



**ORGANIZATION OF  
AFRICAN UNITY**

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**Addis Ababa**

**ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE AND  
GOVERNMENT**

**Twenty-fourth Ordinary Session  
25-28 May, 1988  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

**AHG/Decl. 1 (XXIV)**

**AHG/Res. 174 – 177 (XXIV)**

**DECLARATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH  
ORDINARY SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF HEADS  
OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT**

**DECISION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT**  
**ON THE OFFER OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA TO HOST**  
**THE SECRETARIAT OF THE AFRICAN COMMISSION ON**  
**HUMAN AND PEOPLE'S RIGHTS**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in its Twenty-fourth Ordinary Session, from 25 to 28 May 1988,

Having examined the offer of the Republic of The Gambia to host the Secretariat of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights,

Recalling the vital contribution of The Gambia to the conception and elaboration of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights,

Recalling further that by virtue of this fact Banjul, the capital of The Gambia, has lent its name to the said Charter,

Recognizing the commitment of The Gambia to the respect and upholding of the Rule of Law and Human and Peoples' Rights:

1. WISHES to thank the Republic of The Gambia for its generous offer to host the Secretariat of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights;
2. DECIDES unanimously to site the Secretariat of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights in Banjul, The Gambia.

**RESOLUTION ON THE CHAD/LIBYA DISPUTE**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in its Twenty-fourth Ordinary Session, from 25 to 28 May 1988,

**Having heard** the report of the Chairman of the OAU Ad-Hoc Committee on the Chad/Libya dispute,

**Considering** the fundamental principles of the OAU Charter,

**Recalling** the relevant resolutions of the OAU Charter, on disputes between African States,

**Recalling further** the resolutions, decisions and recommendations of the OAU relating to the Chad/Libya dispute,

**Considering** decision AHG/Doc. 108 (XIV) on the establishment of the **Ad-Hoc** Committee on the Chad/Libya dispute,

**Considering** also Resolution AHG/Res. 158 (XXII) reactivating the said Committee,

**Taking note** of the commendable efforts deployed by their Excellencies, President Kenneth KAUNDA AND El Hadj Omar BONGO in the search for a just and final solution to the Chad/Libya dispute,

**Noting further** the good will manifested by the two parties, Chad and Libya, with a view to facilitating the settlement of their dispute:

1. ADOPTS the report of the Chairman of the OAU **Ad-Hoc** Committee on Chad/Libya dispute;
2. COMMENDS their Excellencies Presidents Kenneth KAUNDA and El Jadj Omar BONGO, Current Chairman of the OAU and Chairman of the OAU

Ad-Hoc Committee on Chad/Libya dispute respectively, for their exceptionally remarkable efforts made during the process of settling the Chad/Libya dispute;

3. **FURTHER COMMENDS** all Member States of the OAU Ad-Hoc Committee on Chad/Libya dispute for the excellent quality of the task they have accomplished;
4. **REITERATES** its full confidence in H.E. El Hadj OMAR BONGO, Chairman of the committee;
5. **RENEWS** the mandate of the Committee as initially constituted, and **REQUESTS** that it pursue its efforts in order to reach a political solution to the Chad/Libya dispute within the framework of the OAU by inter-alia:
  - a) establishing an atmosphere of confidence and encouraging dialogue by bringing the two parties to the conflict together;
  - b) normalization of relations between the two States particularly in the political diplomatic and cooperation fields and in mutual interests;
  - c) resumption and consolidation of cease-fire through the appropriate ways and means;
6. **EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** with the affirmed will of Chad and Libya for their willingness to seek a political solution to their dispute within the framework of the OAU and **INVITES** them to continue to cooperate closely with the Ad-Hoc Committee;
7. **REQUESTS** the Chairman of the Committee to submit a report on developments in this issue to the Twenty-fifth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government.

**RESOLUTION ON THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON  
AFRICA'S EXTERNAL INDEBTEDNESS**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in its Twenty-fourth Ordinary Session, from 25 to 28 May 1988,

**Recalling** the Declaration on Africa's External Debt Crisis, adopted at its Third Extra-Ordinary Session devoted on an indepth discussion of Africa's External Debt Crisis,

**Recalling further** its call for the convening of an International conference on Africa's External Indebtedness in 1988, to provide a forum for international creditors and African debtors to discuss Africa's External Debt with a view to engaging in a constructive dialogue and arriving at appropriate measures to alleviate Africa's debt problems,

**Having considered** the Report by His Excellency President Kenneth D. Kaunda out-going Chairman of the OAU, on the activities of the Contact Group which was established to assist in the mobilization of international support for the convening of an International Conference on Africa's External Indebtedness,

**Reiterating** its call for the convening of an International Conference on Africa's External Indebtedness, and **Recognizing** the need for careful preparations at both the technical and political levels in order to ensure success:

1. **EXPRESSES** its appreciation to His Excellency President Kenneth D. Kaunda, out-going Chairman of the OAU, for the able manner in which he discharged the duties entrusted to him by the Third Extra-ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, and for the efforts he deployed in securing international support for an International Conference on Africa's External Indebtedness;
2. **MANDATES** the current Chairman of the OAU to continue and intensify effort to mobilize international support with a view to the convening of the

International Conference at a most propitious time but not later than the end of 1989 and to that end, requests the Contact Group established for the purpose to continue to assist the Current Chairman in executing his mandate;

3. **EMPOWERS** the Current Chairman to decide, on the basis of contacts with the States concerned on the holding of an International Conference of Africa's External Debt;
4. **DECIDES** that the Contact Group should meet at Ministerial level in New York during the third week of September 1988, as proposed by the out-going Chairman, in order for its work to benefit from the discussion of the Report of the Advisory Group on Financial Flows for Africa, within the context of the Mid-term Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986 – 1990;
5. **REQUESTS** the Secretariat of the Organization of African Unity (OAU); the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA); the African Development Bank(ADB); and the African Centre for Monetary Studies (ACMS) to update the technical studies on Africa's External Debt, and based on the African Common Position on Africa's External Debt Crisis and on the results on the contact undertaken. to prepare a paper on the major issues for negotiation, highlighting new elements and the unique situation of Africa;
6. **REQUESTS** the Joint Secretariat to prepare a technical paper on a Common African Position, taking into account the observations and objections of creditor countries and institutions, for submission to the Contact Group, OAU Member States and creditor countries and institutions;
7. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Joint Secretariat to organize a seminar on the African Common Stand, to be attended by African Banking and financial Experts selected in their personal capacity;

- 8. INVITES the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to cooperate with the joint Secretariat of OAU, ECA, ADB, and ACMS in implementing paragraphs 5,6 and 7 of this Resolution.**

**RESOLUTION ON THE AFRICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN AND  
PEOPLES'RIGHT**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in its Twenty-fourth Ordinary Session, from 25 to 28 May 1988,

**Having taken cognizance of the Activity Report of the African Commission on Human and People's Rights (AHG/155 (XXIV),**

**Having heard the detailed introductory statement of Mr. Isaac Nguema, chairman of the Commission,**

**Reaffirming its commitment to freedom and human and peoples' rights as contained in the declarations, conventions and other instruments adopted by the Organization of African Unity, the Non-Aligned Movement and the United Nations Organization:**

1. **DECLARES ONCE AGAIN, on the occasion of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Organization of African Unity, its duty and determination to ensure the promotion and protection of human and peoples' rights in Africa;**
2. **STRONGLY URGES Member States that have not yet ratified the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights adopted in Nairobi by the Eighteenth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government (June 1981), to do so as soon as possible;**
3. **ADOPTS the report of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights;**
4. **APPROVES the Rules of Procedure of the Commission;**
5. **ENDORSES the recommendations of the Commission relating to:**
  - a) **the Headquarters of the Commission;**



- b) **the financial rules governing the function of the Commission;**
  - c) **periodic reports;**
6. **COMMENDS the Chairman and Members of the Commission for the excellent work done in so short a time;**
  7. **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION the determination of the Chairman and the Members of the Commission to work towards the achievement of the objectives of their Commission;**
  8. **EXPRESSES its great satisfaction to President Kenneth Kaunda and the OAU Secretary General for the measures they had taken in order to facilitate the creation and launching of the activities of the Commission.**

**RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THE SECRETARY-GENERAL  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS TO SET UP A HIGH-LEVEL  
COMMITTEE ON AFRICA'S COMMODITY PRICES**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in its Twenty-fourth Ordinary Session, from 25 to 28 May 1988,

**Recalling** Resolution CIAS/Plen. 2./Rev.2 of 22 to 25 May, 1963, expressing concern about its extreme dependence on the export of primary products as the main stay of the national economies on the continent and the fact that its export earning persistently continue to decline.

**Noting** that the problem of Africa's declining commodity prices and consequent low revenue continue to frustrate and negate all economic development efforts undertaken by the African countries in particular, their efforts to implement the UN-PAAERD,

**Noting further** the Resolution on Commodities, AHG/Res.162 (XXIII) adopted during the Twenty-third Ordinary Session which took place from 27 to 29 July, 1987 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia,

**Anxious** about the unfavorable international economic environment which continues to constrain Africa's capacity to finance its basic need and development and to service its debts.

**Reaffirming** our call in the African Common Positions on Africa's External Debt Crisis adopted by the Third Extra-ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 30 November to 1 December 1987, on the relationship between debt, resource flows, and Africa's export earning from commodities as well as other measures we proposed with respect to commodities,

**Appreciative** of the initiative taken by the Secretary General of the United Nations to constitute a group of eminent persons to examine and advise on the issue of resource flows to Africa:

**Inspired by the outcome of that initiative:**

- 1. WARMLY EXPRESS APPRECIATION to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for sharing Africa's concern on the debt issue within the context of resource flows to Africa;**
- 2. INVITE the Secretary-General of the United Nations to constitute a High Level Committee of Eminent persons with diverse background to consider the question of commodity prices within the context of Africa's implementation of the UN-PAAERD and its external debt crisis and to proffer recommendations;**
- 3. REQUESTS the Secretary-General of the OAU, to follow-up the matter and report to the Twenty-fifth Assembly of Heads of State and Government.**

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# Declarations and resolutions of the Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government

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