

RESOLUTION ON THE GOREE ALMADIES MEMORIAL

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Twenty-eight Ordinary Session in Dakar, Senegal from 29 June to 1 July 1992:

Recalling that between the XVI and XVII Centuries, the Island of Goree was a symbol of the slave trade, the site of affliction, and denial of the most fundamental human rights;

Recognizing the Goree has become a real center for pilgrimage by Blacks in the diaspora,

Considering the cultural, historic and ethnic dimension of Goree and the determination of the Senegal Government to make it a symbol of tolerance, remembrance and particularly of dialogue between different civilizations and cultures.

Recalling that the World Heritage Committee approved during its Second Session held in September 1978 the inclusion of the Island of Goree on UNESCO's list of World Heritage and that an international campaign to safeguard the Island was launched by UNESCO on 22 December, 1980,

Considering that the Government of Senegal decided to erect the continent's farthest point into the Atlantic, a monument, the Goree-Almadies Memorial, to remind humanity of the greatest genocide in History the slave trade, and to bring together communities involved in this undertaking of sad memories to reflect in a spirit of solidarity and international brotherhood.

Encouraged by the support given by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) for the Memorial project during the Assembly of Heads of State and Government held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 27 and 28 July 1986,

Bearing in mind the appeal of the Twenty-sixth Session of the UNESCO Conference held in Paris, from 15 October to 7 November 1991 aimed at mobilizing the international community for the Goree-Almadies Memorial Project.

Considering that the Goree Almadies Project will host a socio-cultural center dedicated to the youth, and international museum for human rights and remembrance and an international center for research and information on slave trade, the history of the Atlantic from the XIth to the XIXth century and its consequences on dialogue the quest for peace and the interpretation of cultures:

- 1. NOTES WITH SATISFACTION Senegal's initiative to erect the Goree-Almadies Memorial and commends the Senegalese Government for initiating a project of such a symbolic and Pan-African dimension;**
- 2. FULLY SUPPORTS this project which now belongs to all African States as a symbolic project celebrating the continent's regained dignity;**
- 3. EXPRESSED THANKS to UNESCO and its Director-General for their contribution towards the implementation of the project and requests them to pursue their action to give the Goree-Alamadies Project International renown;**
- 4. APPEALS to all States , North and South, Black Communities wherever they may be and international finance, cooperation, scientific and intellectual institutions to give active and concrete support to the Goree-Almadies Memorial Project;**
- 5. REQUESTS the OAU Secretary-General in collaboration with the UNESCO Director-General to monitor the project and report to the Council periodically.**

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