Negotiations adopted in October 1993 by the Twelfth Session of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade,

Recalling Resolution CM/1505 (LIX) of the OAU Council of Ministers of February 1994 which requested the Secretary-General of the OAU, in collaboration with the relevant institutions, to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the results of the Round in order to determine the overall impact on the African economies,

Further recalling the resolution on the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations adopted in May 1994 by the Conference of Ministers of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa,

Aware of the need for the integration of Africa within the global trading system in order to foster economic growth in Africa,

Conscious of the importance of free trade for economic growth and employment and of the need to promote national development for job creation,

Mindful that there are new areas that are still open for negotiations in the coming months, such as relations between environment and trade, basic telecommunications and financial services,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Evaluation of the

Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations of GATT (A Preliminary Assessment), Document Ref. CM/1839 (LX):

- 1. TAKES NOTE of the report and the preliminary recommendations contained therein Doc. CM1839 (LX) and commends the comprehensive analysis embodied in the report;**
- 2. WELCOMES the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of Negotiations and the signing of the Final Act by 120 countries on 15 April in Marrakesh, in the Kingdom of Morocco as well as the Treaty establishing the World Trade Organizations (WTO);**
- 3. EXPRESSES CONCERN at the prospect of a massive erosion of preferences hitherto enjoyed by the majority of African countries as a result of the Round;**
- 4. URGES African countries which have not yet done so to envisage adhering to the WTO with the aim to ensure the safeguard of Africa's interests from within the new organization;**
- 5. WELCOMES the venue of the International Conference on Technical Assistance of African Countries, to be convened in Tunis with the aim to enabling the adaptation of their economies to the new international trading system and more particularly to the outcome of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations;**

- 6. CALLS to that end, on the UNDP and GATT and other institutions and donors to provide the required financial support and technical assistance;**
- 7. CALLS ON the OAU, UNECA, UNCTAD and GATT to organize regular Seminars and Symposia to acquaint OAU Member States with the outcome of the Uruguay Round and the mechanisms for the implementation of the agreements;**
- 8. CALLS for an African Common Position on the issue of the inclusion of Labour Standards within the envisaged World Trade Organization sphere of Competence;**
- 9. REQUESTS the Secretary-General of the OAU and the Executive Secretary of the UNECA, in close consultation with Member States and relevant organizations to monitor, on a continuous basis, the impact of the Uruguay round by carrying out further the evaluation exercise and to advise Council periodically, through the Secretary-General;**
- 10. REQUESTS the Secretary-General to monitor the implementation of this resolution and to periodically report to Council.**

RESOLUTION ON THE AFRICAN COMMISSION ON
HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tunis, Tunisia, from 13 to 15 June, 1994,

Considering the Seventh Annual Activity Report of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights presented by its Chairman Professor Isaac NGUEMA, in accordance with Article 54 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights,

Recalling that the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights entered into force on 21 October, 1986, and that 49 OAU Member States have already acceded to the Charter,

Recalling also that Article 1 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights stipulates that States Parties shall recognize the rights, duties and freedoms enshrined in the Charter and shall undertake to adopt legislative or other measures to give effect to them,

Recalling further the entry into force on 12 May, 1994, of the Treaty Establishing

the African Economic Community which complements the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights,

Bearing in mind that the African Charter recognizes the right to development as a Human Right,

Aware of the need to strengthen the African mechanism for the promotion and protection of Human and Peoples' Rights,

Concerned by the situation obtaining in the area of Human and Peoples' Rights,

Finally recalling the provisions of Resolution AHG/Res.227 (XXIX) Rev. 1 adopted at its Twenty-Ninth Ordinary Session held in Cairo, Egypt, from 28 to 30 June, 1993:

- 1. REAFFIRMS the need for Member States to ensure respect for Human and Peoples' Rights and thereby further promote peace, stability and development in Africa;**
- 2. CONSEQUENTLY CALLS ON States Parties to the Charter to take concrete measures towards the effective implementation of the provisions of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights;**
- 3. REAFFIRMS the relevance of all the provisions of resolution AHG/Res.227 (XXIX) Rev. 1 and APPEALS to all the concerned parties and people to**

scrupulously conform to these provisions particularly those relating to endowing the African Commission with adequate resources to enable it accomplish its mission and to the submission of periodic reports by the States Parties;

- 4. REQUESTS the OAU Secretary-General to convene a meeting of government experts to ponder in conjunction with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights over the means to enhance the efficiency of the Commission in considering particularly the establishment of an African Court of Human and Peoples' Rights;**
- 5. CONGRATULATES the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights for having appointed its Vice-Chairman as Special Rapporteur on extra-judiciary, summary or arbitrary executions;**
- 6. CALLS UPON the States Parties to the Charter to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur in carrying out his mandate.**
- 7. APPEALS to Member States to ratify the said Charter as early as possible if they have not yet done so;**
- 8. STRONGLY ENCOURAGES the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights to continue to pursue its activities aimed at promoting and protecting the rights recognized and guaranteed by the Charter;**

9. **TAKES NOTE WITH SATISFACTION of the Seventh Annual Activity Report of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and AUTHORIZES its publication.**

AHG/Res.231 (XXX)

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**RESOLUTION ON THE AFRICAN
ECONOMIC COMMUNITY (AEC)**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tunis, Tunisia, from 13 to 15 June, 1994,

Considering the provisions of the Charter of the OAU and of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community,

Welcoming the entry into force of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community on May 12, 1994,

Having considered the progress report of the OAU Secretary-General (Doc. No CM/1836 (XL) on the implementation of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community,

Bearing in mind that the entry into force of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community and its implementation places additional responsibilities on the OAU Secretariat and that adequate human and financial resources should be made available to the Secretariat in order to enable it face the challenges of the Community;

Mindful of the importance of the Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos which called for the establishment of the African Economic Community during the decade of the 1990s and the strengthening of the existing regional economic communities with a view to fostering closer economic cooperation and harmonious integration,

Noting with satisfaction the existing working relations and close consultations between the Secretariat of the OAU/African Economic Community and those of the regional economic communities, as well as between the AOU/ECA/ADB within the context of the implementation of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community,

Mindful of the Resolutions AHG/Res.206 (XXVII) and AHG/Res.218 (XXIX) of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU on the African Economic Community,

Reiterating its resolve and commitment to the implementation of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community through the stages stipulated in the Treaty:

- 1. COMMENDS those Member States which have ratified and deposited their instruments of ratification of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community with the OAU General Secretariat, and URGES those which**

have not yet ratified the Treaty to do so as expeditiously as possible;

- 2. CALLS UPON the OAU Secretary-General in collaboration with the Executive Secretary of the ECA and the President of the ADB to continue and accelerate the preparation of the draft protocols to be annexed to the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community and to submit them to the OAU Permanent Steering Committee for consideration;**

- 3. URGES the Secretariats of the regional economic communities to continue to cooperate with the OAU Secretariat especially during the process of strengthening their respective institutions and their integration programmes and activities within the framework of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community;**

- 4. ALSO URGES the OAU Permanent Steering Committee to examine the new OAU/AEC structure this facilitating its submission by the Secretariat to the Advisory Committee on Administrative, Financial and Budgetary Matters for consideration and recommendations;**

- 5. REQUESTS the OAU Secretary-General to mobilize extra-budgetary resources towards the implementation of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community. To its end, it designates the OAU Secretariat as the Secretariat of the continental and regional integration Organizational for purposes of Section XII of Lome Convention and REQUESTS the OAU Secretary-General to contact the European Commission with a view to securing its assistance for Community projects and programmes;**

- 6. ALSO REQUESTS the UNDP Governing Council to allocate adequate funds for regional economic integration programmes in Africa, and FURTHER REQUESTS Member States to supplement these resources, by voluntarily allocating a percentage of their Indicative Planning Figure (IPF) towards regional integration projects and programmes;**
- 7. FURTHER REQUESTS the ECOSOC, in its first Session, to rationalize African sectoral ministerial meetings by regrouping them as Specialized Technical Committees of the ECOSOC in accordance with the provisions of Article 25 of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community and to submit its recommendations through the Council to the Assembly of OAU Head of States and Government in accordance with the provisions of Articles 15 and 16 of the Treat;**
- 8. URGES Member States to ensure the full implementation of the Treaty and the set up national mechanisms to follow-up and incorporate the commitments made in the Treat into national plans and programmes;**
- 9. URGES Member States, in close cooperation with the OAU Secretariat, to continue the process of popularizing the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community at national level in order to reach their respective socio-economic operators, institutions of higher learning as well as their populations;**

10. **REQUESTS** the OAU Secretary-General to convene the first session of the ECOSOC as soon as possible in order to adopt its rules of procedure and work programme;
11. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the OAU Secretary-General to submit regular reports to the Assembly Heads of State and Government of the OAU on the implementation of this resolution.

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RESOLUTION ON THE QUESTION OF THE
COMORIAN ISLAND OF MAYOTTE

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tunis, Tunisia, from 13 to 15 June, 1993,

Bearing in mind Resolution CM/Res.496 (XXVII) setting up the OAU Ad Hoc Committee of Seven on the Question of the Comorian Island of Mayotte,

Recalling the relevant OAU resolutions on the Question of the Comorian Island of Mayotte, particularly Resolution AHG/Res.193 (XXVI),

Recalling further the relevant resolutions and recommendations of the United

Nations, the Non-Aligned Movement, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the League of Arab States, concerning the question of the Comorian Island of Mayotte,

Considering the fundamental principles of the OAU Charter regarding the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States,

Reiterating the legitimacy of the Comorian Government's demand for the Comorian Island of Mayotte to be integrated into the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros,

Recalling the Programme of Action recommended by the OAU Ad Hoc Committee contained in Document CTTEE.7/Mayotte/Rec.1-9 (II) adopted in Moroni in November 1981,

Considering the activities undertaken by the Indian Ocean Commission (COI) to promote regional cooperation among its Member States:

- 1. TAKES NOTE of the report of the Chairman of the OAU Ad Hoc Committee of Seven on the Question of the Comorian Island of Mayotte;**
- 2. REAFFIRMS the sovereignty of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros over the Comorian Island of Mayotte;**
- 3. REAFFIRMS ITS SOLIDARITY with the people of The Comoros in their**

determination to regain their political integrity, defend their sovereignty and their territorial integrity;

- 4. APPEALS to the French Government to satisfy the legitimate claims of the Comorian Government in conformity with the relevant resolutions of the OAU, the UN, the Non-Aligned Movement, the Islamic Conference and the League of Arab States;**
- 5. INVITES Member States of the OAU to take the necessary steps, individually and collectively, to inform and sensitize the French and the international public opinion of the question of the Comorian Island of Mayotte with a view to bringing the French Government to end its occupation of Mayotte;**
- 6. REAFFIRMS that the referendum on self-determination held on 22 December 1974 remains the only valid consultation applicable to the entire Archipelago;**
- 7. APPEALS to all Member States of the OAU and the international community to condemn and reject any initiative which may be taken by France to make the Comorian Island of Mayotte participate in activities as a separate entity from the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros;**
- 8. CONDEMNS the European Union's consideration of the Comorian Island of Mayotte as a French territory and the assistance it is in, the process of giving**

the Island as an extension of the French Republic;

- 9. REQUESTS ACP countries particularly OAU Member States to oppose and condemn such initiatives which violate the territorial integrity of the Federal Islamic Republic of the Comoros;**
- 10. DIRECTS the OAU Ad Hoc Committee of Seven on the Question of the Comorian Island of Mayotte as well as the OAU Secretary-General to re-open dialogue with the French Government, bearing in mind the declaration made in Moroni in June 1990, in a bid to rapidly resolve the Question of the Comorian Island of Mayotte;**
- 11. URGES the OAU Ad Hoc Committee of Seven on the Question of the Comorian Island of Mayotte and the General Secretariat to convene a meeting in Moroni before the 31st August of Heads of State and Government, in order to explore ways and means of facilitating the holding of a tripartite conference;**
- 12. REQUESTS that the Question of the Comorian Island of Mayotte remain of the Agenda of all meetings of the OAU, the UN, the Non-Aligned Movement, the Islamic Conference and the League of Arab States, until the restitution of the Comorian Island of Mayotte to the Federal Islamic Republic of the Comoros;**
- 13. FURTHER REQUESTS the OAU Secretary-General to monitor the**

developments on the Question and present a report thereon to the next Session of the Council of Ministers.

VOTE OF THANKS

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tunis, Tunisia, from 13 to 15 June, 1994,

Having heard with rapt attention the detailed and documented report on the activities undertaken by the Out-going Chairman, H.E. President Hosni Mubarak, Chairman of the Twenty-Ninth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government,

Having followed with great interest the relentless efforts which President Mubarak has continued to deploy for the attainment and consolidation of the objectives and principles of the Organization, as well as the promotion of the dignity and well-being of Africans,

Considering the excellent facilities provided by Tunisia to ensure the success of the Thirtieth Ordinary Session, in a spirit of hospitality and African brotherhood,

Further considering the able manner in which H.E. President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali of Tunisia, Chairman of the Thirtieth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government he steered the deliberations of the Assembly,

Noting with satisfaction the lucid and far-sighted reports submitted by the Secretary-General of the Organization;

- 1. EXPRESSES ITS DEEP GRATITUDE to H.E. President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, his Government and people of Tunisia for the warm and brotherly welcome extended to all delegations of Member States;**

- 2. COMMENDS and THANKS H.E. President Hosni Mubarak, Chairman of the Twenty-Ninth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government for his detailed and documented report on the activities undertaken during his mandate;**

- 3. EXPRESSES ITS THANKS to H.E. President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali for the clear, wise and effective manner in which he conducted the deliberations of the Assembly which greatly contributed to its full success;**

- 4. EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE to the President of the Transitional Government of Ethiopia, H.E. Mr Meles ZENAWI, for having invited the Assembly to hold its next Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;**

- 5. EXPRESSES ITS THANKS AND APPRECIATIONS to the Secretary-General and the staff of the Organization for the lucid and well documented reports submitted to the Assembly.**

1994

Declarations and Resolutions adopted by the Thirtieth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government

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