

**DECISION ON THE PROGRESS REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF
THE COMMISSION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISION
ASSEMBLY/AU/DEC.275(XIV) ON THE YEAR OF PEACE
AND SECURITY IN AFRICA
Doc. Assembly/AU/7(XV)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the implementation of Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.275(XIV) on the Year of Peace and Security in Africa adopted by the Fourteenth Ordinary Session of the Assembly in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in February 2010;
2. **WELCOMES** the steps taken and the efforts made by the Commission, within the framework of the implementation of this Decision, including the establishment by the Chairperson of the Commission of the Year of Peace and Security Advisory Council and the appointment of Peace Ambassadors;
3. **EXPRESSES SATISFACTION** at the progress made in the implementation of the 2010 Year of Peace and Security in Africa, in particular the momentum gained by the outreach campaign, the spaces opened up to enable the various stakeholders to contribute to the achievement of the objective of a conflict-free Africa, the partnerships built, the efforts made at national and regional levels, as well as the intensification of efforts towards the consolidation of the African Union (AU) normative and institutional framework on peace and security;
4. **URGES** Member States to fully take ownership of this initiative, including by signing and ratifying relevant AU instruments, including the *African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance*, and effectively implementing the commitments contained therein, as well as by intensifying their efforts for peace;
5. **ALSO URGES** Member States to take practical steps to support and popularize the campaign in their respective countries, notably through issuing special stamps, providing free air time and space for advertisements in state media, and facilitating the successful tour of the Flame of Peace, as well as supporting other activities such as the *Make Peace Happen Lesson Plan*, to be implemented with the support of Ministries of Education;
6. **STRESSES** the need to mobilize increased resources from within the continent to ensure real ownership and leadership in the quest for peace;
7. **WELCOMES** the initiatives undertaken by a number of African civil society organizations, in response to the AU's call for partnership, including the *African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes (ACCORD)*, *Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS)*, the *Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS)* of the Addis

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Ababa University, the *Institute for Security Studies* (ISS), which is working towards the launching of a Peace Academy, an important tool for the enhancement of Africa's capacity in the area of peace and security, the *Organisation for Social Science Research in Eastern and Southern Africa* (OSSREA) and the *Council for the Development of Social Science Research* (CODESRIA) and the Cairo Regional Center for Conflict Resolution and Peacekeeping in Africa;

8. **ENCOURAGES** all businesses in Africa to contribute to this initiative and also to sign the AU-initiated *Make Peace Happen Industry Charter* and **WELCOMES** the pledges made by some private sector companies, namely Kenya Airways and Ethiopian Airlines, in response to the request by the Commission to contribute to the Year of Peace and Security;
9. **STRESSES** the critical importance of the United Nations proclaimed International Day of Peace, on 21st September, as a way to provide a single rallying point for the continent to show that peace is possible, and **ENDORSES** the objectives being pursued and the activities planned, namely:
 - i) cessation of hostilities in all conflict areas which are still experiencing varying levels of violence,
 - ii) distribution of humanitarian supplies, materials and services to communities in conflict areas, as well as in non-conflict areas in critical need of these,
 - iii) one minute of silence for peace across Africa at 10.00am GMT,
 - iv) relevant developmental work and community support in all AU Member States to be carried out by members of the armed and security forces,
 - v) *One Day One Goal* football games, and
 - vi) *Make Peace Happen Lesson Plan* to be taught in all schools on Peace Day or during other relevant occasions;
10. **URGES** all Member States to start preparations in earnest, to mobilize all stakeholders and set up the required structures to coordinate the activities to be implemented on Peace Day as outlined above;
11. **CALLS ON** all AU partners, humanitarian organizations, civil society, media houses and religious organizations to fully embrace the objectives of the Peace Day and contribute to its success.

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12. **CALLS ON** the UN to take all necessary steps in support of the Year of Peace and Security and Peace Day in Africa, taking into account its critical role in the overall success of Peace Day and the Year of Peace and Security as a whole. ;
13. **EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE** to the AU partners who have contributed financially and technically to the implementation of the Year of Peace and Security, in particular the German Government, through GTZ, and the Italian Government, as well as to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), Oxfam and ISS, for their support in terms of outreach and communication;
14. **REQUESTS** the Commission to submit, at its next Ordinary Session in January 2011, a detailed report, taking stock of the implementation of the Year of Peace and Security program, the achievements made and constraints faced, and to make recommendations on how best to sustain the campaign for peace beyond 2010.



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2010

Decision on the Progress Report of the
Chairperson of the Commission on the
Implementation Of Decision
Assembly/Au/Dec.275(Xiv) On The
Year Of Peace And Security In Africa
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