

**DECISION ON THE THEME: “ACCELERATING YOUTH
EMPOWERMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT”
Doc. Assembly/AU/2(XVII)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the outcomes of the Youth Forum and related meetings on “*Accelerating of Youth empowerment for sustainable development*” held from 1 to 9 April, 2011 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and **APPROVES** the recommendations contained therein;
2. **WELCOMES** the Declaration of the Labour and Social Affairs Commission (LSAC) on Youth Employment for Social Cohesion and Inclusive Growth adopted by the Eighth Session of LSAC held in Yaoundé, Cameroon from 11 to 15 April 2011;
3. **WELCOMES** on-going efforts by Member States to prioritize the youth agenda in their respective countries and in particular those which have included the African Union (AU) concerns, mainly, the ratification of the African Youth Charter as well as those that promote awareness and implementation of the Youth Decade Plan of Action (2009 – 2018);
4. **COMMENDS** the Republic of the Sudan for hosting the Headquarters of the Pan African Youth Union (PYU), whose inauguration and official handover took place on May 25, 2011;
5. **DECIDES** that:
 - (i) all Member States should advance the youth agenda and adopt policies and mechanisms towards the creation of safe, decent and competitive employment opportunities by accelerating the implementation of the Youth Decade Plan of Action (2009-2018) and the Ouagadougou 2004 Plan of Action on Employment Promotion and Poverty Alleviation;
 - (ii) the Commission in collaboration with its partners should elaborate a Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) framework, addressing specifically the domains of Agriculture and ICT, while accelerating the implementation of the Youth Decade Plan of Action;
 - (iii) Member States should provide to the Commission adequate resources for the advancement of the Youth Agenda, including the funding of the Pan African Youth Union;
 - (iv) the Commission should organize on the margins of every June/July Summit a training programme for the Youth Volunteers

- (v) all trained Young Volunteers should be deployed as soon as possible after their training including through placement in the AU organs and the Regional Economic Communities as part of capacity building for young professionals;
- (vi) the Commission should lead the organization of a Side event on **“Accelerating youth empowerment for Sustainable Development”** under the leadership of the Chairperson of the AU, during the United Nations High-Level Meeting on Youth in July 2011 at the United Nations Headquarters whose theme is *“Cooperation towards Financing Youth Development and Empowerment in Africa”*;

6. REQUESTS:

- (i) the Commission to report yearly on the *implementation* status of the youth development programmes, at all levels, with contributions from all Member States, Regional Economic Communities, the Pan African Youth Union and its organs;
- (ii) the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) to incorporate the monitoring of the implementation of the African Youth Charter and the plan of Action of the Youth Decade with specific focus on youth social, political and economic development within Member States as also a basis for evaluation;

7. URGES Member States to develop and implement strategies and mechanisms for strengthening Public Private Partnership (PPP) in stimulating domestic resources for implementing Youth Programs, especially targeting employment creation;

8. CALLS ON all partners and stakeholders to align all youth-related development programs with the Youth Decade Plan of Action (2009-2018).



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