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DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE FOURTH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE OF THE FORUM ON CHINA-AFRICA COOPERATION (FOCAC) DOC. EX. CL/544(XVI)

The Executive Council,

- 1. TAKES NOTE of the Report of the Commission on the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) held in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, from 6 to 9 November 2009 and the Sharm El Sheikh Declaration and Plan of Action:
- **2. ENDORSES** the recommendations contained therein;
- 3. REITERATES that the Commission is charged with the responsibility of managing and coordinating the FOCAC process in consultation with the Regional Economic Communities and the Permanent Representatives Committee (PRC) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;
- **4. URGES** all Member States to implement the decisions taken in Sharm El Sheikh and the Plan of Action, and to report regularly on progress made;
- 5. NOTES that the Follow-up Mechanism of FOCAC was established in 2001 before the establishment of the African Union and REQUESTS the Commission and Member States to initiate action with China to review the Mechanism in order that the Commission and the PRC play a central coordinating role in the FOCAC process as already decided by the Assembly;
- **6. ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to take all necessary measures to ensure the implementation of this decision and to report regularly to Council;
- 7. **COMMENDS** the Government of the People's Republic of China for successfully implementing the Beijing FOCAC Plan of Action of 2006-2009;
- 8. EXPRESSES APPRECIATION for the new commitments contained in the Sharm El Sheikh Plan of Action as well as the measures announced by the Chinese Prime Minister at the Fourth FOCAC Ministerial Conference;
- **9. ALSO EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** to Egypt for successfully hosting the Fourth FOCAC Ministerial Conference:
- **10. TAKES NOTE** that the Fifth FOCAC Ministerial Conference which will take place in 2012 in China and **WELCOMES** the offer by South Africa to host the Sixth Ministerial Conference in 2015 when it is Africa's turn to host.

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