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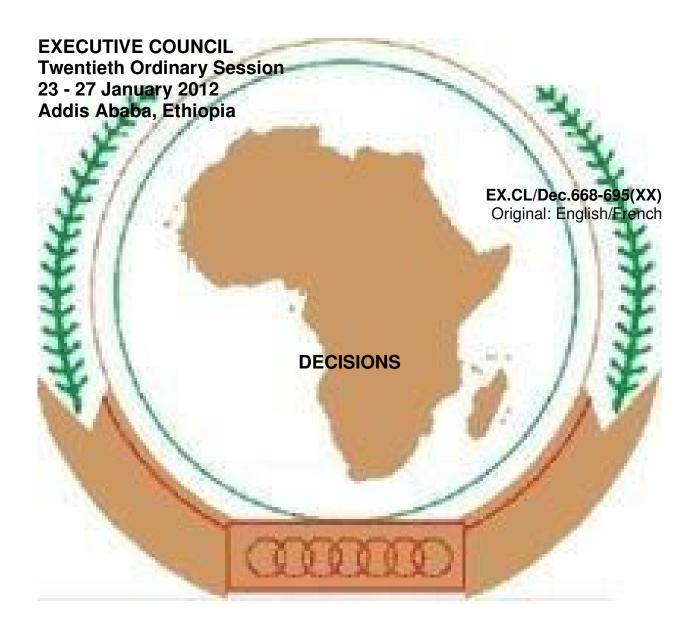


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DECISION ON STRUCTURAL REFORMS Doc. EX.CL/687(XX)i

- **1. TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) on Structural Reforms and the recommendations contained therein;
- **2. ADOPTS** the recommendations on Structural Reforms contained in Document EX.CL/687(XX)i as follows:
 - i) the Structure of the African Union (AU) Advisory Board on Corruption composed of seven (7) posts to be implemented over a period of three (3) years;
 - the revised Structure of the African Court on Human and People's Rights (AfCHPR) composed of ninety (90) posts. The new forty four (44) additional posts to be implemented over a period of five (5) years;
 - the Structure of the Administration & Facility Management Division within the Directorate of Administration and Human Resource Management of the Commission composed of one hundred eighteen (118) posts of which the eighteen (18) additional posts be implemented within the approved numbers and budget of the financial year 2012.
- REQUESTS the PRC, through its Sub-Committee on Structural Reforms, to reconsider the proposals by the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) and the Pan African Parliament (PAP), and make appropriate recommendations to the next Ordinary Session of the Executive Council in June 2012;
- 4. ALSO REQUESTS the Commission and all the other A U Organs to submit their recruitment plan to the PRC during its consideration of the AU annual budget, to adhere strictly to the recruitment plan and the modalities for the implementation of the Structure approved by this Decision; and that the recruitment and selection process be done in accordance with Regulation 6.4 of the AU Staff Regulations and Rules; taking into consideration the criteria of geographical distribution, gender balance, avoidance of overlapping of functions with existing structures and financial availability;
- **5. DECIDES** with regard to the AU Advisory Board on Corruption that:
 - All vacancies shall be open for competition by both existing staff and external candidates through a fully transparent, equitable and fair process;
 - ii) The recruitment process shall be overseen and supervised by the Commission;

- iii) The recruitment for all professional positions shall be governed by and merged with the overall quota distribution, geographical distribution and gender balance of the Commission.
- **6. REQUESTS** the PRC, through its Sub-Committee on Structural Reforms, to consider the remaining proposals of the Commission and to submit its recommendations to the next Ordinary Session of the Executive Council in July 2012;
- 7. ALSO REQUESTS the Commission and the PRC, through its Sub-Committee on Structural Reforms, to consider the structure of the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) pursuant to Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.198(XI) adopted by the Eleventh Ordinary Session of the Assembly in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, in July 2008 related to the integration of the APRM into the structure and systems of the African Union, and to submit a report to the next Ordinary Session of the Executive Council in June 2012 through the PRC;
- 8. FURTHER REQUESTS the Commission to report on the implementation of this Decision to the next ordinary session of the Executive Council in June 2012.



DECISION ON MULTILATERAL COOPERATION Doc. EX.CL/687(XX)ii

The Executive Council,

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report and the recommendations of the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) on the Activity Report of its Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation relating to Africa's Strategic Partnerships.

ON THE AFRICA-INDIA FORUM SUMMIT:

- 2. REQUESTS the Commission and the PRC through its Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation to conclude the Action Plan of the Framework for Enhanced Cooperation of the Second Africa-India Forum Summit with the Indian side, and follow up on the implementation of the agreed projects and programmes within the prescribed time period;
- 3. ALSO REQUESTS the Regional Deans and Member States to complete the process of seats of the institutions allocated by India to the respective regions and to countries within the regions, following India's offer to establish six (6) new institutions at the continental level:
- 4. COMMENDS India for the concrete measures taken to implement the Plan of Action and URGES Member States to meet their own obligations in order to speed up the completion of projects and programmes contained in the Plan.

ON THE AFRICA-TURKEY PARTNERSHIP SUMMIT:

- 5. TAKES NOTE of the Ministerial Communiqué adopted at the Africa-Turkey Ministerial Review Conference held in Istanbul on 16 December 2011;
- 6. INVITES both sides to implement the priority projects that were proposed at the Ministerial Review Conference in Istanbul in December 2011 and, in this regard, URGES the Government of Turkey, the PRC through its Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation and the Commission to meet in Addis Ababa to review the implementation of the priority projects by early September 2012;
- 7. **EXPRESSES** appreciation and gratitude to the President and Government of Turkey for the various projects and programmes to be implemented in order to consolidate the partnership and support regional integration and development of the continent:
- **8. AGREES** that the Second Africa-Turkey Summit take place in Africa at a venue and date to be decided after consultations.

ON THE FOURTH AFRICA – SOUTH AMERICA (ASA) MINISTERIAL MEETING:

- **9. TAKES NOTE** of the outcome of the Fourth Africa-South America (ASA) Ministerial meeting which took place in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, from 22 to 25 November 2011 including the Ministerial Communiqué;
- **10. URGES** the African and South American sides to take necessary steps to implement the priority projects in the Implementation Plan that was adopted in September 2010, and to facilitate the success of the partnership;
- 11. WELCOMES the setting up of the Ad-hoc Working Group on Financing ASA activities in view of the importance of mobilizing resources to fund ASA projects and programmes in order to take the partnership forward; and CALLS UPON the African side to play a meaningful and constructive role in this process;
- 12. TAKES NOTE of the decision to hold the Third ASA Summit on 15 and 16 May 2012 in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea and CALLS ON both sides to make adequate preparations to ensure a successful Summit.

ON THE KOREA - AFRICA FORUM:

- 13. REQUESTS the PRC, through its Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation, and the Commission to step up their preparations in order to ensure a successful High Officials meeting in the first quarter of 2012 as well as the Second Korea-Africa Forum scheduled to be held in Seoul on 18 October 2012.
- 14. REQUESTS Member States and the Commission in engaging in the various partnerships to uphold the principle of the Banjul Formula and ENSURE that partner countries respect the said principle;
- 15. ALSO REQUESTS the Commission to report on a regular basis on the implementation of this Decision through the PRC.



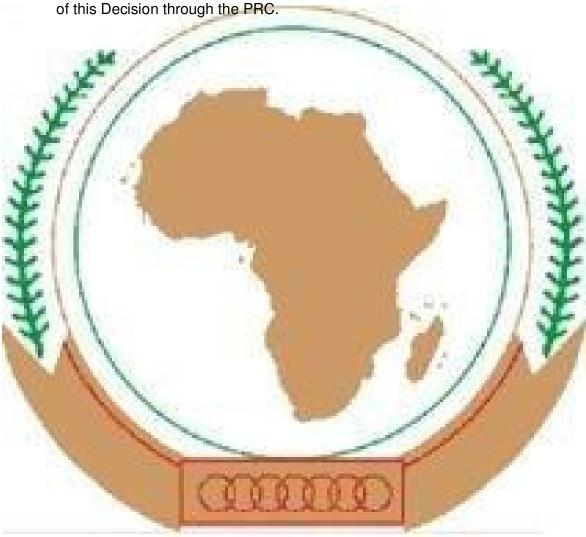
DECISION ON THE EVALUATION OF THE GLOBAL REVIEW OF AFRICA'S STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS WITH OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD Doc. EX.CL/687(XX)ii

- **1. TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) on the Activity Report of its Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation relating to Africa's Strategic Partnerships;
- 2. WELCOMES the efforts by the PRC through, its Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation, and the Commission to implement Executive Council Decisions EX.CL/Dec.512(XV) on Multilateral Cooperation adopted by the Fifteenth Ordinary Session held in Sirte, Libya in July 2019 and EX.CL/Dec.646(XIX) on Structural Reforms adopted by the Nineteenth Ordinary Session held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in January 2011 as well as to complete the evaluation of the Review;
- 3. ENDORSES the Recommendations contained in the Report, in particular those relating to:
 - i) The Principles Governing the Establishment of Strategic Partnerships:
 - ii) The Categories and Classification of Africa's various Strategic Partnerships;
 - iii) The Criteria proposed for establishing Strategic Partnerships between Africa and Other Parts of the World;
- 4. **REQUESTS** the Commission and PRC to ensure that the above principles, criteria and categorisation are taken into account in the process of establishing any new partnerships. Such partnerships should be based on decisions of the organs of the Union and should also be aligned to the needs of the respective regions of Africa;
- 5. ALSO REQUESTS the Commission and the PRC, through its Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation, to undertake an in-depth reflection on ways and means to ensure compliance with the Banjul Formula;
- 6. UNDERSCORES the need to promote continent-wide approach and the African Union vision in the conduct of such partnerships, rather than the bilateral cooperation dimensions;
- 7. **ENCOURAGES** Member States to participate in the partnerships preparation processes through the PRC and the Senior Officials meetings, and establish a mechanism to facilitate the effective participation of African Groups in the various partnerships.
- **8. REQUESTS** the Commission to undertake a speedy implementation of Council Decision EX.CL/Dec.646(XIX) with a view to completing the establishment of the Partnerships Management and Coordination Division

(PMCD) for effective and efficient management of the various Partnerships, including their monitoring, evaluation and assessment;

9. EXPRESSES its appreciation to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for the assistance provided to the Commission in its efforts to establish PMCD, and **URGES** UNDP to continue extending its support with a view to strengthening capacities for Partnerships management and coordination at continental, regional and national levels;

10. REQUESTS the Commission, to report on regular basis on the implementation of this Decision through the PRC



DECISION ON THE AFRICAN UNION REPRESENTATIONAL OFFICES Doc. EX.CL/687(XX)ii

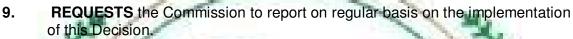
The Executive Council,

- **1. TAKES NOTE** of the Report and recommendations of the Commission on the African Union (AU) Representational Offices;
- 2. **WELCOMES** the efforts by the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC), through its Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation, and the Commission to finalize the evaluation of the Study by the Consultants on AU Representational Offices;
- 3. ENDORSES the Recommendations contained therein;
- 4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to take additional measures to implement all the recommendations of administrative nature which do not have financial implications, with a view to improving the smooth functioning of those offices;
- 5. APPROVES the criteria for the establishment of new AU Representational Offices, particularly those outside Africa;

6. DECIDES as follows:

- i) The Commission should formulate a Policy on the Modalities of Appointment, Grade, Emoluments and Tour of duty, the Duration and Terms of Employment, as well as other Conditions of Service of the Heads of the Representational Offices;
- The Regional Offices should be established in the other four (4) Geographical Regions of the Continent, and should be located where the Headquarters of the RECs are; as a temporary measure, and until the finances of the AU allows, one (1) AU Technical Office per Region should be capacitated to perform Representational functions by appointing a Senior Political Officer to that Office, a Staff of the Commission could also be appointed to work at the Headquarters of each of the RECs as per an already existing decision on the matter;
- iii) Where the AU cannot establish offices immediately or in the near future, the Dean of African Ambassadors in the country of interest could be requested to represent the AU;
- iv) The Office in Vienna should be established as soon as possible, taking advantage of the offer made by the Austrian Government;
- v) The establishment of other Offices should be prioritised in accordance with the approved criteria and by taking into account Africa's priorities and the on-going partnerships;

- vi) The newly established Partnerships Management and Coordination Division in the Office of the Chairperson should be strengthened and be assigned the responsibility of ensuring the links between the Representational Offices and the AU Headquarters;
- **7. REQUESTS** the PRC, though its Sub-Committee on Structures and that on Administrative, Budgetary and Financial Matters to consider the implications of the establishment of such Offices before they are operationalized;
- **8. AUTHORISES** the Commission to mobilize resources for the implementation of this Decision;





DECISION ON THE FORUM ON CHINA-AFRICA COOPERATION Doc. EX.CL/687(XX)ii

- **1. TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) on the Activity Report of its Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation relating to Africa's Strategic Partnerships;
- **2. EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** to China for accepting the Commission as a full member of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC);
- 3. REQUESTS the PRC, through its Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation, and the Commission to look at ways and means of bringing dynamism to the FOCAC process, and to put emphasis on the multilateral aspect of FOCAC;
- 4. ALSO REQUESTS the Commission in collaboration with Member States, the African Diplomatic Missions in China and the Chinese authorities to maintain regular consultations in the process of elaboration of all the documents for the Fifth Ministerial Conference and URGES all Member States to participate actively in the Fifth Ministerial Conference of FOCAC scheduled in China in mid-July 2012;
- URGES the African resident Ambassadors in China and the relevant African Union organs to work in tandem, and bring the necessary synergy to the FOCAC process to facilitate information flow and the achievement of the partnership at the continental level;
- 6. ALSO URGES Member States to enlighten and instruct their missions in the countries where the AU has partnership arrangements about their role and to respect the relevant decisions of the Assembly;
- 7. **REQUESTS** the Commission to report on regular basis on the implementation of this Decision through the PRC.



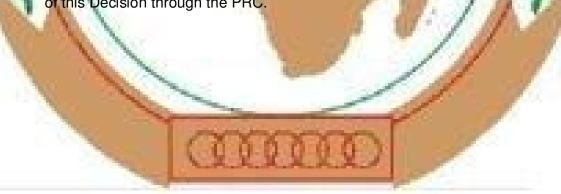
DECISION ON THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MEMBER STATES' TO THE BUDGET OF THE AFRICAN UNION Doc. EX.CL/687(XX)iv

- **1. TAKES NOTE** of the Report and the recommendations of the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC), through its Sub-Committee on Contributions, on the contributions of Member States to the Budget of the African Union (AU);
- 2. ACKNOWLEDGES countries that are up-to-date with the payment of their contributions;
- 3. URGES Member States to pay up their contributions on time and ENCOURAGES Member States with arrears of contribution to clear such arrears:
- 4. RECOMMENDS to the Assembly that the sanctions imposed on Guinea Bissau and the Central African Republic be lifted;
- ALSO RECOMMENDS to the Assembly that the temporary exemption granted to the Democratic Republic of Congo be extended as long as the country complies with its payment schedule;
- FURTHER RECOMENDS to the Assembly that the scales of assessment of The Sudan and South Sudan be considered by the Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee on Scale of Assessment with a view to making appropriate recommendations to the Assembly through the Executive Council.



DECISION ON THE 2012 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS OF THE AFRICAN UNION Doc. EX.CL/688(XX)

- **1. TAKES NOTE** of the 2012 Calendar of Meetings of the African Union (AU);
- 2. WELCOMES the efforts deployed by the Commission, particularly the Directorate of Conference Management and Publications (DCMP) and the Directorate of Strategic Policy Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Resource Mobilization (SPPMERM) to prepare a rational and improved Calendar of Meetings;
- 3. **REQUESTS** the Commission to refrain from convening separately meetings that were previously approved by the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC), through its Sub-Committee on Programmes and Conferences, to be held jointly;
- 4. ALSO REQUESTS the Commission to ensure that all AU sectoral ministerial meetings are henceforth referred to as "Conferences of Ministers of the African Union" in charge of the respective sectors;
- the three (3) weeks deadline for the submission of requests for interpretation services and the two (2) months deadline for the submission of documents to DCMP for processing and ensure that such documents do not exceed a maximum of twelve (12) pages;
- **REQUESTS** the Commission to report on regular basis on the implementation of this Decision through the PRC.



DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE AFRICAN UNION CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF PUBLIC SERVICE Doc: EX.CL/690(XX)

- **1. TAKES NOTE** of the Report and the Declaration of the Seventh African Union (AU) Conference of Ministers of Public Service held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 09 to 14 May 2011;
- 2. WELCOMES the convening of the Seventh AU Conference of Ministers of Public Service, and COMMENDS the Republic of Kenya as the Chair of the Sixth Conference for the progress achieved and the leadership demonstrated in the implementation of the Ministers' Programme;
- 3. **ENDORSES** the Nairobi Declaration and **INVITES** all Member States and the Regional Economic Communities Secretariats to ensure its creative, coordinated and effective implementation;
- 4. REQUESTS the Commission to accelerate the operationalization of the Secretariat of the AU Conference of Ministers of Public Service in collaboration with the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) through its relevant Sub-committees;
- ALSO REQUESTS the Commission to report on the implementation of this Decision to the next Ordinary Session of the Executive Council in June 2012



DECISION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PAN AFRICAN UNIVERSITY Doc. EX.CL/691(XX)

- TAKES NOTE of the Report of the First Extra-Ordinary Conference of Ministers of Education of the African Union (COMEDAF IV) held in Nairobi, Kenya on 13 May 2011 and ENDORSES the recommendations contained therein;
- 2. REQUESTS the Commission in collaboration with Member States, the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) as well as relevant partners to implement the recommendations;
- 3. ALSO REQUESTS the Commission in collaboration with RECs, the Association of African Universities and other relevant stakeholders to develop an African Accreditation Agency.





DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE ALL AFRICA MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON DECENTRALIZATION AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT Doc: EX.CL/692(XX)

The Executive Council,

- **1. TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Second Ordinary Session of the All Africa Ministerial Conference on Decentralization and Local Development held in Maputo, Mozambique, from 8 to 10 August 2010;
- 2. RECALLS Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.158 (VIII) adopted by the Eighth Ordinary Session of the Assembly in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in January 2007 on the transformation of the All Africa Ministerial Conference on Decentralization and Local Development into an African Union (AU) structure within the framework of the restructured Specialized Technical Committees;
- 3. **WELCOMES** the convening of the Second Ordinary Session of the All Africa Ministerial Conference on Decentralization and Local Development as well as the progress achieved;
- 4. COMMENDS the Republic of Cameroon as the outgoing Chair of the Conference for its commitment and leadership in supporting and pushing forward the process of the All Africa Ministerial Conference on Decentralization and Local Development; and APPEALS to all other Member States to be more committed to that process aimed at shaping and strengthening the local dimension of the Continental Governance Programme and the Shared Values Agenda;

5. ENDORSES the following:

- i) the establishment of an Africa Day of Decentralization and Local Development on 10 August of every year;
- ii) the decision to draft an African Charter on the Values, Principles and Standards of Decentralization and Local Governance;
- iii) the establishment of a continental Award System to acknowledge and emulate excellence in decentralization and local governance; and
- iv) the Conference's Long Term Strategic Plan 2011-2026 as an African Union Programme, including the periodic publication of an Africa Report on the state of Decentralization and Local Governance;
- **ENCOURAGES** all Member States to join in the commemoration of the Africa Day of Decentralization and Local Development on 10 of August of each year;
- **7. REQUESTS** the Commission to report on regular basis on the implementation of this Decision through the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC).

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE AFRICAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON THE ENVIRONMENT Doc. EX.CL/694(XX)

- 1. TAKES NOTE of the Report of the Fourth Special session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) held in Bamako, Mali, from 12 to 16 September 2011; and ENDORSES the recommendations contained therein, including the Declaration, Decisions and messages;
- 2. REQUESTS the Commission, in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and other relevant partners to support and facilitate the implementation of the Decisions of the Fourth Special Session of AMCEN;



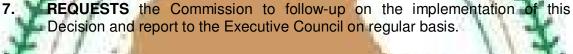
DECISION ON THE EIGHTH SESSION OF THE AFRICAN POPULATION COMMISSION Doc. EX.CL/695(XX)

- **1. TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Eighth Session of the African Population Commission (APC) held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 15 and 16 September 2011;
- 2. ALSO TAKES NOTE of the Fourth Edition of the State of African Population Report 2010 under the theme "Women, Peace, Security and Recovery in Africa" and the recommendations contained therein:
- 3. **ENDORSES** the recommendations of the Eighth Session of the APC especially that the Bureau of APC and the Commission should:
 - i) coordinate in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) the inputs of APC and the relevant technical expertise in Member States to the development of the indicators/instruments and the entire process of the operational review of the ICPD@20 as a whole;
 - ii) engage actively with the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in articulating an African Common Position on ICPD@20.
- 4. CALLS UPON Member States and RECs to mainstream population issues into national and regional development programmes on the continent;
- 5. INVITES partners to continue their support to Member States led population and development initiatives, including the strengthening of APC:
- 6. **REQUESTS** the Commission to report on regular basis on the implementation of this Decision to the Executive Council through the PRC.

DECISION ON THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE AFRICAN UNION CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF SPORT INCLUDING THE NEW SPORT ARCHITECTURE FOR AFRICAN SPORT Doc. EX.CL/697(XX)

- 1. TAKES NOTE of the Report of the Fourth Session of the African Union Conference of Ministers of Sport (CAMS4) held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 20 and 21 October 2011, including the New African Sport Architecture; and the recommendations contained therein;
- 2. ENDORSES the Report of CAMS4 and the recommendations of the Commission's Report on the establishment of a new African Sport Architecture and in particular that:
 - SCSA be dissolved at the end of the Extra-Ordinary Session of the General Assembly of SCSA scheduled to be held in Abuja, Nigeria in January 2012;
 - ii) The offer by the Federal Republic of Nigeria to host an Extra-Ordinary Session of the SCSA Assembly in January 2012 for the purpose of the final act of dissolution of SCSA be accepted;
 - iii) The offer by the Republic of Cameroun to host the Headquarters of the new African Sport Architecture also be accepted and that the Commission be requested to conclude a new Host Agreement with the Republic of Cameroun in this regard;
 - Member States should offer all necessary assistance to the Commission, including an Administrator and other staff to be seconded at the expense of Member States for at least a period of two (2) years to facilitate a smooth transition and the integration of the functions of the SCSA into the Commission;
 - v) The All Africa Games be renamed as the "African Games";
 - vi) The ownership of the African Games be vested in the African Union and that the organization and management of the African Games be entrusted to the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA) with technical inputs by the Association of African Sport Confederations (AASC); and
 - vii) The Commission be requested to conclude a Memorandum of Understanding with ANOCA;
- **3. CONGRATULATES** the Republic of Mozambique for the successful hosting of the Tenth All Africa Games:

- 4. ENDORSES the elections of Egypt (Jan 2012 Dec 2015), Botswana (Jan 2013 Dec 2016), Ethiopia (Jan 2014 Dec 2017), Gabon (Jan 2016 Dec 2019), to serve on the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Foundation Board and the election of South Africa (2012 2013) on the WADA Executive Committee. ALSO ENDORSES the Member State representing AU on the Executive Committee from 2013 as the Chairperson of CAMS as;
- **5. WELCOMES** the offer by the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire to host the Fifth Session of CAMS in October 2013 at a date to be determined in accordance with the established procedures;
- REQUESTS the Commission in collaboration with the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) and its relevant Sub-Committees to assess the financial and structural implications of the establishment of the new African Sports Architecture, and make appropriate recommendations to the next Ordinary Session of the Executive Council in June 2012;





DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE FIFTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE, SECURITY AND SAFETY Doc. EX.CL/698(XX)

- 1. TAKES NOTE of the Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the Fifth Ordinary Session of the Specialized Technical Committee on Defence, Security and Safety (STCDSS) which was preceded by the Eighth Meeting of Chiefs of Defence Staff and Heads of Security and Safety Services held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 26 October 2011 and 25 October 2011, respectively;
- 2. ENDORSES the Declaration adopted by the STCDSS, including:
 - Roadmap III for the operationalization of the African Standby Force (ASF) and the steps taken towards the establishment of an ASF Continental Logistics Base in Douala, Cameroon;
 - ii) the implementation of the AMANI AFRICA II Exercise Cycle activities;
 - iii) the establishment of the Maritime Information and Coordination Cell (MI2C);
 - iv) the financing of the ASF and the activities required for its full operationalization.
- 3. ALSO TAKES NOTE of the proposal made by the Commission to establish a strategic defense office and REQUESTS the Commission to deepen its reflection in light of the observations made with the understanding that this should in no way hamper the enhancement of the Peace Support Operations Division (PSOD) within the Peace and Security Department of the Commission through the implementation of the four (4) pillar structure and to expedite the appointment of the Chief of Staff for the PSOD;
- 4. REQUESTS the Commission to expedite consultations with respect to the clarification of the roles of the Continental Logistic Base and the Regional Logistics Bases;
- 5. ALSO REQUESTS the Commission to take necessary measures for the urgent deployment of troops already contributed by Member States to the African Mission in Somalia (AMISOM);
- 6. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to take all the necessary measures to ensure the effective and prompt implementation of all aspects of this Decision and report on regular basis to the Executive Council.

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECOND ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AFRICAN UNION CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF TRANSPORT Doc. EX.CL/699(XX)

The Executive Council,

- 1. TAKES NOTE of the Report of the Second Ordinary Session of the African Union (AU) Conference of Ministers of Transport (CAMT) held in Luanda, Angola, from 21 to 25 November 2011, and ENDORSES the recommendations contained therein:
- 2. WELCOMES the successful holding of the Second Session of CAMT which has led to substantive output for the development of the transport sector in Africa;
- 3. **ENDORSES** the Declaration and updated Plans of Action adopted by CAMT expressing its commitment to the implementation of agreed policies, strategies and programmes for the development of transport infrastructure and services in Africa;

4. ALSO ENDORSES:

- i) the African Civil Aviation Policy (AFCAP) as the single policy and strategic framework for guiding accelerated development and provision of safe, secure and environmentally sustainable air transport services in the continent; and
- the African Action Plan for the 2011 2020 Decade of Action on Road Safety in line with the United Nations (UN) Resolution 64/255 proclaiming 2011-2020 a Decade of Action for Road Safety as well as the third Sunday of November, which is the world's day for remembrance of road accident victims, as Africa's Road Safety Day.

5. **REQUESTS** the Commission to:

- disseminate the endorsed African Civil Aviation Policy and the African Action Plan for the 2011 2020 Decade of Action on Road Safety to all Member States and other key stakeholders and facilitate their smooth implementation through capacity building measures where necessary;
- ii) take all the necessary measures, within its mandate, in collaboration with Member States, the Regional Economic Communities, specialised institutions and other stakeholders to speed up the implementation of the Plans of Action with a view to developing a strong, integrated and viable transport sector in the continent.
- 6. APPEALS to the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, the African Development Bank, the European Union, the World Bank and other relevant development partners to support the implementation of the AU Plans of Action on transport development; and

7. REQUESTS the Commission to report on regular basis on the implementation of this Decision to the Executive Council through the Permanent Representatives' Committee.



DECISION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AFRICAN INSTITUTE FOR REMITTANCES Doc. EX.CL/703(XX)

- **1. TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Commission on the Preparatory Project for the establishment of an African Institute for Remittances (AIR);
- 2. ACKNOWLDGES that the establishment of an African Institute for Remittances (AIR) will facilitate Remittances leverage for economic and social development;
- 3. CALLS UPON Member States and the Pan-African Parliament as well as the Regional Economic Communities, the private sector, the Civil Society and all other stakeholders to actively participate in the implementation process;
- 4. REQUESTS the Commission to submit to the African Union Ministers of Finance the final report on the implementation of the preparatory project and recommendations pertaining to the establishment of AIR;
- ALSO REQUESTS the Permanent Representatives' Committee through lits relevant Sub-Committees, including the Sub Committee on Structural Reforms and the Sub-Committee on Administrative, Budgetary and Financial Matters the implications of establishing AIR for consideration and necessary action;
- 6. CALLS UPON the African Development Bank, the European Commission, the World Bank, the International Organization for Migration and other relevant partners to continue to support the preparatory project and resources for the AIR;
- 7. **REQUESTS** the Commission to report on regular basis on the implementation of this Decision to the Executive Council.



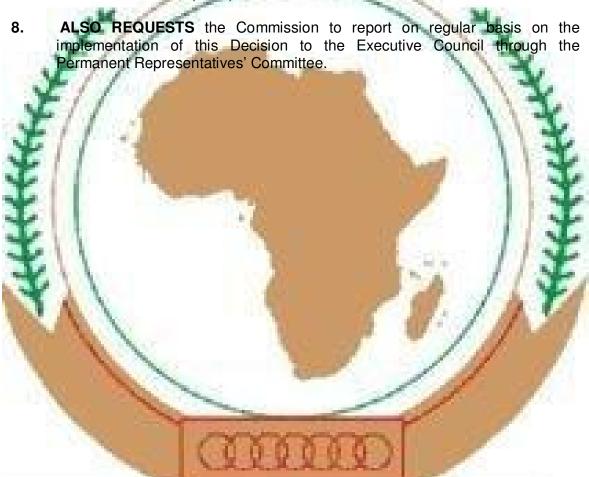
DECISION ON THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE AFRICAN REHABILITATION INSTITUTE Doc.EX.CL/704(XX)

- **1. TAKES NOTE** of the Progress Report of the Commission on the Restructuring of the African Rehabilitation Institute (ARI);
- 2. **WELCOMES** the steps taken to ensure the protection and promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities on the continent by Member States, the Commission and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights;
- 3. RECALLS its Decision EX. CL/Dec. 625 (XVIII) by which the Commission was requested to: "Assist in the restructuring process of the African Rehabilitation Institute (ARI)";
- 4. REQUESTS the Commission to continue to assist the ARI in its restructuring process, and provide oversight regarding the financial and administrative management of the Institute in order to facilitate its leading role in the implementation of the extended African Decade of Persons with Disabilities (2010 2019);
- **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to include ARI in the review of the existing OAU Specialized Agencies, as directed by the Assembly;
- FURTHER REQUESTS the Commission to deepen the study regarding the integration of the functions of ARI into the Commission, including the transitional mechanism and the current financial situation relating to ARI and submit the outcome to the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC), through its Sub-Committee on Structures, and the Sub-Committee on Administrative, Budgetary and Financial Matters:
- 7. URGES Member States to pay their annual contributions and arrears to ARI;
- 8. CALLS UPON the International Labour Organization (ILO), the European Commission and other relevant partners to continue to support ARI;
- **9. REQUESTS** the Commission to report on the implementation of this Decision to the Ordinary Session of the Executive Council in January 2013.

DECISION ON THE STATUS OF SIGNATURE AND RATIFICATION OF OAU/AU TREATIES DOC. EX.CL/707(XX)

- **1. TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the Status of signature and ratification of OAU/AU Treaties;
- 2. **WELCOMES** the efforts made by the Commission and Member States towards signature, ratification/accession of OAU/AU Treaties during the period June to February 2012;
- 3. REITERATES its appeal to Member States to prioritize and accelerate the signing and ratification/accession to all OAU/AU Treaties but particularly those directly related to shared values;
- 4. ALSO REITERATES its appeal to Member States to ensure that they initiate the process of ratification of new treaties within a period of one (1) year after its adoption in accordance with Executive Council Decision EX.CL/Dec.459 (XVI) on the Status of Signature and Ratification of OAU/AU/Treaties and the Harmonization of Ratification Procedures adopted by the Fourteenth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in January 2009:
- INVITES all States Parties to the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Establishment of an African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights that have not yet done to make a declaration accepting the competence of the Court to receive cases under article 5 (3) of this Protocol and to ratify the protocol on the merged Court of Justice and Human Rights;
- **TAKES NOTE** of the efforts made by the other AU Organs and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), the International and Regional Organisations as well as Civil Society towards advocacy and sensitisation of Member States to expedite the process of ratification of/accession to OAU/AU Treaties and **CALLS UPON** them to persist in these efforts;
- 7. REQUESTS Member States to give special attention to the ratification of the following instruments that are not yet in force:
 - i) African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (revised version) (2003);
 - ii) Charter for African Cultural Renaissance (2006);
 - iii) African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance (2007);
 - iv) Protocol on the Statute of the African Court of Justice and Human Rights (2008);
 - v) African Charter on Statistics (2009);

- vi) Protocol on the African Investment Bank (2009);
- vii) African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention) (2009);
- viii) Constitution for the African Civil Aviation Commission AFCAC (revised version) (2009);
- ix) Revised African Maritime Transport Charter (2010); and
- x) African Charter on the Values and Principles of Public Service and Administration (2011).



DECISION ON THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN AFRICA Doc: EX.CL/709(XX)

- **1. TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Commission on the Humanitarian Situation in Africa:
- 2. **DEEPLY CONCERNED** that the problems of forced displacement have persisted in a number of Member States resulting in untold human suffering and therefore placing extra-burden on the host countries, thus causing serious socio-economic and environmental problems to these countries;
- 3. NOTES WITH GRAVE CONCERN the severe drought and famine conditions in the Horn of Africa, coupled with the conflict in Somalia, the continued drought being recorded in some parts of the region as the driest year on record since 1951 and which has affected over 14 million people;
- 4. WELCOMES the initiative taken by the African Union in convening a successful African Union (AU) Pledging Conference on Drought and Famine in the Horn of Africa on 25 August 2011 and appreciated the pledges and contributions made;
- EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE to the Member States that have been hosting and extending assistance to forced displacement population in the spirit of solidarity and cooperation as well as to Member States which endeavored to promote voluntary repatriation, resettlement and rehabilitation of forced displaced people and APPEALS to other Member States concerned to promote conditions conducive for the return and sustainable reintegration of forced displaced people in their countries of origin or habitual places;
- APPEALS to Member States hosting forcibly displaced persons to uphold the principle of non-refoulement and URGES that a legal framework be put in place, where it does not exist, to ensure speedy determination of their status in accordance with the provisions of the 1969 OAU Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa and the 1951 United Nations (UN) Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees;
- 7. ALSO EXPRESSES APPRECIATION to all Member States, Organized Private Sector in Africa, ordinary African citizens and the international community at large which pledged either in-kind or cash contributions towards the humanitarian crisis in the Horn of Africa during the AU Pledging Conference to redeem their pledges and APPEALS for additional contributions as the number of victims of drought and famine in the Horn of Africa increased dramatically after the Conference;
- **8. INVITES** Member States to address alternative sources of funding to enable the AU resolve humanitarian crises affecting Africa;
- **9. CALLS ON** Member States to contribute to the Special Emergency Assistance Fund for Drought and Famine in Africa (SEAF);

- 10. CALLS ON Member States together with the Commission, the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and relevant partners to respond to emergencies, mitigate and manage disaster risks by accelerating implementation and effective coordination capability of the relevant existing Continental frameworks and commitments, in particular the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP);
- 11. ALSO CALLS ON Member States together with the Commission and in collaboration with RECs, relevant partners and organizations to create a comprehensive framework of action that focuses on saving lives while integrating linkages that build resilience among communities in drought-prone areas, expand scope for early recovery and rehabilitation as well as medium to long-term agriculture investments and enhancement of food security and long-term sustainable drought management plans as indicated in the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme Framework for African Food Security (FAFS);
- 12. REQUESTS the Commission together with the concerned humanitarian agencies to closely follow up on the pledges and contributions towards the humanitarian crisis in the Horn of Africa and disburse the funds as deemed necessary at the earliest opportunity to the affected population in the region;
- ALSO REQUESTS the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC), through its Sub-Committee on Refugees, in collaboration with the Commission, and relevant partners to continue monitoring the problem of forced displacement and FURTHER REQUESTS them to work in close collaboration with the RECs, the international community, Civil Society and the Diaspora to implement the Plan of Action which emanated from the 2009 outcomes of the AU Special Summit on Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons;
- 14. REQUESTS the Commission to follow-up on the implementation of this Decision and to report to the Executive Council on regular basis.

DECISION ON THE AFRICAN UNION CENTRE ON POST-CONFLICT RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT Doc. EX.CL/711(XX)

- 1. TAKES NOTE of the Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the African Union Centre on Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development (AUC-PCRD) submitted in pursuance of Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.351(XVI) in which Assembly welcomed the proposal made by the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt regarding the establishment of the AUC-PCRD, and requested the Commission, in collaboration with Egypt, to undertake a study on the objectives, structure, financial implication, and the location of the proposed Centre, and to report to the Assembly;
- 2. ALSO TAKES NOTE WITH APPRECIATION of the contribution by the Arab Republic of Egypt to the conduct of the study, including receiving the experts appointed by the Commission in this regard;
- 3. ENDORSES the recommendations of the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) on the report; and TAKES NOTE of the observations and comments by Member States;
- 4. UNDERSCORES the imperative need to ensure complementarity of the missions envisaged for this Centre and those of the Commission;
- REQUESTS the Commission to submit to the PRC, through its relevant Sub-Committees, for consideration, proposals on the modalities for the funding of the Centre, the structure and the financial implications;
- **WELCOMES** favourably the offers by the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Republic of Uganda to host the Centre and their commitment to mobilise extra budgetary resources to fund the Centre; and recommends to the two Member States to undertake consultations with a view to finding an amicable solution on the location of the Center and to report to the Executive Council as soon as possible;
- 7. STRESSES the need to generally reflect on the issue of equitable distribution of institutions and structures of the African Union within the different regions of the continent;
- **8. REQUESTS** the Commission to report on regular basis on the implementation of this Decision to the Executive Council.

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE MINISTERIAL PANEL ON THE ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION IN JANUARY 2012 DOC. EX.CL/713(XX)

- **1. TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Ministerial Panel on the Election of Members of the Commission in January 2012;
- 2. CALLS ON Member States to adhere to the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council and Assembly as well as the Modalities for the Election of Members of the Commission relating to the presentation of candidates that requires each region to nominate two (2) candidates, including a woman, for each portfolio;
- 3. **EXPRESSES** appreciation to the Ministerial Panel and the Team of Consultants appointed to assist the Panel for the commendable work done and their commitment during the entire process;
- 4. REQUESTS the Commission to review, in consultation with the Permanent Representatives' Committee, the whole process of elections of Members of the Commission with a view to addressing the challenges, gaps and new developments in order to strengthen it, including through the review of the existing rules and procedures;
- ALSO REQUESTS the Commission to report on the implementation of this Decision to the Ordinary Session of the Executive Council in January 2013.



DECISION ON THE TWENTY NINTH, THIRTIETH AND THIRTY FIRST ACTIVITY REPORTS OF THE AFRICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS Doc. EX.CL/717(XX)

- **1. TAKES NOTE** of the Twenty-ninth (29th), Thirtieth (30th) and Thirty-first (31st) Activity Reports of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) and the recommendations contained therein as well as their annexes;
- 2. ALSO TAKES NOTE of the activities undertaken by ACHPR from May 2009 to December 2011;
- 3. **FURTHER TAKES NOTE** of the observations of members of the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) on the said Report;
- 4. REQUESTS ACHPR to continue to work closely with the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (AfCHPR) and the African Union (AU) Commission for the effective promotion of human rights in the Continent;
- FURTHER REQUESTS the ACHPR to carry out the necessary consultations with the Member States concerned regarding allegations of human rights violations, thus enabling it to present a balanced report to the AU Policy Organs;
- REQUESTS the ACHPR to submit all financial and administrative issues to the PRC, through its Sub-Committee on Structures and the Sub-Committee on Administrative, Financial and Budgetary Matters in order to enable the AU Policy Organs to allocate adequate human, material and financial resources to the ACHPR;
- 7. **EXPRESSES** its gratitude to the Government of the Republic of The Gambia for kindly hosting ACHPR for the past twenty (25) years, and **URGES** it to provide a permanent Headquarters for ACHPR, in conformity with the Criteria for Hosting AU Organs adopted in Sirte, Libya, in July 2005;
- 8. REITERATES Decision EX.CL/Dec.639 (XVIII) of the Executive Council of January 2011 calling on ACHPR to include in its activity reports, the status of human rights in the Continent;
- 9. **COMMENDS** Member States that have submitted their report and **URGES** those that have not yet done so to comply with the obligations set out in Article 62 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights;
- **10. REQUESTS** ACHPR to carry out a mission to the occupied territory of the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) with a view to investigating human rights violations and to report to the next Ordinary Session of the Executive Council in January 2013;

11. ADOPTS and **AUTHORIZES** the publication of the Twenty-ninth (29th), Thirtieth (30th) and Thirty-first (31st) Activity Reports of ACHPR and their annexes, pursuant to Article 59 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights.



DECISION ON THE 2011 ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE AFRICAN COURT ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS Doc. EX.CL/718(XX)

- **1. TAKES NOTE** of the 2011 Activity Report of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (AfCHPR) and the recommendations contained therein, and **EXPRESSES** its appreciation for the actions taken by AfCHPR since the submission of its last report;
- 2. REITERATES its appeal made in Decision EX.CL/Dec.659(XIX) adopted in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, in July 2012 inviting States Parties to the Protocol establishing the Court that have not already done so, to take urgent steps to make the declaration provided for under Article 34 (6) of the Protocol establishing the Court;
- 3. ALSO REITERATES its appeal made in Decision EX.CL/Dec.659(XIX) adopted in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in January 2010, urging Member States that have not yet done so, to ratify the Protocol and make the declaration under Article 34(6);
- 4. INVITES Member States, African Union Organs and other relevant entities to utilize the advisory jurisdiction of the Court, by requesting for advisory opinion, as and when necessary;
- ENCOURAGES AfCHPR to work closely with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights within the framework of their respective mandates, to advance the promotion and protection of human and peoples' rights on the continent;
- 6. REQUESTS the African Union Commission to work with the Court, to accelerate the process of extending the jurisdiction of AfCHPR to deal with criminal matters;
- 7. TAKES NOTE of the offer by AfCHPR to have a retreat with the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC), and INVITES the latter to determine the date of the retreat in collaboration with the African Union Commission and AfCHPR;
- 8. **EXPRESSES** gratitude to the United Republic of Tanzania for its generous hospitality to AfCHPR and **ENCOURAGES** it to take all appropriate measures to implement all the provisions of the Host Agreement.

DECISION ON THE SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR THE 2011 FINANCIAL YEAR Doc. PRC/Rpt(XXIII)

- **1. TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Permanent Representatives' Committee(PRC), **ENDORSES** the recommendations contained therein and **REQUESTS** the Commission to implement them;
- **2. APPROVES** the Supplementary Budget requests by the Commission for 2011 amounting to **US\$7,060,300.66** as follows:
 - i) A total amount of US\$5,117,006.66 to be covered from arrears of contributions of Member States.
 - i) A total amount of US\$1,943,294.00 to be secured from International Partners.

Budget Line	Arrears (MS)	International Partners	Total
Operational	3,993,089.66	879,465.00	4,872,554.66
Programs	1,123,917.00	1,033,829.00	2,157,746.00
AUCIL		30,000.00	30,000.00
Total	5,117,006.66	1,943,294.00	7,060,300.66

- 3. REQUESTS the Commission and other African Union (AU) Organs to ensure strict compliance with the Financial Rules and Regulations; and to observe the procedures regarding the submission of virement and supplementary budget requests in compliance with Decision EX.CL/Dec. 528 (XVI) adopted by the Sixteenth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in January 2011;
- 4. ALSO REQUESTS the Commission to ensure that the virement and supplementary budget requests are submitted before September of each year.

DECISION ON AFRICAN CANDIDATURES IN THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM Doc.EX.CL/712 (XX)

The Executive Council,

1. **ENDORSES** the following candidatures:

- the candidature of Judge Ebrahim-Carstens Memooda of Botswana for his re-election as Judge of the United Nations (UN) Dispute Tribunal, elections to be held in June 2012, in New York, USA;
- the candidature of Mr. Joseph V. Acakpo-Satchivi of Benin for his election as a member of the United Nations (UN) Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), elections to be held during the Sixty-seventh (67th) Session of the United Nations (UN) General Assembly in November 2012 in New York, USA.

2. ALSO ENDORSES the following candidatures:

the candidature of the Republic of Rwanda for election to one of the seats of non-permanent members of the United Nations Security Council for the period 2013-2014, elections to be held during the Sixty-seventh (67th) Session of the United Nations (UN) General Assembly in October 2012 in New York, USA.

3. FURTHER DECIDES to endorse the following candidatures:

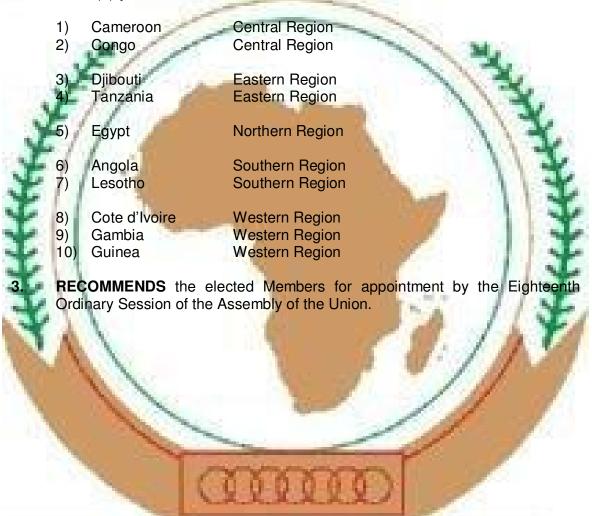
- i) the candidature of Dr. Mohamed Abdel-Ezzedine Morein of the Arab Republic of Egypt for his re-election as a member of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, during the elections to be held in April 2012 in New York, USA;
- ii) the candidature of the Arab Republic of Egypt for re-election as a member of the Council of Administration and the Postal Operations Council of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) in the elections to be held during the 24th Session of the UPU Congress scheduled for 24 September to 15 October 2012 in Doha, Qatar:
- iii) the candidature of South Africa for election as a member of the Council of Administration and re-election to the Postal Operations Council of the Universal Postal Union (UPU), in the elections to be held during the 24th UPU Congress scheduled for 24 September to 15 October 2012 in Doha, Qatar;
- iv) the candidature of Mr. Rachid Essoussi of the Tunisian Republic for election as Director at the Bureau of the International Hydrographic Organization, at the elections to be held during the IHO 18th Conference scheduled for 23 to 27 April 2012 in the Principality of Monaco;

- v) the candidature of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for election as member of the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for the period 2012 to 2014, at the elections to be held in September 2012 in Vienna, Austria;
- vi) the candidature of the Republic of Namibia and Republic of Rwanda for election to the United Nations Human Rights Council, elections to be held in New York, USA in May 2012;
- vii) the candidatures of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria and Libya for the membership of the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy, for the period 2012 to 2014, at the elections to be held in Vienna, Austria in September 2012.
- 4. REQUESTS the Republic of Benin, the Republic of Niger and the Republic of Senegal to undertake consultations with regard to the position of Director General of the International Labor Organization.
- 5. TAKES NOTE of the following candidatures to be considered at one of its next sessions:
 - i) the candidature of the Republic of Chad for election to one of the seats of non-permanent members of the United Nations Security Council for the period 2014-2015, during the elections to be held at the 68th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in October 2013 in New York, USA;
 - ii) the candidature of Dr. Kanayo F. Nwanze of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for election as President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), in the elections that will take place in September 2013 in Rome, Italy.



DECISION ON ELECTION OF TEN (10) MEMBERS OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION DOC. EX.CL/715(XX)

- **1. TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Commission on the Election of Ten (10) Members of the Peace of Security Council of the African Union;
- 2. **ELECTS** the following ten (10) Members of the Peace and Security Council for a two (2)-year term as of March 2012:



DECISION ON THE ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION Doc. EX.CL/688(XIX)

- 1. TAKES NOTE of the very detailed Report which covers all the programmes and activities carried out by the Commission during the last six months and ENCOURAGES the Commission to continue its efforts to carry out the laid down objectives, within the framework of the implementation of the 2009-2012 Strategic Plan;
- 2. TAKES NOTE of all the relevant observations made by the various delegations on the Report;
- 3. ENDORSES the recommendations made by the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC), on this Report (PRC/Rpt(XXIII));
- STRESSES the crucial importance of the pilot projects identified by the Commission in its 2009-2012 Strategic Plan, in particular, programmes relating to the development of network infrastructures, agricultural development and food security, through the implementation of the CAADP programme; the launching of the Pan-African University and the harmonization of the human programmes, the Millennium capital development the achievement of Development Goals (MDGs), the setting up of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA); and the realization of the good governance and democracy architecture, all of which are meant to accelerate the socio-economic integration of the Continent;
- 5. NOTES WITH SATISFACTION the theme for 2012 centred on "Boosting Intra-African Trade", a topic that will be developed throughout the year 2012 and the discussion of which, at the two Summits, could create more awareness among the relevant actors to strengthen continental trade and increase the share of Africa in world trade;
- 6. STRESSES the need to draw lessons on the performance of the African Union (AU) in relation to the challenges faced by the Continent during the year 2011, in particular, with regard to the popular uprisings in North Africa and other conflict situations such as that of Côte d'Ivoire, and RECOMMENDS to the Assembly to consider an in-depth reflection on the ways and means of effectively strengthening and defending the principle of African solutions to African problems, both by reinforcing the effectiveness of continental instruments and strengthening the complementarity of AU and the actions of the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) as well as the rigorous evaluation of the functioning of strategic partnerships;

- **7. WELCOMES** the presence, for the first time, of the delegation of the Republic of South Sudan to the Assembly;
- 8. ALSO NOTES WITH SATISFACTION the organization and outcomes of the Special Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government in August 2011 as well as contributions made to the Horn of Africa to assist the victims of the drought and famine in this area and ENCOURAGES Member States to always respond positively to such praise-worthy initiatives;
- 9. URGES all Member States to effectively implement all AU decisions in the various areas, to sign and ratify all AU instruments and provide their full political, financial and other support to the Commission to support its efforts aimed at implementing these decisions, and UNDERLINES in particular the role and place of the Commission in the pursuit of all AU strategic partnerships:
- 10. REAFFIRMS the active solidarity of the AU towards the Palestinian People in its fight to recover its legitimate rights in a sovereign and independent state:
- REITERATES the need for finding an equitable solution to the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) problem by the implementation of the relevant decisions of AU and the United Nations relating to the self-determination of the Saharawi People;
- 12. EXPRESSES its high appreciation to all the outgoing Members of the Commission, led by H.E. Dr. Jean Ping, Chairperson of the Commission, for their immense contribution to the AU:
- 13. CONGRATULATES the Republic of Gabon and Equatorial Guinea for the excellent facilities put in place in a coordinated manner in the organization of the African Cup of Nations and EXTENDS also congratulations to the African States whose teams are participating in this high level Football continental competition, from 21 January to 12 February 2012.

DECISION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PREVIOUS DECISIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND THE ASSEMBLY Doc. EX.CL/689(XX)

- **1. TAKES NOTE** of the recommendations of the PRC on the implementation of previous Decisions of the Executive Council and the Assembly;
- 2. REITERATES the need for effective implementation of previous decisions and adherence to the overriding obligation to always evaluate the implications, in terms of legal, financial and structures, prior to the adoption of any decision;
- 3. COMMENDS Burkina Faso which promptly submitted its report on the implementation of the decisions and APPEALS to the other Member States to submit their reports on the implementation of decisions;
- 4. REQUESTS the Commission to submit a comprehensive report on the implementation of Decision EX.CL/Dec. 650(XIX) which was taken following the Third Joint Permanent Representatives and Commission (PRC/AUC) Retreat held in Nazareth, Ethiopia in March/April 2011 at the next Ordinary Session of the Executive Council in June 2012.



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