

**RESOLUTION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF  
THE AFRICAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY**

The Assembly of heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting at its Twenty-sixth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 9 to 11 July 1990,

**Recalling** the relevant provisions of the Lagos Plan of Action and, more particularly, of the Final Act of Lagos, adopted in April 1980,

**Recalling further** its Resolution AHG/Res. 161 (XXIII) and AHG/Res. 179 (XXV) adopted respectively by the Twenty-third and Twenty-fifth Ordinary Sessions of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, as well as other relevant decisions and declarations;

**Having considered** the conclusions and the recommendations adopted by the OAU Permanent Steering Committee in its Eighteenth, Nineteenth and Twentieth Ordinary Sessions, on the proposed establishment of the African Economic Community (Doc. AHG/174 (XXVI)):

1. **APPROVES** the conclusions and recommendations of the Eighteenth, Nineteenth (Doc. 1585 (LI)) and Twentieth (Doc. CM/1610 (LII)) Ordinary Sessions of the Permanent Steering Committee endorsed by the Fifty-first and Fifty-second Ordinary Sessions of the Council of Ministers, and in particular, the principle of merging the OAU and the Community into a single Organization with the Secretariat, in accordance with the policy decisions already taken by the appropriate organs of the Organization,
2. **EXPRESSES SATISFACTION** with the excellent work done by the Permanent Steering Committee under the supervision of the Current Chairman, in preparing and finalizing the Draft Treaty in accordance with the indicative time-table adopted by the Assembly in July 1989,

3. **ENDORSES** the decision of the Fifty-first Ordinary Session of the Council to set up the Ad-Hoc Drafting Committee of the Whole to prepare the Draft Treaty and **INSTRUCTS** the latter to complete its task as soon as possible, so that the final text can be submitted through the Permanent Steering Committee to the Fifty-third Session of the Council, for its adoption and signature by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government;
4. **MANDATES** the Current Chairman to undertake the necessary consultations with his peers, with a view to determine the most appropriate time and identifying the conditions necessary for the signing of the Treaty, before or during the Twenty-seventh Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government;
5. **URGES** all Member States to take the necessary measures through their national press, to alert the African populations to the importance and scope of the proposed establishment of the African Economic Community;
6. **REQUESTS** the OAU Permanent Steering Committee, with the technical and financial assistance of the OAU, ECA ADB and UNDP Secretariat, to speed up the technical studies in order to identify the operational aspects and modalities for the early take-off of the activities and programmes of the Community, bearing in mind, inter-alia:

  - a) the technical, legal, structural and institutional implications of the merger of the OAU with the Community;
  - b) the stages and procedures for the early and gradual establishment of the Community
  - c) the functional and structural links between the Pan-African Community and Regional Economic Committee;
  - d) the establishment of a Pan-African Assembly;

7. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the OAU Ad-Hoc Charter Review Committee to accelerate its work taking into account the relevant provisions of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community, with a view to ensuring the gradual realization of the economic and political integration of the continent;
  
8. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the OAU Secretary-General to submit periodic reports on the implementation of this resolution.

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