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ASSEMBLY OF THE AFRICAN UNION  
Fourth Ordinary Session  
30 – 31 January 2005  
Abuja, NIGERIA

Assembly/AU/5 (IV) Add.4

**ESTABLISHMENT OF A POST OF MINISTER OF  
DEFENCE**

*(Item proposed by the Great Libyan Arab Jamahiriya)*

## ESTABLISHMENT OF A POST OF MINISTER OF DEFENCE

Request by the Great Jamahiriya to include an item in the Agenda of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Conference of the African Union, to be held in Abuja, 30 – 31 January 2005 and the explanatory Memorandum justifying the inclusion of this item.

**First:** The item, proposed to be incorporated in the Agenda of the Session.

In accordance with sub-paragraph [2/H] of Article 8 of the AU Conference Procedures Regulations, the Great Jamahiriya requests the inclusion of an item entitled (Creation of a post for the AU Minister of Defence) in the Agenda of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the African Union Conference, to be held in Abuja, 30 – 31 January 2005.

**Second:** The explanatory memorandum explaining the reasons behind the item inclusion:

The Constitutive Act of the Great African Union in its 3<sup>rd</sup> Article, Para. B and O and Article 4 Sub-Para. H as well as Article 3, Para. H Article 6, Para. A, Article 7, Para. G of the Protocol establishing the Council for Peace and Security of the AU (MAS) provide for the need to set up a joint policy on defence and security of the Union and provide for the reinforcement of peace, security and stability in the Continent.

Based on these provisions, the Constitutive Act and the Protocol for Peace and Security (MAS) have established a Joint Defence Framework. It reinforces the means of domestic security protection and control of internal disputes within Member States. All Member States are fully aware of the importance of joint defence and the need to set up joint policies supported by mechanisms which are to be adopted by the African Union in order to defend the security of Member States against any foreign aggression and to achieve internal security and stability, which necessarily require the creation of the post of a Minister of Defence to be entrusted with the responsibilities and competences of joint defence policies of the Union.

The importance of joint defence is reflected in the outcome of the Extraordinary Summit, convened in Sirte, the Great Jamahiriya on 28/2/2004 which adopted the solemn Declaration on (An African Joint Policy for Defence and Security), which had been presented at the Durban Summit in 2002 and at the Maputo Summit in 2003.

Based on these information and based on the spirit which has driven the effective political will of the African Leaders as they were responding to the Call

for the establishment of the African Union launched by the historic Sirte Declaration and the Summits of Durban and Maputo which have considered the issue of Joint Defence, the Great Jamahiriya requests the inclusion of an item in the Agenda of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the African Union, to be held in Abuja 30 – 31 January 2005 under the title (Creation of a post for the Minister of Defence of the African Union to undertake the responsibilities and competences of the Joint Defence Policies of AU).

**Tripoli - 25/22/2004**

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