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**REPORT OF THE MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE ON AFRICAN
CANDIDATURES WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM**

DRAFT
REPORT OF THE MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE ON AFRICAN CANDIDATURES
WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Ministerial Committee on African Candidatures within the International System met in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session on 25 January 2017 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, under the chairmanship of **H.E. Manuel Domingos Augusto, Secretary of State for External Relations for the Republic of Angola.**

2. After opening the meeting and fulfilling the usual protocol formalities, the Chairperson presented the agenda of the session for adoption by the members.

II. PARTICIPATION

3. The following States, members of the Committee, were present: Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Egypt, The Gambia, Lesotho, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic and Tanzania.

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

4. The Committee adopted the following agenda:

- i) Implementation of Decisions **EX.CL/Dec.917 (XXVIII) and EX.CL/Dec.938 (XXIX)** ;
- ii) Consideration of African candidatures for positions within the international system;
- iii) Any other business.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS EX.CL/Dec.917 (XXVIII) and EX.CL/Dec.938 (XXIX)

5. The Commission presented the report on the implementation status of Decisions EX.CL/Dec.917 (XXVIII) and EX.CL/Dec.938 (XXIX) on candidatures endorsed by the Executive Council at its previous sessions.

6. The Committee took note of the implementation status of Decisions EX.CL/Dec.917 (XXVIII) and EX.CL/Dec.938 (XXIX) on African candidatures endorsed at the 27th and 28th sessions held in January and July 2016 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and Kigali, Rwanda respectively. The Committee recommends that the Executive Council take note of the candidates elected and those who have not been elected (see report). It also decided on the cases of States which did not respect Executive Council decisions with regard to candidatures endorsed, as follows:

7. The Committee discussed at length the cases of non-compliance by Member States with Executive Council Decisions EX.CL/Dec.917 (XXVIII) taken at the Summit

held in Kigali, Rwanda, in June 2016, as well as the Revised Rules of Procedure, by submitting candidatures which were not endorsed and, moreover, which competed with the endorsed candidatures. These States were requested to provide explanations on this situation, which they did by evoking a lack of communication between their Permanent Missions, their capitals and the Commission. They expressed regret at this situation and apologized to the Organization by promising that such incidents would never happen again.

8. The Committee, having deliberated at length, decided, for this time only, to excuse these States for the reasons mentioned, in addition to the inadequate popularization of the provisions of the revised Rules of Procedure of the Ministerial Committee on African Candidatures within the International system. It also decided to inform Member States that such shortcomings would no longer be excused in the future and urged them all to cooperate in strengthening the African mechanisms in this field in order to optimize the African chances to obtain positions within the international system.

9. In order to avoid the repetition of such situations in the future, the Committee decided that the Secretariat should organize a mission of the Chairperson of the Ministerial Committee to meet with the Permanent Missions of Member States to international organizations, in order to sensitize and brief them, as well as organize the different aspects and stages of management of African candidatures within the international system.

V. CONSIDERATION OF AFRICAN CANDIDATURES FOR POSITIONS WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

10. The Commission presented the candidatures submitted to the Executive Council for approval during its 30th Ordinary Session.

11. After discussion, the Committee recommends that the Executive Council approve the following candidatures for election or re-election to the position of:

- i) **Judge at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea**, during the elections to be held in 2017, the candidatures of:
 - **Mr. Boualem BOUGUETALA from the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria;**
 - **Judge José Luis Jesus** from the Republic of Cabo Verde

- ii) **Judge at the International Criminal Court**, during the elections scheduled for November 2017, the candidatures of:
 - **Judge Solomy Balungi Bossa** from the Republic of Uganda, in category A;
 - **Mrs Reine Alapini Gansou** from the Republic of Benin, in category B;
 - **Ms Nthomeng Majara** from the Kingdom of Lesotho, in category A.

- iii) **Member of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf for the period 2017-2022**, during the elections scheduled for June 2017 in New York, the candidature of:
- **Mr. Simon Njuguna** from the Republic of Kenya
 - **Mr. Domingos de Carvalho Viana Moreira of the Republic of Angola**
 - **Dr Estevão Stefane Mahanjane of the Republic of Mozambique**
- iv) **Judge at the International Court of Justice**, at the elections scheduled during the United Nations General Assembly in October/November 2017, the candidature of:
- **Judge Abdulqawi Ahmed Yusuf** from the Federal Republic of Somalia
- v) **Member of the Council of the International Maritime Organization (IMO)** during the elections scheduled for November 2017 in London, the candidature of:
- **The People's Democratic Republic of Algeria.**
- vi) **Vice-President of the 72nd United Nations General Assembly**, during the elections scheduled for 2017 in New York, the candidatures of:
- **The Republic of Liberia**, for West Africa;
 - **The Republic of Zimbabwe**, for Southern Africa;
 - **The Republic of Madagascar**, for East Africa;
 - **Gabonese Republic**, for Central Africa.
- NB: One seat is still to be filled for Central Africa.**
- vii) **Chair of the 5th Commission of 72nd United Nations General Assembly**, the candidature of **Mr. Tommo Monthe of the Republic of Cameroon**
- viii) **Member of the United Nations Economic and Social Council**, during the elections scheduled for 2017 in New York, the candidatures of:
- **The Republic of Ghana and the Togolese Republic**, for West Africa;
 - **The Republic of the Sudan**, for East Africa.

NB: One position remains to be filled for Southern Africa

12. Concerning the candidature of the Arab Republic of Egypt for the position of member of the United Nations Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, during the elections scheduled for November 2017 in New York, the Committee recommended that consideration of this candidature be referred to the African Group in New York, in accordance with its mechanism for candidatures, taking due account of the fact that the position should be filled by Central Africa, based on the system in force for the rotation of this position between the North Africa and Central Africa regions;

13. Having observed that the allocation of seats within United Nations organs is disproportionate, the Committee requested that the African Group undertake advocacy for an increase in the number of seats allocated to Africa;

14. Concerning the position of Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau, during the elections scheduled for October 2018 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, the Committee decided to take note of the candidature of *Dr. Cosmas Zavazava* from the Republic of Zimbabwe and to leave the position open, since the elections will only be held in October 2018;

15. The Committee decided to take note of the candidature of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire to host the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Sub-Regional Office for West Africa.

VI. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

16. All agenda items having been considered, the Chairperson adjourned the meeting.

DRAFT
DECISION ON AFRICAN CANDIDATURES
WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

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The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Ministerial Committee on African Candidatures within the International System;
2. **ENDORSES:**
 - i) **for the position of Judge at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea**, during the elections scheduled for 2017, the candidatures of:
 - ***Mr. Boualem BOUGUETALA from the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria;***
 - ***Judge José Luis Jesus*** from the Republic of Cabo Verde;
 - ii) **for the position of Judge at the International Criminal Court**, during the elections scheduled for November 2017, the candidatures of:
 - ***Judge Solomy Balungi Bossa*** from the Republic of Uganda, in category A;
 - ***Mrs Reine Alapini Gansou*** from the Republic of Benin, in category B;
 - ***Ms Nthomeng Majara*** from the Kingdom of Lesotho, in category A.
 - iii) **for the position of member of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf for the period 2017-2022**, during the elections scheduled for June 2017 in New York, the candidature of:
 - ***Mr. Simon Njuguna*** from the Republic of Kenya;
 - ***Mr. Domingos de Carvalho Viana Moreira of the Republic of Angola;***
 - ***Dr Estevão Stefane Mahanjane of Republic of Mozambique***
 - iv) **for the position of Judge the International Court of Justice**, at the elections scheduled during the United Nations General Assembly in October/November 2017, the candidature of ***Judge Abdulqawi Ahmed Yusuf*** from the Federal Republic of Somalia.
 - v) **Chair of the 5th Commission of 72nd United Nations General Assembly**, the candidature of ***Mr. Tommo Monthe of the Republic of Cameroon.***
3. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** and decides to approve the following candidatures:

- i) **for the position of member of the Council of the International Maritime Organization (IMO)** during the elections scheduled for November 2017 in London, the candidature of the **People's Democratic Republic of Algeria**;
- ii) **for the position of Vice-President of the 72nd United Nations General Assembly**, during the elections scheduled for 2017 in New York, the candidatures of:
 - **The Republic of Liberia**, for West Africa;
 - **The Republic of Zimbabwe**, for Southern Africa;
 - **The Republic of Madagascar**, for East Africa;
 - **The Gabonese Republic**, for Central Africa.
- iii) **for the position of member of the United Nations Economic and Social Council**, during the elections scheduled for 2017 in New York, the candidatures of:
 - **The Republic of Ghana and the Togolese Republic**, for West Africa;
 - **The Republic of the Sudan**, for East Africa;
 - **The Republic of.....**for West Africa;
 - **The Republic of.....**for Southern Africa.

4. Lastly, DECIDES:

- i) **Concerning the candidature of the Arab Republic of Egypt for the position of member of the United Nations Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions**, during the elections scheduled for November 2017 in New York, the Committee recommended that consideration of this candidature be referred to the African Group in New York, in accordance with its mechanism for candidatures, taking due account of the fact that the position should be filled by Central Africa, based system in force for the rotation of this position between the North Africa and Central Africa regions;
- ii) Having observed that the allocation of seats within United Nations organs is disproportionate, the Committee requested that the African Group undertake advocacy for an increase in the number of seats allocated to Africa;
- iii) **Concerning the position of Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau**, during the elections scheduled for October 2018 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, the Committee decided to take note of the candidature of **Dr. Cosmas Zavazava** from the Republic of Zimbabwe and to leave the position open, since the elections will only be held in October 2018;

- iv) To take note of the candidature of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire **to host the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Sub-regional Office for West Africa;**
- v) **Concerning cases of non-compliance by Member States with Executive Council Decisions EX.CL/Dec.917 (XXVIII) taken at the Summit held in Kigali, Rwanda, in June 2016, as well as the Revised Rules of Procedure of the Committee:**
- To take note of explanations provided by these States which evoked poor communication between their Permanent Missions, their capitals and the Commission, for which they expressed regret and apologized to the Organization with a promise that such incidents would never happen again;
 - To excuse these States for the reasons mentioned above, in addition to the inadequate popularization of the provisions of the revised Rules of Procedure of the Ministerial Committee on African Candidatures within the International system;
 - Also to inform Member States that such shortcomings would no longer be excused in the future and urged them all to cooperate in strengthening our mechanisms and to optimize chances for Africa to hold positions within the international system;
 - That the Secretariat should organize a mission of the Chairperson of the Ministerial Committee to meet with the Permanent Missions of Member States to international organizations, in order to sensitize and brief them, as well as organize the different aspects and stages of management of African candidatures within the international system.

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