

DECLARATION ON PALESTINE

We, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, meeting in our Nineteenth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, from 15 to 16 July 2012;

RECALLING the admission of the State of Palestine as a member of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

UNDERSCORING that full membership of the United Nations is a right to be enjoyed by all sovereign states;

NOTING that the membership of the United Nations and all its programmes and agencies is part of the peace process;

REAFFIRMING its support to the Two-State solution as the only viable option for peaceful co-existence between the State of Palestine and Israel;

CONCERNED that the continued suspension of contributions constitutes unwarranted punishment of not only the children and people of Palestine but also of others beyond the State of Palestine:

CALL on all Member-States of the United Nations which have suspended their contributions to UNESCO to rescind that decision and **FURTHER CALLS** on these Member States to resume contributions for the continuation of UNESCO programmes.



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