

**ORGANIZATION OF
AFRICAN UNITY**

Secretariat
P. O. Box 3243



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**ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE
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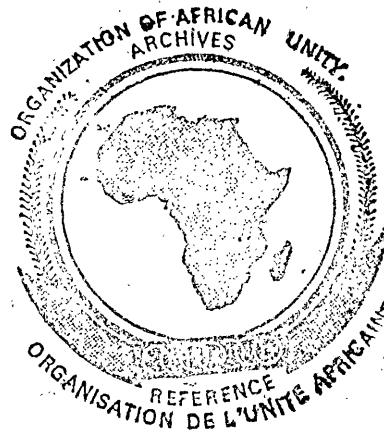
Addis Ababa * اديس ابابا

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
Twenty-Ninth Ordinary Session
Libreville, Gabon, 23 - 30 June, 1977

CM/832 (XXIX)

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PANAFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION

(PATU)



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ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PANAFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION(PATU)

1. In conformity with Resolution CM/Res.404 (XXIV) by which the Council of Ministers decided the Pan-African Telecommunications Union be established, the General Secretariat convened and serviced a Conference of Plenipotentiaries in Addis Ababa from 9 - 20 May 1977. Resolution CM/Res.404 (XXIV) is attached to this report as Annex I.
2. Prior to the Conference of Plenipotentiaries, two meetings had taken place which had direct relevance to the establishment of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union. These were the Second Conference of African Telecommunications Administrations and the Steering Committee on the Establishment of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union.
3. The Second Conference of African Telecommunications Administrations was held in Kinshasa from 3 - 16 December 1975. It was organized under the auspices of the Coordinating Committee for the Implementation of the PANAFTEL (OAU, ITU, ECA, ADB). The Kinshasa Conference, inter alia, considered the establishment of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union. The Conference had before it an OAU/ECA Draft Constitution of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union and other proposals on the institution to be established.
4. The Kinshasa Conference, after considering the question in-depth, decided to accept the decision of the Council contained in resolution CM/Res.404 (XXIV) to establish the Pan-African Telecommunications Union. To that end, the Conference set up a Steering Committee, composed of Guinea (Chairman), Kenya (Vice-Chairman), Algeria, Botswana, Congo, Ghana, Morocco, Central African Empire and Zaire (Secretary) in order to study all aspects of the operations of the Union and report to the Conference of Plenipotentiaries.
5. The Steering Committee met in Addis Ababa from 9 to 20 August 1976. The Committee had before it numerous working documents including OAU/ECA Draft Constitution for PATU, proposals and comments from Member States of the OAU, other Conventions of similar institutions and Resolution CM/Res.401 (XXIV) which is attached herewith as Annex II. After reviewing all the working documents, the Committee decided to adopt the OAU/ECA Draft Constitution for the Pan-African Telecommunications Union as the basic working paper and proceeded to elaborate a Draft Convention for PATU.

6. At the end of its work, the Steering Committee adopted a Draft Convention of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union which was subsequently sent to all Member States of the OAU. It then drew up a provisional agenda and set the date for the Conference of Plenipotentiaries.

7. These two meetings, thus, led up to the Conference of Plenipotentiaries which took place in Addis Ababa, 9 to 20 May 1977. Thirty-eight Member States of the OAU participated in the Conference.

8. The Report of the Rapporteur of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries is attached to this Report as Annex III. Appended to the Rapporteur's Report are the following:

- I. The Agenda of the Conference
- II. Rules of Procedure of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries
- III. Convention of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union
- IV. Opening Addresses
- V. Statements of the Republic of Zaire

9. The Convention of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union was signed or initialled by the Plenipotentiaries representing the following Member States of the OAU: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Cameroun, Cape Verde, Central African Empire, Chad, Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Upper Volta, Zambia.

OBSERVATIONS

10. It is to be noted that the question of the Seat of the Union became a controversial issue in spite of resolution CM/Res.401(XXIV). While the General Secretariat spared no effort to uphold this resolution both during the preliminary meetings and at the Conference of Plenipotentiaries, the issue became the subject of a resolution adopted by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries. In view of the sensitiveness of the matter and the decision made by the Conference, the Conference requested its Chairman, H.E. Mr. Emmanuel Tabi EGBE, Minister of State in charge of Posts and Telecommunications (Cameroun) to present the resolution personally to the Council of Ministers of the OAU.

11. It is to be noted further that a second resolution adopted by the ~~Conference of Plenipotentiaries~~ requested the ~~Administrative Secretary-General~~ of the OAU to re-convene the Conference within six months after the current OAU Summit. It is estimated that the meeting would last seven days.

12. The ~~Administrative Secretary-General~~ would, therefore, need to be granted authority to convene the Conference of Plenipotentiaries. Accordingly, the Council may wish to instruct the Advisory Committee on Financial and Budgetary Matters to authorize the ~~Administrative Secretary-General~~ to incur the amount required to convene the Conference.

RESOLUTION ON THE SEAT OF THE PAN-AFRICAN TELECOM-
MUNICATIONS UNION

The Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 9 - 20 May 1977,

Taking note of Resolution CM/Res.401(XXIV) of the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity (Addis Ababa, February 1975) deciding to set up the headquarters of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union at Kinshasa, Zaire, which resolution was endorsed by the Twelfth Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government in July 1975 at Kampala;

Mindful that the said decision was made before the creation of the Pan-African Telecommunication Union, the task on which we are at present engaged,

Having regard to the controversy aroused by the question of the Seat of the Union as evidenced by the statements of Member States at this meeting and as spelt out by the Report of the Steering Committee on the establishment of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union,

Considering that the Steering Committee on the establishment of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union has referred the question of the Seat of the Union to this Conference for consideration,

Aware that some other Member States have offered facilities for the Seat of the Union,

Convinced of the need to ensure an amicable and acceptable settlement of the controversy regarding the Seat of the Union among Member States,

1. DOES HEREBY resolve to refer this matter to the next session of the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity for review;
 2. REQUESTS the Chairman of the Conference to present the resolution personally to the Twenty-Ninth Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity.
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SPECIAL RESOLUTION ON THE CONVENTION
AND ON THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE CONFERENCE OF PLENIPOTENTIARIES
ON THE PAN-AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION

The Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union, meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 9-20 May 1977,

Having elaborated the Convention and the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union;

Mindful that the said Convention and Rules of Procedure are to be submitted to the Council of Ministers and the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity;

1. DECIDES:

- a) to adopt the Convention and the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union;
- b) that the said Convention be initialled by all the Member States present at the Conference;

2. REQUESTS the Chairman of the Conference to present the Convention and the Rules of Procedure to the 29th Session of the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity;

3. RECOMMENDS that the Conference of Plenipotentiaries be reconvened by the Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU within six months after the 14th Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, in order to complete the establishment of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union.

CM/832(XXIX)

Annex I

CM/Res. 40(XXIV)

RESOLUTION ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PAN-AFRICAN
TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa from 13 to 21 February 1975,

Having considered the report of the Administrative Secretary-General as presented in document CM/638(XXIV),

Noting the report of the Co-ordinating Committee on its activities,

Encouraged by the progress made in the implementation of the Pan-African Telecommunications Network,

Aware of the need for continued co-operation of Member States with the Co-ordinating Committee for the harmonious development of the Network,

Mindful of the desirability of a permanent machinery for consultations among African States to ensure an orderly development and operation of regional telecommunications services,

Nothing further the draft constitution for a Pan-African Telecommunications Union as such a permanent machinery,

1. **EXPRESSES** its appreciation to the Co-ordinating Committee on the report on the implementation of the Pan-African Telecommunications Network;

2. DECIDES to forward to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government for their consideration the report of the Co-ordinating Committee on its activities;
3. WELCOMES the progress so far achieved in the implementation of the Pan-African Telecommunications Network;
4. URGES all Member States to give maximum co-operation to the Co-ordinating Committee to ensure a harmonious development of the Network;
5. APPROVES the establishment of the proposed Pan-African Telecommunications Union;
6. INVITES the Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU to convene before the end of 1975 the constituent conference of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union;
7. REQUESTS the Administrative Secretary-General to report to the Council of Ministers on the future progress of the Implementation of the Pan-African Telecommunications Network and the establishment of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union.

Resolution on the Headquarters of the Pan-African
Telecommunications Union

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its 24th Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 13 to 21 February 1975,

Having heard the statement made by the representative of the Republic of Zaire;

Taking note of the facilities and privileges which the Republic of Zaire will accord and its willingness to contribute to the development of Pan-African telecommunications system;

1. DECIDES that the Headquarters of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union be based in Kinshasa,
2. WARMLY congratulates the Executive Council of Zaire for its co-operation and for the facilities offered in regard to the establishment of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union in Kinshasa.

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
Twenty-Ninth Ordinary Session
Libreville, Gabon, 23 - 30 June, 1977

CM/832 (XXIX)
Annex III

REPORT OF THE RAPPORTEUR OF THE CONFERENCE OF
PLENIPOTENTIARIES OF THE PANAFRICAN
TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION

RAPPORTEUR'S REPORTI. OPENING CEREMONY

1. The Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union took place in Addis Ababa from 9 - 20 May 1977.
2. The inaugural session of the Conference was held in the afternoon of 9 May 1977. The Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU, H.E. Mr. William Eteki Mboumoua conducted the Ceremonial Opening.
3. The following countries and organizations attended the Conference: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroun, Cape Verde, Central African Empire, Chad, Congo, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Upper Volta, Zaire, Zambia.
4. Serviced by the General Secretariat of the Organization of African Unity, the Conference was also attended by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).
5. H.E. Ato Yusuf Ahmed, Minister of Transport and Communications delivered the opening statement. Opening statements were also made by H.E. Mr. William Eteki Mboumoua, Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU and Mr. David Ganao, Deputy Executive Secretary of the ECA. The full texts of those statements are attached to this report as Attachments IV(a), (b), and (c) respectively.
6. On behalf of the Plenipotentiaries, the Heads of Delegations of Libya, Nigeria, and the Central African Empire made statements in response to the statements made by the Minister of Ethiopia, the Administrative Secretary-General of OAU and Deputy Executive Secretary of ECA.

II. ELECTION OF THE BUREAU

7. Following the Ceremonial Opening, the Conference elected the Bureau of the Conference, composed of the following members:

Chairman: Cameroon
Vice-Chairmen: 1. Algeria
 2. Niger
 3. Kenya
Rapporteur: Botswana

8. The meeting then adjourned for the day.

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

9. The Conference resumed its work on 10 May 1977 at 10.00 a.m. At the opening of the session, the Chairman informed the meeting of the arrival of Mr. Mohamed Mili, Secretary-General of the ITU and called upon him to deliver his statement. The full text of the statement is attached to this report as Attachment IV (d).

10. The Chairman then called upon the Conference to consider and adopt the provisional agenda. The provisional agenda, containing 21 items, was unanimously adopted. The agenda is attached to this report as Attachment I.

IV. ORGANISATION OF THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

11. The Conference decided to adopt the following working hours:

Mornings: 10.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.
Afternoons: 3.30 p.m. - 6.30 p.m.

12. The Conference then elected a ten-member Drafting Committee, composed as follows: Nigeria, Upper Volta, Lesotho, Mozambique, Central African Empire, Congo, Uganda, Ethiopia, Egypt and Libya. The Rapporteur was to chair all the meetings of the Drafting Committee.

V. ITEM 5 DRAFT RULES OF PROCEDURE

13. The Conference then took up agenda item (5) dealing with the Draft Rules of Procedure of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union.

14. The Draft Rules of Procedure of the Plenipotentiary Conference of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union had embodied 38 Rules under various headings. In considering these Rules, the Conference made various amendments and decisions, notably:

- a) Throughout the Document the terminology "Conference of Plenipotentiaries" should be used instead of "Plenipotentiary Conference".
- b) The terminology "Ministers responsible for Communications" was amended to read "Ministers responsible for Telecommunications" wherever it appears.
- c) Rule 2 of the draft dealing with the results of the deliberation of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries was deleted in view of the fact that PATU, being a Specialized Agency of the OAU, would naturally use the normal channels to make known its decisions to the policy-making bodies of the OAU.
- d) Discussions on Rules 6 and 7 dealing with the Sessions of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries was suspended until the Convention was adopted in view of the fact that the provisions of these rules would reflect the adoption of the relevant part of the Convention on the Sessions of PATU.
- e) In Rule 9, dealing with working languages, the Conference adopted the usages of the working languages of the OAU.
- f) In Rule 16, dealing with the agenda, the Conference decided that the agenda should be circulated 60 days instead of 30 days, before the opening of ordinary session.

- g) In Rule 17, it was decided to add additional points on the basis of Rules 16 and 17 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council of Ministers of the OAU.
- h) With regard to Rule 37, it was adopted with the provision that it would be re-examined in relation to technical bodies provided for in the Convention.
15. All the other Rules were adopted with minor amendments. The Conference then decided to adopt the Rules as a whole when the Convention had been adopted in view of those Rules that were held over for consideration.
16. The meeting then proceeded to consider the Report of the Steering Committee. Accordingly, the Chairman gave the floor to the Chairman of the Steering Committee, Mr. Bobo Camara of Guinea, the Chairman of the Steering Committee then introduced in extenso the activities which the Steering Committee had undertaken in preparing the Draft Convention of PATU on the basis of the draft prepared by OAU and ECA as well as other relevant information.
17. The Chairman thanked the Members of the Steering Committee for the work well done.
18. The Meeting was then adjourned until 10.00 a.m. on 12 May 1977.

VI. CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE CONVENTION OF THE
PAN-AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION (PATU/SC.2(I)Rev.1)
(AGENDA ITEM NO.6)

19. Opening the debate on this item, the Chairman stressed the importance of the Draft Convention. He went on to call on the Conference to avoid time-consuming tactics and pleaded for pertinent observations only, to save time.
20. A delegate from Senegal reaffirmed the Chairman's words by adding that his delegation attached great importance to the establishment of the Union. He however pointed out that telecommunication activities were closely related to postal services. In most African countries both telecommunications and postal services were placed under one ministry for proper co-ordination of

communication activities, he added. He therefore suggested to the Conference that it would be much wise to amalgamate the two services in a union taking into consideration existing schedules on the Continent. He concluded by saying that such wise move would have a little adverse effect on our already shattered economies as Member States have to contribute to the budget after all.

21. The delegate of Ghana reminded the Conference that there already existed in Africa an African Postal Union responsible for postal harmonization on the Continent.

22. At this juncture, the Secretariat informed the Conference that the Secretariat of the African Postal Union had in fact already communicated to the OAU its desire to become a specialized agency of the OAU in the field of Postal Services.

23. The delegate of Nigeria introduced a 'somehow' compromised proposal. He suggested that, though his delegation fully supported the creation of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union, it would however like to see that the two African Postal Unions presently in existence should come together to form a greater union in the field of postal services. He ended by making reference to ITU and UPU, which exist as separate entities in their respective domains.

24. The delegate of Guinea made it clear that his delegation was not in principle against Senegal's proposal, but that the 'marriage' was in fact not appropriate. He added that telecommunications and postal services were not the same and did not perform the same services. He made references to AFCAC, an OAU specialized agency in the field of Civil Aviation, and the UAR, an OAU specialized agency in the field of railroad services as well as URTNA and the Arab Telecommunications Union. He ended by calling the Conference's attention to Article 20 of the Convention, which outlined the relationship between PATU and other related international agencies.

25. The Minister from the Central African Empire informed the Assembly that his Government had regretfully recalled him, though he intended to participate fully in the debate before his departure on 15/5/77 due to the importance of the item under discussion. He supported Senegal's proposal that only one Union

should be created to cater for the needs of telecommunications and postal services. He further requested that the full text of his speech should be included in the report.

26. The delegate of Libya made it clear that the Conference should understand that telecommunications and postal services were quite different, and that any attempt to blend them together into a Union would make their services ineffective. His delegation therefore supported wholeheartedly the establishment of a telecommunications union as a separate entity at all costs.

27. The delegate of Lesotho, while commending Senegal for its wise proposal, added that such a proposal came too late. Taking into account the amount of groundwork already accomplished, he did not think it feasible to go back and draft a new Convention and start negotiating all over again. In fact this would mean that delegates had to go back to their various countries to receive new mandates from their respective Governments, he contended. He concluded by saying that perhaps at the end of the Conference a resolution should be passed to take into account proposals made by Senegal and seconded by the Central African Empire.

28. The Congolese delegate said that his delegation firmly believed in the speeding up of development of the Continent but thought that Senegal's proposal was appropriate. He, therefore, supported the proposal made by Senegal and seconded by the Central African Empire. He requested that that proposal be recorded in the summary records of the Conference.

29. At this juncture, the Chairman declared that it looked as if the consensus was in favour of the creation of the Union as a separate entity and suggested that the house move to examine the Draft Convention.

30. The delegate of Upper Volta protested and expressed regret at the quick decision which the Chairman has taken. He said his delegation fully supported Senegal's proposal both in terms of savings and efficiency.

31. The delegate of Botswana moved that the house should move straight to the examination of the Draft Convention since the Chairman had already closed the debate.

32. The delegate of Ivory Coast said he was not in favour of the proposal made by Botswana, as most delegates had not been given the chance by the Chair to express their opinions.

33. At this juncture, the Chairman suggested that the house should vote on Botswana's proposal, "That the Conference proceed to the examination of the Draft Convention".

| | | |
|-----------|---|----|
| In favour | - | 25 |
| Against | - | 10 |

34. The Conference thus decided to proceed to the examination of the Draft Convention, and immediately took up the Preamble.

35. The delegate of Senegal made it clear that his delegation was in no way against the discussion of the Convention, and requested that his position be recorded.

36. The delegation of Lesotho proposed that the substance should be examined first, and then the editorial details.

37. On the preamble, the delegate of Guinea proposed the following amendment:

"CONSIDERING THE URGENT NEED TO DECOLONIZE TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK".

38. The delegation of Gabon in its turn proposed the following preambular paragraph:

"MINDFUL OF EXISTING PRINCIPLES OF THE ITU"

39. The delegation of Ivory Coast proposed an amendment to Guinea's amendment, to make it read as follows:

"CONSIDERING THE URGENT NEED TO DECOLONIZE TELECOMMUNICATIONS IN AFRICA".

40. The Chairman then put to the vote Guinea's amendment, as amended by the Ivory Coast, with the following results:

| | | |
|-------------|---|----|
| In favour | - | 25 |
| Against | - | 2 |
| Abstentions | - | 8 |

41. The Chairman then put to the vote the proposal of Gabon with the following results:

| | | |
|------------|---|----|
| In favour | - | 12 |
| Against | - | 18 |
| Abstention | - | 5 |

Gabon's proposal was thus rejected.

42. After several amendments and proposals, the Conference decided that the preamble should conclude with, "HEREBY AGREES AS FOLLOWS".

43. On Article 4, providing for the Seat of the Union, the Secretariat drew the attention of the Conference to two relevant resolutions of the Council of Ministers, which had subsequently been endorsed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government. By resolution CM/Res.401 (XXIV), the Secretariat explained, the Council decided that the Seat of the Union, when the Union was eventually established, should be in Kinshasa, Zaire, while by resolution CM/res.404(XXIV) the Council decided that the Union should be established.

44. The delegation of Chad asked the Secretariat to give the reference number confirming that the Assembly of Heads of State and Government had endorsed Resolution CM/Res.401(XXIV) at the 12th Summit in Kampala in July 1975.

45. In reply, the Secretariat explained that resolutions of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government only bore Assembly reference numbers if the relevant subjects had been originally debated by the Assembly. Where resolutions were sent from the Council of Ministers for the approval of the Assembly, such resolutions retained their Council of Ministers reference numbers even after they had been approved by the Assembly.

46. The delegate of Lesotho suggested that the question of locating the Headquarters of the Union was so important that his delegation felt that it should be placed on the agenda of the Conference as a separate item. Lesotho's proposal was seconded by Botswana and Ivory Coast.

47. The Chairman suggested that the question of the Seat be referred back to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government in the form of an appeal.

48. The delegate of the Central African Empire requested the Secretariat to produce the minutes of the appropriate Summit endorsing the Council of Ministers' decision that the Seat of the Union be located in Kinshasa. The Secretariat promised to do so as soon as possible.

49. The delegation of Uganda dissociated itself from any move to alter the decision of the Heads of State, and requested that its position be recorded. It went on to observe that the Conference of Plenipotentiaries was not competent to refer the decision of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government back to the Assembly.

50. Rwanda expressed the belief that there was no use of debating the matter, as the decision of the Council of Ministers, as endorsed by the Heads of State, was clear-cut.

51. The delegation of Ghana read a Resolution on the question of the siting of the Headquarters of the Union, passed by the West African Sub-Regional Meeting on Telecommunications Administrations in Lomé in March 1977. The Resolution requested the OAU Heads of State to consider their decision endorsing Resolution CM/Res.401(XXIV) and suggested that the OAU Secretariat provide temporary headquarters for the Union.

52. The delegate of the Ivory Coast stressed the importance of the Resolution passed in Lomé by the West African Group, and suggested that any decision taken by the Conference should take the resolution into account.

53. Some delegates suggested that the Chairman close the debate till the next day, to enable the Lomé resolution to be circulated by the Secretariat.

54. At the request of a number of delegations, the Secretariat gave additional explanations on the implications of the decisions of the Council of Ministers as reflected in resolutions CM/Res.401(XXIV) and CM/Res.404(XXIV). The Secretariat explained that it was not accurate to say that the Council's decision to locate the Headquarters in Kinshasa was putting the cart before the horse, because, during the same session at which the Council made the decision on the location of the Seat of the Union, the Council also decided that PATU should be established. The Council's decision on the location of the Headquarters of the Union was, therefore, properly made. Whether or not the Conference could question the Council's decision, which had been endorsed by the Assembly of Heads of State, the Secretariat could not say, because such a situation had never arisen before in the history of the OAU.

55. The delegate of Zaire, while asking the Chairman to close the debate, requested that his delegation be afforded opportunity to make a statement on the matter the next day.

56. The Chairman then put the matter to the vote, with the following results:

| | | |
|---|---|----|
| For referring the matter to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government | - | 25 |
| Against | - | 6 |
| Abstentions | - | 4 |

57. The Conference thus decided to refer the question of the location of the Headquarters of the Union to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government. The Drafting Committee was charged with drafting a resolution conveying the Conference's decision.

58. The delegation of the Upper Volta explained, and requested that it be recorded that the decision to refer the matter to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government did not imply that the Conference of Plenipotentiaries intended to question the decision of the Summit or any hostility intended to the Member State concerned.

59. The Chairman, in closing the debate on the matter, appealed to those Member States which were interested in hosting the Headquarters of the Union to advise the OAU General Secretariat, adding that Angola and Zambia had already done so.

60. The meeting then adjourned until 10.00 a.m. the next day.

61. When the debate on the Convention resumed, the Chairman reminded the Conference of the heavy programme before it and pleaded for speed in the work.

62. The delegation of Zaire, which was the first to speak, referred to the previous day's debate and protested vehemently to the Chair on the way the decision was taken to refer the question of location of the Headquarters of the Union to the next OAU Summit. He charged the Secretariat with being partial and hostile to his country as the OAU Heads of State and Government had in Resolution CM/Res.401(XXIV) decided to locate the Union's Headquarters in Zaire.

He requested that an item be placed on the agenda of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government on the matter. He concluded by charging that the OAU Secretariat had failed to do its work, since it had not provided the Conference with all relevant informational material. The full text of the statement is attached hereto as Attachment V (a).

63. In response to the statement of the delegation of Zaire, the Assistant Secretary-General in Charge of Economic and Social Affairs explained that the Secretariat did not take part in the debate, but did its best to assist the Conference by making available to it the information which it needed to be able to arrive at a decision. The Secretariat did not, therefore, accept responsibility for the decision which the Conference had taken, he said. He concluded by saying that, if the matter was inscribed on the agenda of the next OAU Summit, the Secretariat would simply play the tape on which the discussion on Article 4 was recorded, since the proceedings of the Conference were being taped. (Also see paragraph 71 below)

64. The Conference then moved to consider Article 5 of the Draft Convention.

65. Nigeria proposed that Article 5(a) be amended to read:

"To maintain and extend African Co-operation among Member States for the improvement and rational use of telecommunications networks and services". The amendment was accepted.

66. Article 5(b) was also amended to read, "To promote the standardization and co-ordination of telecommunications networks among Member States of the Union". One delegate proposed that paragraphs (c) and (d) of Article 5 be reworded and combined into one paragraph. Thus, the delegation of the Ivory Coast proposed the following amendment which was accepted:

"To seek to harmonize tariff structures between Member States with a view to the establishment of tariffs compatible to good services and independent financial management of telecommunications".

67. Other subsequent paragraphs under Article 5 were amended as follows:

- (g) To harmonize, as far as possible, the position of Member States of the Union during international meetings affecting telecommunications in accordance with OAU practice;
- (h) To publish information and research materials relating to telecommunications for the benefit of all Member States of the Union and to encourage the exchange of information and staff between the administrations of the Member States.
- (i) To take, on the request of Member States, all appropriate measures to find funding sources for surveys and implementation of telecommunication projects.
- (j) To encourage and assist Member States in the establishment and development of telecommunications industries.

Article 6

68. The delegate of Cape Verde proposed that Organs of the Union be classified as follows:-

(a) Permanent Organs

1. The Conference of Plenipotentiaries
2. The Administrative Council and
3. The General Secretariat.

(b) Non-Permanent Organs

Administrative and
Technical Conferences

His proposal was accepted unanimously.

Article 7

69. Sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph 1 of Article 7 was amended to read as follows:

"It shall convene in an Ordinary Session every four years. At the request of a Member State, subject to the agreement of two thirds of Member States, the Conference shall meet in an extraordinary session".

Paragraph 2(a) was amended to read as follows:

"Review the Convention if it feels this to be necessary."

Other paragraphs were amended to read as follows:

- 2(b) - determine the general policy which the Union must follow in order to achieve the objectives laid down in Article 5 of the present Convention;
 - 2(c) - examine and approve the programme of activities and the accounts of the Union and determine the ceiling of 4 years budget until the next Conference of Plenipotentiaries;
 - 2(e) - decide the scale of assessment of Member States;
 - 2(f) - establish the structure of the General Secretariat and elect the Secretary-General and the Assistant Secretary-General of the Union, and fix their salaries and other conditions of service;
 - 2(i) - adopt, at the conclusion of its sessions, a report addressed to all Member States as well as to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (OAU).
- 2(d) was deleted, while 2(g), 2(h), 2(i), 2(k), 2(l), 2(m) were passed without any amendment.

Article 8 - Administrative Council

70. The debate on Article 8 concentrated mostly on two issues: eligibility of the members of the Administrative Council for re-election and the size of the Council. After a long debate, the Conference decided that:

- a) The members of the Council should serve for 4 years and be eligible for re-election; and
- b) The Council should consist of 13 members, distributed as follows among the 5 sub-regions of Africa:

| | | |
|--------------|---|--------------|
| West Africa | - | 4 seats |
| North Africa | - | 2 seats |
| East " | - | 2 seats |
| Southern " | - | 2 seats; and |
| Central " | - | 3 seats |

71. Before the Conference took a final position on Article 8, the Chairman interrupted the debate and invited the OAU Legal Adviser to advise the Conference on the elections of the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General. On learning, in the course of his appearance before the Conference, that the Conference had not completed Article 4 in spite of resolution CM/Res.401 (XXIV), the Legal Adviser advised the Conference that, since the resolution had been endorsed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, it would be illegal and improper for the Conference not to comply with that resolution, unless the Conference had new evidence which would have led the Assembly to decide differently on the matter, had that evidence been presented to it.

Article 9

72. Paragraph 7(a) of this Article was deleted.

Article 10

73. A new Article 10, proposed by the Ivory Coast was adopted by the Conference.

Article 11 - Finances of the Union

74. Paragraph 2(c) of this Article was reworded to read as follows:

"Each Member State to pay in accordance with the Scale of Assessment approved by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries".

Article 12 -- Legal Status of the Union

75. Paragraph 3 was amended to read "Immunities accorded in place of ... immunities recognized".

Article 13

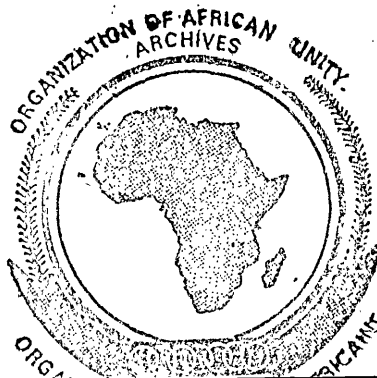
76. A new sentence was added to read as follows: "Nothing in this Convention shall affect the rights of Member States of the Union to develop and regulate their telecommunications networks and services".

Articles 14, 15, 16 and 17

77. After a brief discussions of these Articles, the Conference accepted their texts with minor amendments.

Articles 18 - 27

78. Accepted with minor amendment.



Article 28

79. The following new text was substituted for the original one:

- (b) for three consecutive years fails to pay its financial obligations,
- (c) fails to respect the decisions of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries which are binding on all Member States.

Article 29 - Application of Provisions of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU)

80. The text was improved to read as follows:

- (a) The Pan-African Telecommunications Union shall act in accordance with the relevant provisions of the ITU Convention in force, and in particular, those articles referring to the setting up of regional organizations,
- (b) reference should be made to the ITU Convention and its appendices regarding all matters not mentioned in this Convention.

The proposals were accepted.

Agenda Item No. 7 - Administrative and Financial Arrangements

81. A representative of the General Secretariat introduced the document on this item.

82. The delegate from Congo proposed that the House should first of all consider the Structure of the Secretariat — number of Departments and personnel, etc. This proposal was accepted after a lengthy exchange of views. The Chairman set up a Committee headed by Cameroon to study the Structure of the Secretariat and the draft budget prepared by the OAU Secretariat Doc. PATU/PL/WP/4 part I, with a view of recommending to the Conference a minimum budget for one year.

83. The Committee proposed:

- a) An annual budget of US\$700,000.
- b) Besides the Office of the Secretary-General and the Assistant Secretary-General, the following three departments:
 - i) Administrative and Finance Department,
 - ii) Technical Department,
 - iii) Technical Co-operation and Operations Department.

84. After a long debate, which concentrated on the financial resources of the Union, a consensus was reached on the following budgetary provisions:

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| (a) for first year | US\$300,000 |
| (b) for second year..... | 500,000 |
| (c) for third year | 600,000 |
| (d) for fourth year | 800,000 |

Items 8 & 9 - Election of the Secretary-General and
the Assistant Secretary-General

85. The delegate of Rwanda stated that he could not see the practicability of having the elections at this stage, as the Convention has not been signed. He added that if elections took place, his delegation would request the Chair to reopen certain issues on which the Conference had taken decisions especially the question of location of the Seat of the Union, which the Conference had decided to refer to the next OAU Summit.

86. The delegate of Cameroon observed that there was not sufficient evidence in legal terms that the Convention had been adopted or signed. He suggested, therefore, that decisions on these two items on the agenda be postponed until after the Summit will have taken a decision on the Seat of the Union. The position of Cameroon was supported by many other delegations.

87. The delegate of Ghana, however, disagreed with this position, arguing that the OAU Charter did not mention the Seat of the Organization. He made reference to other organizations, like the UN and OCAM, which have similarly not referred to their Seat in their charters.

88. Zambia, Liberia, Libya and Lesotho supported Ghana and demanded that elections proceed.

89. The Conference, however, accepted a compromise proposal by the Chairman, that a resolution be passed requesting that the Conference re-convene within six months after the 14th Ordinary Session of the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government for the purpose of completing its work. In the circumstances, the Chairman further suggested and the Conference agreed, that elections of the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General would be postponed to the resumed proceedings of the Conference.

90. The Conference unanimously agreed to defer this item to its resumed sessions, as agreed at paragraph 89 above. Nevertheless, the following nominations were received:-

| | | |
|--------------|---|----------------|
| South Africa | - | 1. Botswana |
| | | 2. Lesotho |
| East Africa | - | 1. Kenya |
| | | 2. Ethiopia |
| West Africa | - | 1. Nigeria |
| | | 2. Cape-Verde |
| | | 3. Ivory Coast |
| | | 4. Senegal |
| North Africa | - | 1. Egypt |
| | | 2. Libya |
| | | 3. Algeria |

Except for the North-African nominees, all other candidates were unanimously proposed by the sub-regions concerned.

91. The delegate of Ethiopia suggested that the Conference of Plenipotentiaries should establish a Credentials Committee to examine all the credentials whether they are valid and report back to the Conference of Plenipotentiaries. Though many delegates supported the suggestion, the Conference took no definite decision on it.

92. The Conference then requested the Drafting Committee to draft a resolution covering the following points of consensus:

- a) that the Conference had decided to establish the Pan-African Telecommunications Union,
- b) that the Convention should be initialled by all the delegates, and
- c) that the Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU should convene a Conference of Plenipotentiaries within six months after the Fourteenth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, by which time the Assembly would have given guidance on the questions of the Seat of the Union.

93. The delegation of Zaire made a statement announcing the withdrawal of Zaire's candidacy for the Seat of the Union, as well as a resolution they had proposed on the matter and the request that the matter be inscribed on the Agenda of the 14th OAU Summit.

94. In response, various delegations expressed the view that it was not up to the Conference to accept or reject the withdrawal of Zaire's candidacy.

95. At the request of the delegation of Zaire, its statement is attached hereto in its entirety as Attachment V (b).

96. The Conference then went on to discuss a draft resolution on the Seat of the Union whereby the matter was referred to the Council of Ministers of the OAU taking into account resolution CM/Res.401 (XXIV). The Conference adopted the resolution unanimously. The delegation of Zaire entered its reservation on this resolution.

REPORT OF THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON PANAFTEL:

97. The Conference then received a progress report of the Co-ordinating Committee on the Pan-African Telecommunications Network (PANAFTEL), (Doc. CM/829 (XXIX)).

98. The representative of ITU requested all delegates to provide the ITU with any observations on the report in order to up-date the annexes containing the various stages of the implementation and financing of the project.

99. The Conference noted the report and then adjourned for the day.

100. The Conference resumed its Session on 20 May 1977, at 11.30 a.m. It had before it two draft resolutions:

- a) Resolution on the Convention and the Rules of Procedure of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union, and
- b) Motion of thanks.

101. Minor amendments were made on the two resolutions, after which they were adopted unanimously.

102. The Conference then adjourned to resume its work in the afternoon.

CLOSING SESSION

103. In closing the proceedings of this part of the Conference's Session, the Chairman made a statement in which he assessed the Conference's achievements.

RESOLUTIONS

104. The resolutions adopted by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries are presented hereunder:

PATU/PL/Res.1

PATU/PL/Res.2

ATTACHMENTS

105. The following are attached to this report:

- I. The Agenda of the Conference
 - II. Rules of Procedure of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries
 - III. Convention of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union
 - IV. Opening addresses by the Minister of Transport and Communications of Socialist Ethiopia, Administrative Secretary-General of OAU, Deputy Executive Secretary of ECA, and Secretary-General of ITU.
 - V. Statements by the Republic of Zaire.
-

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Twenty-Ninth Ordinary Session

23-30 June, 1977

Libreville, Gabon.

CM/832 (XXIX)

Annex III

ATTACHMENT I to V

PANAFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION
Conference of Plenipotentiaries
Addis Ababa, 9 - 20 May 1977

CM/832(XXIX)
Annex III
Attachment I

A G E N D A

1. Opening of the Conference
2. Election of the Bureau
3. Adoption of the Agenda (PATU/PL/WP/1)
4. Organization and Method of Work
5. Adoption of Rules of Procedure for the Conference (PATU/PL/WP/2)
6. Report of the Steering Committee on the Pan-African Telecommunications Union (PATU/SC/RPT.1(I))
7. Consideration and Adoption of the Convention of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union (PATU/SC.2(I) Rev.1)
8. Provisional Administrative and Financial Arrangements (PATU/PL/WP/4)
9. Election of the Secretary-General of the Union (PATU/PL/WP/5)
10. Election of the Assistant Secretary-General of the Union (PATU/PL/WP/6)
11. Election of the Members of the Administrative Council (PATU/PL/INF(I))
12. Date of Appointment of the Secretary-General and Assistant Secretary-General
13. Progress Report on PANAFTEL by the Co-ordinating Committee (PATU/PL/WP/3)
14. Date and duration of First Administrative Council
15. Date and Venue of the next Plenipotentiary Conference
16. Consideration of new Proposals by Member States
17. Preparation for the next Plenipotentiary Conference of the ITU - 1980
18. Any other business
19. Adoption of the Report of the Rapporteur
20. Signing Ceremony of the Convention
21. Closing Session.

GM/832 (XXIX)
Annex III
Attachment II

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE CONFERENCE OF PLENIPOTENTIARIES
OF THE PAN-AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE CONFERENCE OF PLENIPOTENTIARIES
OF THE PAN-AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION

COMPOSITION

Rule 1

The Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union is composed of Ministers responsible for telecommunication matters or other Ministers of Plenipotentiaries designated by the Government of Member States.

REPRESENTATION

Rule 2

The Government of each Member State shall be represented in the Conference of Plenipotentiaries by a delegation led by its Minister responsible for telecommunications or by any other Minister or Plenipotentiary designated by that Member State.

Rule 3

In advance of each Conference of Plenipotentiaries, the Government of each Member State shall communicate the names of its duly accredited delegates through the Secretary-General of the Union.

ORDER OF SEATING

Rule 4

Delegations shall be seated in the alphabetical order of the names of the countries represented.

ORDINARY SESSIONS

Rule 5

The Conference shall meet in Ordinary Session once every four years.

EXTRA-ORDINARY SESSIONS

Rule 6

At the request of a Member State, and with the concurrence of two-thirds of the Member States, the Conference shall meet in extraordinary session.

PLACE OF MEETING

Rule 7

The meeting of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries shall be held at the seat of the Union unless the Government of a Member State invites the Conference to meet in its territory in which event any additional expenses over and above the expenses which would result from holding the meetings at Headquarters will be borne by the inviting Member State.

WORKING LANGUAGES

Rule 8

The working languages of the Union shall be those of the Organization of African Unity.

INAUGURATION OF THE CONFERENCE

Rule 9

The inaugural meeting of the Conference shall be preceded by a meeting of the Heads of Delegations to consult on the agenda.

Rule 10

The Heads of Delegations shall appoint a Chairman to conduct the meeting of the Heads of Delegations.

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MEETINGS

Rule 11

All meetings of the Conference shall be held in private with the exception of the formal opening and closing. However, the Conference may decide by a simple majority to conduct its proceedings in public.

CHAIRMANSHIP, ELECTION AND TERM OF OFFICE

Rule 12

The Conference of Plenipotentiaries shall, at the commencement of each Ordinary Session, elect by a simple majority a Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur whose terms of Office shall terminate at the commencement of the next Ordinary Session. These officers shall not be eligible for re-election until the representatives of other Member States have held Office. The Conference may, however, decide by a simple majority vote to waive this restriction.

Rule 13

The Chairman shall open and close meetings, submit for approval of the Conference the records of the meetings, direct the debates, grant the use of the floor, submit to a vote matters under discussion, announce the results of votes, and rule on points of order, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure.

VACANCY OR ABSENCE

Rule 14

In case of a vacancy or absence of the Chairman, one of the Vice-Chairmen shall act in his place. If neither the Chairman nor any of the Vice-Chairman is present, the Conference shall elect a Chairman ad interim.

A G E N D A

Rule 15

The provisional agenda shall be drawn up by the Secretary-General and communicated to Member States at least sixty days before the opening of the Ordinary Session.

Rule 16

The provisional agenda of an Ordinary Session shall comprise, in particular:

- (a) the report of the Secretary-General;
- (b) items proposed by the Administrative Council;
- (c) items which the Conference will have decided at a preceding meeting to place on its agenda;
- (d) report of the Administrative Council;
- (e) Election of the Secretary-General, the Assistant Secretary-General and the members of the Administrative Council of the Union;
- (f) items proposed by Member States;
- (g) items referred to it by the OAU;
- (h) place and date of next Ordinary Session;
- (i) any other business.

Rule 17

The agenda of an extraordinary session convened by the Secretary-General at the request of a Member State, provided this request has been approved by the required two-thirds majority, shall be communicated by the Secretary-General to Member States at least fifteen days before the opening of the session.

Rule 18

The agenda of an extraordinary session shall comprise only items submitted for consideration in the request for convening the extraordinary session.

Rule 19

A quorum shall be made up of two-thirds of the Member States of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union.

Rule 20

No representative shall have the floor without the consent of the Chairman. The Chairman shall grant the use of the floor in the order in which it has been requested. He can call to order any representatives whose statement is not relevant to the matter under discussion.

Rule 21

During the course of a debate, the Chairman may make and announce the list of speakers and with the consent of the meeting, declare the list closed. The Chairman may, however, accord the right of reply to any representative if, in his opinion, a speech delivered after he has declared the list closed makes this desirable.

POINTS OF ORDER

Rule 22

(a) During the debate, a representative may raise a point of order and the point of order shall be immediately decided by the Chairman, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure. A representative may appeal against the ruling of the Chairman. The appeal shall immediately be put to the vote and decided by simple majority of members present and voting.

(c) A representative may not, in raising a point of order, speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

THE LIMIT

Rule 23

The Chairman with the consent of the Conference may limit the time allowed to each speaker on any question. On procedural questions, the Chairman shall limit each intervention to a maximum of five minutes. When debate is limited and a representative exceeds his allotted time, the Chairman shall call him to order without delay.

CLOSURE OF DEBATE

Rule 24

When a matter has been sufficiently discussed, any representative may move the closure of the debate. Two representatives may speak in favour of the motion and two against the motion, after which the motion shall be considered and approved if it has a simple majority of members present and voting in its favour. When the debate on an item is concluded because there are no other speakers, the Chairman shall declare the debate closed.

ADJOURNMENT OF DEBATE

Rule 25

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move the adjourn of the debate on the item under discussion. In addition to the proposer of the motion, one representative may speak in favour and one against the motion, after which the motion shall be immediately put to the vote.

SUSPENSION OR ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING

Rule 26

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may move the suspension or adjournment of the meeting. No discussion on such motion shall be permitted, and it shall be immediately put to the vote.

ORDER OF PROCEDURAL MOTIONS

Rule 27

Subject to Rule 23, the following motions shall have precedence in the following order over all other proposals or motions before the meeting:

- (i) to suspend the meeting
- (ii) to adjourn the meeting
- (iii) to adjourn the debate on the item under discussion
- (iv) to close the debate on the item under discussion.

VOTING RIGHTS

Rule 28

Each Member State of the Union shall have one vote.

RESOLUTIONS

Rule 29

(a) Proposed resolutions, motions or amendments shall be presented in writing to the Secretary-General who shall circulate copies thereof to representatives. However, the Conference may authorize the discussion of a proposal not previously distributed. Proposed resolutions and motions shall be examined in the order of their submission.

(b) A motion or a proposed resolution may be withdrawn by the original mover prior to its being submitted to the vote. Any representative may re-introduce a motion or proposed resolution that has been withdrawn.

MAJORITY REQUIRED

Rule 30

All resolutions shall be decided by simple majority of the Member States of the Conference.

VOTE ON RESOLUTIONS

Rule 31

After the debate has been closed, the Chairman shall immediately put to the vote resolutions with all amendments. The vote shall not be interrupted except on a point of order related to the manner in which the vote is taking place.

VOTE ON AMENDMENTS

Rule 32

When an amendment is moved to a proposal, the amendment shall be voted on first. When two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the Conference shall first vote on the amendments furthest removed in substance from the original proposal and then on the amendment next furthest removed therefrom,

and so on, until all the amendments have been put to the vote. If one or several amendments are adopted, the amended proposal is then put to the vote. If no amendments are adopted, the proposal shall be put to the vote in its original form. A proposal is considered as an amendment to a text if it adds or removes parts therefrom or otherwise modifies it.

VOTE ON SEPARATE PARTS OF A PROPOSAL

Rule 33

Parts of a proposal, resolution or a motion shall be voted on separately when so requested. If this is done, the text resulting from a series of votes shall be put to the vote as a whole. If all operative parts of a proposed resolution or motion have been rejected, the proposal shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.

METHOD OF VOTING AND EXPLANATION
OF VOTE

Rule 34

Votes shall be taken by raising the hand, but any representative may request a roll call vote which shall be taken in alphabetical order of the names of the members beginning with the State whose name is drawn by lot by the Chairman. After a vote, any representative may request the use of the floor to explain his vote.

Rule 35

There shall be a secret vote for elections and also in such special circumstances as the Conference may determine by simple majority of its members.

Rule 36

In the event of equality of votes, the proposal is deemed to be rejected.

COMMITTEES

Rule 37

The Conference may establish such sessional or ad hoc Committees and temporary working groups as it may deem necessary.

Rule 38

The proceedings of the Committees or working groups of the Conference or of the Administrative and Technical Conferences, shall be governed by these Rules of Procedure except that a Committee, a Working Group, Administrative or Technical Conferences may vary the size of its bureau in accordance with its own size and any peculiar nature of the work assigned to it.

AMENDMENTS

Rule 39

These Rules of Procedure may be amended by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries by simple majority of its members.

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

29th Ordinary Session

Libreville, Gabon, 23-30 June 1977

CM/832 (XIX)

Annex III

Attachment III

CONVENTION OF THE PAN-AFRICAN TELCOMMUNICATIONS UNION

CONVENTION OF THE PAN-AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION

PREAMBLE

The Plenipotentiaries of Governments of Member States of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), imbued with the spirit, principles and objectives of the OAU Charter;

Conscious of the urgent need to decolonize telecommunications in Africa,

Convinced of the need:-

- to ensure the orderly development of African telecommunications at a pace commensurate with the political, economic and social development of Africa,
- to develop African telecommunications networks and services in a concerted, planned and integrated manner,
- for a permanent machinery to co-ordinate decisions adopted for the development and operation of the said telecommunications services,

Considering Resolution CM/Res.404 (XXIV) of the OAU Council of Ministers on the setting-up of a Pan-African Telecommunications Union approved by the 12th Session of the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government,

Considering Resolution No. 1 of the Conference of African Telecommunications Administration (Kinshasa, December 1975), deciding to set up the Pan-African Telecommunications Union.

CHAPTER I

ESTABLISHMENT, COMPOSITION, WORKING LANGUAGES AND HEADQUARTERS

Article 1 - Establishment of the Union

By the present Convention, the contracting parties do hereby constitute the Pan-African Telecommunications Union (PATU) hereafter referred to as the "Union". The Union shall be the Specialized Agency of the OAU in the field of Telecommunications.

Article 2 - Composition of the Union

The Union shall be composed of:

- (a) - Member States of the Organization of African Unity which sign and ratify the Convention or accede to it.
- (b) - Any African State which becomes a member of the OAU and accedes to the Present Convention.

Article 3 - Languages of the Union

The working languages of the Union shall be those of the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

Article 4 - Seat of the Union

The Seat of the Union shall be established in

CHAPTER II
OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

Article 5 -- Objectives of the Union

The Objectives of the Union shall be to:-

- (a) maintain and extend co-operation among Member States for the improvement and rational use of telecommunications networks and services;
- (b) promote the standardization of telecommunications networks and the co-ordination of telecommunication services among Member States;
- (c) seek to harmonize tariff structures among Member States with a view to the establishment of tariffs compatible with good services and independent financial management of telecommunications;
- (d) undertake studies in telecommunications and in other relevant fields of common interest among Member States;
- (e) promote the establishment of multi-national regional and sub-regional telecommunications training institutes in Africa, in co-operation with international organizations with legitimate interest in telecommunications in Africa;
- (f) harmonize, as far as possible, the position of the Member States during international meetings in the field of telecommunications;
- (g) publish information and research materials relating to telecommunications for the benefit of Member States of the Union and to encourage the exchange of information and staff between the administrations of Member States;
- (h) take, at the request of Member States, all appropriate measures to find funding sources for surveys and implementation of their telecommunications projects.

- (i) encourage and assist Member States in the establishment and development of telecommunications industries.

CHAPTER III
STRUCTURE

Article 6 - Organs of the Union

The various organs of the Union shall be:

(a) Permanent Organs

1. The Conference of Plenipotentiaries,
2. The Administrative Council, and
3. The General Secretariat.

(b) Non-Permanent Organs

Administrative and Technical Conferences.

Article 7 - The Conference of Plenipotentiaries

1. (a) The Conference of Plenipotentiaries hereinafter referred to as "the Conference" shall be the supreme organ of the Union. It shall consist of the duly accredited representatives of Member States.

(b) The Conference shall convene in an ordinary session every four (4) years. At the request of a Member State and subject to the agreement of two-thirds of the members, it shall meet in an extraordinary session.

(c) African liberation movements recognized by the OAU shall at their request be admitted as Observers to the Conference in a consultative capacity.

2. The Conference shall:

- (a) revise the Convention as it deems necessary;
- (b) determine the general policy which the Union must follow in order to achieve the objectives laid down in Article 5 of the present Convention;

- (c) examine and approve the programme of activities and accounts of the Union and determine the ceiling of the 4-year budget;
- (d) determine the scale of contributions by Member States;
- (e) establish the structure of the General Secretariat and elect the Secretary-General and the Assistant Secretary-General of the Union and fix their salaries, allowances and other conditions of service;
- (f) establish such subordinate bodies as it may deem necessary or desirable for the purpose of achieving the objectives of the Union and prescribe for such bodies rules for the conduct of their activities;
- (g) approve the financial, administrative and all other rules governing the activities of the Union;
- (h) conclude ^{and} review agreements between the Union and other international organizations; and decide on any provisional agreement entered into by the Administrative Council or the General Secretariat with the aforesaid organisations;
- (i) adopt, at the conclusion of each of its sessions, a report addressed to all Member States as well as to the Organization of African Unity (OAU);
- (j) consider the report of the Administrative Council on its activities since the last Conference;
- (k) consider the report of the Secretary-General of the Union on the activities of the General Secretariat since the last Conference;
- (l) elect the members of the administrative Council.

Article 8 - Administrative Council

1. The Administrative Council hereafter referred to as "the Council", shall consist of 13 Member States elected for a four-year period by the Conference, having due regard to an equitable distribution of seats among the sub-regions of Africa as defined by the OAU. They shall be eligible for re-election.

2. As far as possible, the person designated by a Member State to serve on the Council shall be an officer of its telecommunications administration.
3. If between two sessions of the Conference, a seat becomes vacant on the Council, it shall pass by right to the Member of the Union from the same sub-region as the Member whose seat is vacated, which had obtained at the previous election the largest number of votes among those not elected. Where elections did not take place the sub-region concerned shall designate another Member State to serve on the Council.
4. A seat on the Council shall be considered vacant:
 - a) when a Member State does not have a representative in attendance at two consecutive annual sessions of the Council;
 - b) when a Member State resigns its membership on the Council.
5. The Council shall convene in annual session at the seat of the Union. If a Member State of the Council so requests, subject to the agreement of two-thirds of the latter's members, it may convene in extra-ordinary session.
6. The Council shall:
 - (a) be entrusted with the over-all duty of guiding the administration of the Union;
 - (b) direct, control and co-ordinate financial, technical and other activities of the Union;
 - (c) consider the programme of activities and budget of the Union and submit them for the approval of the Conference;
 - (d) consider the annual management report presented by the General Secretariat and arrange for the annual audit of the account of the Union prepared by the Secretary-General;

- (e) assess each year the annual contribution of each Member State to the expenditure of the Union;
- (f) present to the Conference a report on the activities of the Union during the four-year term of office just ended;
- (g) conclude provisional agreements with other organizations whose activities relate to those of the Union, and submit them for the approval of the Conference;
- (h) submit to the Conference proposals concerning the rules governing the financial, administrative and other activities of the Union, including the entering into contracts by the Union with Governments or institutions desirous of assisting the Union or its members in achieving the objectives of the Union;
- (i) approve the agenda and make practical arrangements for convening of the Conference and programmes of the Administrative and technical conference and seminars submitted to it by the Secretary-General;
- (j) between the sessions of the Conference be the decision-making body of the Union within the limits of the powers delegated to it by the Conference;
- (k) fix the basic salaries and other allowances for all the officers of the Union with the exception of the Secretary-General and the Assistant Secretary-General.

Article 9 - General Secretariat

1. The General Secretariat shall be headed by a Secretary-General assisted by an Assistant Secretary-General. Both shall be elected by the Conference for a four-year period. They shall be eligible for re-election once only.

- (i) attend or be represented at the administrative and technical conferences and seminars of the Union;
- (j) attend or be represented whenever possible at meetings and conferences to which the Union is invited;
- (k) appoint the other staff of the Secretariat while ensuring as far as possible equitable distribution of the sub-regions of Africa, in consultation with the Council;
- (l) inform Member States of any request for accession or withdrawal;
- (m) if he deems it necessary and subject to the approval of the Council engage experts for specific studies;
- (n) publish periodically a magazine consisting of articles in the field of telecommunications;
- (o) ensure the distribution of documents issued;
- (p) implement decisions of the Conference and the Administrative Council;
- (q) take, together with Member States, the necessary measures for the implementation of the various programmes approved by the Union;
- (r) present to the Conference of Plenipotentiaries a report on the activities of the General Secretariat since the last Session of the Conference;
- (s) present to the Council an annual report on the activities of the General Secretariat between the two sessions;
- (t) under supervision of the Council the Secretary-General shall conclude provisional agreements with other organisations between sessions of the Conference.

7. Vacant Posts in the Secretariat

In the event of:

- (a) the post of Secretary-General falling vacant, the Assistant Secretary-General shall act as Secretary-General until the next session of the Conference;
- (b) the post of Assistant Secretary-General falling vacant, subject to the approval of the Council, the Secretary General shall designate one of the Heads of Departments to act as Assistant Secretary-General until the next session of the Conference;
- (c) the posts of Secretary-General and Assistant Secretary-General falling vacant simultaneously, the senior Head of Department at the seat of the Union shall provisionally exercise the functions of Secretary-General and the Head of Department next in seniority shall exercise the functions of Assistant Secretary-General up to the convening of the next Conference in extra-ordinary session within six months.
- (d) the post of Head of Department falling vacant, the Secretary-General shall designate one of the experts of the Department in question to act as Head of Department until the next session of the Council.

8. Status of the General Secretariat

- (a) in the performance of their duties, the Secretary-General, Assistant Secretary-General, Heads of Departments and all personnel of the Union shall neither solicit nor accept any orders from any government or authority foreign to the Union. They shall abstain from any action incompatible with their duties;

- (b) Member States of the Union shall abstain from exercising any influence over officers and personnel of the Union in the performance of their duties;
- (c) the Secretary-General, Assistant Secretary-General and the other staff of the General Secretariat shall enjoy the status of international civil servants;
- (d) in all Member States of the Union, the Secretary-General, Assistant Secretary-General, other staff and special envoys, shall enjoy, for the duration of their mission, the privileges and immunities accorded the Union;
- (e) the Secretary-General, Assistant Secretary-General and personnel of the General Secretariat shall in no way engage in telecommunications enterprises and companies.

Article 10 - The Administrative and Technical Conferences

1. Non-permanent organs of the Union shall comprise = regional, administrative and technical conferences.
2. The Secretary-General shall convene the Administrative and Technical Conferences to discuss special matters relating to Telecommunications.
3. The decisions taken at these conferences shall in all cases conform with the provisions of the present Convention.
4. The agenda of an Administrative or Technical Conference may include:
 - (a) all matters of a continental nature within the competence of the administrative or Technical Conference;
 - (b) any draft partial revision which might be proposed to the International Telecommunications Union to Administrative Rules, including the directives of the International Frequency Registration Board regarding its activities in Africa.

5. Sub-regions recognised by the OAU may organize and hold Administrative and Technical conferences and may, from the decisions reached at such conferences, make proposals to the Union for consideration and any action deemed necessary. The Union may organise and hold such sub-regional conferences in the interest of telecommunications development.

CHAPTER IV

Article II - Finance

1. Expenditure by the Union shall be made up of expenses relating to:
 - (a) sessions of the Conference,
 - (b) sessions of the Council,
 - (c) the General Secretariat,
 - (d) Administrative and Technical conferences or seminars.
2. Expenses of the Union shall be covered by:
 - (a) contributions made by Member States in accordance with the scale of assessment established by the Conference;
 - (b) extra-budgetary contributions approved by the Council.
3. Member States shall pay in advance their annual contributions calculated on the basis of the budget drawn up by the Council.
4. Any Member State whose contributions to the Union are in arrears for two consecutive years shall forfeit its right to vote in accordance with the present Convention.
5. The Government of the Member State in whose territory the General Secretariat is located shall, to the fullest extent possible, advance the funds necessary to implement the budget until these are reimbursed by the governments of the other Member States.

6. If a Member State or Group of Member States undertakes research with the assistance of the Union, the expenditure occasioned by such research shall be borne by that Member State or the Group of Member States.

7. The accounts of the Union shall be kept in the currency specified by the Administrative Council.

CHAPTER V

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 12 - Legal Status of the Union

1. Member States shall grant the Union international legal status, and capacity as well as privileges and immunities on their territories to enable it to perform its functions and fully attain its objectives.

2. The Secretary-General shall be empowered to conclude with the government of the State upon whose territory the Seat of the Union is established, and immunities recognized and accorded to the Union subject to the approval of the Council.

3. The privileges and immunities accorded the Union shall also apply to conferences of the Union and delegates to such conferences.

Article 13 - Sovereign rights of Member States of the Union

The provisions of the present Convention shall be without prejudice to the national legislation of member countries. Nothing in this Convention shall affect the rights of Member States of the Union to develop and regulate their telecommunications networks and services.

Article 14 - Rights and Obligations of Member States of the Union

All Member States shall enjoy equal rights and have equal duties. They pledge themselves to scrupulously respect the provisions of the present Convention.

Article 15 - Rules of Procedure

Each conference or meeting of the Union shall adopt its own Rules of Procedure.

Article 16 - Powers of Delegations to Conferences and Meetings of the Union

The delegation sent by a Member State to a Conference or Meeting of the Union shall be accredited in accordance with the following provision:

- (a) for the Conference, by letters of accreditation signed by the Head of State, or Prime Minister or Minister for Foreign Affairs;
- (b) for all other conferences of the Union, by letters of accreditation signed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs or the Minister in charge of Telecommunications;
- (c) for any other meeting, representatives shall be duly authorized;
- (d) the instruments of accreditation issued under paragraphs (a) and (b) of the present article shall confer on delegation's full powers, and where necessary, the right to sign the final instruments.

Article 17 - Settlement of Disputes

1. Any dispute that may arise concerning the interpretation or application of any provision of this Convention or its annexes shall be submitted to the mediation of a Member State who is not a party to the dispute after an attempt at a friendly settlement by the Secretary-General of the Union has failed.

2. Should mediation fail, the dispute shall be submitted to an Arbitration Tribunal by one of the parties to the dispute or the Secretary-General of the Union. This Arbitration Tribunal shall consist of three Member States who shall be nominated as follows:

- (a) two arbitrators one nominated by each of the parties;
- (b) a third arbitrator nominated by common agreement by the arbitrators chosen by the parties, who shall be called upon to preside over the Arbitration Tribunal. This third arbitrator shall likewise be a member of the Union not implicated in the dispute.

3. In the event that the two arbitrators fail to agree on the choice of a third arbitrator, each arbitrator shall propose a third arbitrator with no interest in the dispute. The Secretary-General of the Union shall then proceed to draw lots to designate the third arbitrator.

4. If the nomination of the members of the Arbitration Tribunal is not made within three months of the date of the request for arbitration, either of the parties to the dispute may request the Secretary-General of the Union to make the necessary nominations, except in cases where the Union is a party to the dispute, the nomination shall be made by the Administrative Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity.

5. The decision of the arbitration Tribunal shall be final and binding on the parties to the dispute.

6. The foregoing provisions shall be without prejudice to the choice of any other mode of settlement that the parties concerned may jointly decide upon in keeping with the spirit of the present Convention.

Article 18 - Exemptions

1. Throughout the duration of conferences or meetings of the Union, delegates and personnel of the General Secretariat assigned to the conferences or meetings shall enjoy telephone, telegrams and telex facilities free of charge between the venue of the conference and their respective administrations.
2. Telephone communications of limited duration between delegates and their families shall also be free of charge.

Article 19 - Standardization of Equipment

With a view to co-ordinating inter-State telecommunications, Administrations of Member States of the Union shall endeavour to employ equipment whose specifications conform to the standards recommended by the CCITT and CCIR.

Article 20 - Relations between the Union and the Organization of African Unity (OAU)

As a Specialized Agency of the Organization of African Unity in the field of Telecommunications the Union shall enjoy privileged relations with the OAU. To this end, an agreement is to be concluded between the two Organizations.

Article 21 - Relations between the Union and other International Bodies

1. In order to encourage overall intra-African co-operation in the field of telecommunications, the Union shall collaborate with the International Telecommunications Union and other international bodies whose activities and interests are related to telecommunications. The Union may invite such bodies to send observers to attend its conferences in a consultative capacity, on the basis of reciprocity.
2. Agreements may be concluded between the Union and such other international bodies whenever necessary.

Article 22 - Technical Co-operation

1. Member States shall promote the exchange of technical and specialized personnel; they shall likewise exchange study missions on technical and administrative matters and organize workshops and seminars.

2. The Union shall ensure the training of intermediate and high level professional staff for Member States in multinational schools for telecommunications in co-operation with the International Telecommunications Union and other competent organizations specialized in this field in Africa.

Article 23 - Decisions of Administrative and Technical Conferences

These shall be annexed to the present Convention the decisions of administrative and technical Conferences. Such decisions shall be binding only upon the Member States who sign, ratify or accede to the final acts of these Conferences.

CHAPTER VFINAL PROVISIONSArticle 24 - Ratification of the Convention

1. The present Convention shall be ratified by each of the signatory governments. The instruments of ratification shall be sent, with the least possible delay, through diplomatic channels and through the agency of governments if Member States in whose territory the Union is located, to the Secretary-General, who shall notify the members accordingly.

2. For a two-year period, beginning from the entry into force of the present Convention, each signatory Member State shall enjoy the rights conferred by the Convention on Member States even if it has not deposited the instruments of ratification as provided for in the present Convention.



3. At the end of this two-year period, any Member State that has not deposited the instruments of ratification shall no longer have the right to vote in meetings of organs of the Union.

Article 25 - Accession

1. Any State member of the OAU which has not signed this Convention, may accede to it at any time.

2. The instrument of accession shall be sent to the Secretary-General of the Union through diplomatic channels and through the agency of the government of the Member State on whose territory the seat of the Union is located. It shall enter into force on the date it is deposited, unless otherwise stipulated. The Secretary General shall notify Member States of such adhesion and forward to each of them a certified true copy of the Instrument.

Article 26 - Entry into force of the Convention

This Convention shall enter provisionally into force six months after its signature by the Plenipotentiaries. It shall only finally enter into force after deposition of the tenth instrument of ratification.

Article 27 - Denunciation

1. Any member State may denounce the present Convention through a notification addressed to the Secretary-General through diplomatic channels and through the medium of the government of the Member State in whose territory the seat of the Union is located. The Secretary-General shall notify the other member States accordingly.

2. This denunciation shall become operative one year after the date of receipt of notification by the Secretary-General.

Article 28 - Suspension of a member

1. The Conference may decide by a two-thirds majority of the Member States to suspend a Member State who:-

- a) practices a policy contrary to the objectives and principles of the Union;
- b) for three consecutive years fails to honour its financial obligations to the Union;
- c) fails to respect the decisions of the Conference which are binding upon the Member States.

2. The same majority shall be required for any decision of the Conference revoking such suspension.

3. Suspension of a Member State shall not exempt the latter from fulfilling its financial obligations during the period of suspension.

Article 29 - Application of provisions of the International Telecommunications Union

The Union shall act in accordance with the relevant provisions of the ITU Convention, in force and in particular, those articles referring to the setting up of regional organizations. Where no provision is made in the present Convention relating to certain matters reference shall be made to the relevant provisions of the ITU Convention, its annexes and additional protocols for guidance.

Article 30 - Signing of the Convention

The present Convention shall be signed by the Plenipotentiaries in three copies in the working languages of the Union, all texts being equally authentic. A copy shall be deposited with the government of the Member State in whose territory the seat of the Union is located. The two others shall be deposited respectively with the General Secretariat of the Union and the General Secretariat of the OAU. A certified copy conforming to each text shall be forwarded to each of the signatory Member States by the Secretary-General of the Union.

Done at Addis Ababa, This .

1977

Member States

Signatures

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MOTION OF THANKS

The Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 9-20 May 1977.

Considering all the factors which contributed to the successful completion of its tasks,

1. EXPRESSES its deep gratitude to the Government and People of Socialist Ethiopia for all the hospitality and brotherly welcome extended to the delegates;
 2. HIGHLY APPRECIATES the quality of the technical services and administrative support given to the work of the Conference by the General Secretariat of the OAU;
 3. EXPRESSES its sincere appreciation to the International Telecommunications Union and to the Economic Commission for Africa for their contribution and participation in the deliberations of the Conference;
 4. CONGRATULATES AND EXPRESSES its gratitude to the Members of the Bureau for the smooth manner in which they guided the deliberations of the Conference thereby enabling it to complete its work successfully;
 5. EXPRESSES its gratitude to Members of the Steering Committee for the work they have accomplished which has enabled the Conference to adopt PATU Convention and Rules of Procedure of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries.
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PANAFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION
Conference of Plenipotentiaries
Addis Ababa, 9 - 20 May 1977

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SPEECH BY H.E. ATO YUSUF AHMED, MINISTER OF
TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS OF THE PROVISIONAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT
OF SOCIALIST ETHIOPIA

Your Excellencies,
The Secretary-General of OAU,
The Executive Secretary of ECA,
The representative of ITU,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the People and the Provisional Military Government of Socialist Ethiopia I have the honour of addressing you on the opening session of this important Conference and to welcome you to Ethiopia.

I am sure that many of the distinguished delegates attending this Conference have had the opportunity of visiting Addis Ababa in the past. May I take this opportunity once again to extend to all the distinguished delegates the warm welcome of the People and Government of Socialist Ethiopia. We hope that your stay here in Ethiopia will be pleasant and fruitful.

The task before you of establishing a truly African Telecommunications Union (PATU) will enable you to achieve a landmark in the history of Telecommunications in Africa. The consequences of this action will have an important unifying influence on the economic, social and political relations between Member States of OAU.

We all realize that by setting up PATU, we will be creating an African institution which will be charged with great responsibilities of helping in preparing, coordinating and implementing Telecommunications plans designed to meet

the immediate and vital needs of the Peoples and Governments of Africa - the vital needs of expanding and improving suitable communications facilities, the prime objective of which is the provision of efficient, reliable and economical national system, inter-African network and international links.

The development of international and particularly the national Telecommunications' network should be given high priority. However, in view of the current pathetic situation of inter-African network and our immediate and future requirements, and considering indeed that even today many of our inter-African communication links are going via the intermediaries of European countries, it is obvious that at present the planning and expansion of Pan African Telecommunications network should be a pressing priority of Africa.

The setting up of PATU will have great impact on the future development of all aspects of Telecommunications in Africa. It can facilitate and help in the mobilization of the necessary resources, the adoption of suitable systems and their effective utilization, the development of skilled manpower, the provision, improvement and standardization of maintenance facilities and spare parts, and the improvement of organizational machinery, operational techniques and management methods.

The energetic effort of PATU in these areas will undoubtedly be the cornerstone for the coordinated and integrated development of Pan African network. It can pave the way for the realization of effective Telecommunications network in Africa in the very near future. Such a network will facilitate direct and immediate communications in Africa thereby adding a new dimension to social, economic and political relations of our Peoples and Governments.

My Government has noted and is actively participating in the rapid implementation of the PATU and we thank those members of the PANAFTEL Coordination Committee and the financing bodies for the assistance provided so far and trust that these bodies and even others will continue their assistance in the implementation of the present and future stages of the PANAFTEL Network.

It is indeed very timely that you are about to take the historic step of setting the PATU. It is pertinent to point out here that the setting up of the Union alone is not enough. An enormous task awaits us to ensure the complete success of the future activities of the Union you are going to create in this Hall. One of the indispensable conditions for the creation and future success of the union is the unreserved and continuous support and cooperation of Member States.

My Government attaches great importance to the establishment of this Union and will cooperate fully especially during the initial stage of the Union. Nevertheless we feel that the Conference should proceed with great caution avoiding costly organizational setup which would strain the financial resources of our already overburdened economies.

Before concluding I must thank the members of PANAFTEL Coordination Committee for honouring the Conference with their presence. I therefore welcome the Administrative Secretary-General of OAU Mr. William Eteki Mboumoua who is responsible for convening this Conference. I welcome also the representative of ECA.

Long live the Organization of African Unity,

Long live the Pan-African Telecommunications Union.

PANAFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION
Conference of Plenipotentiaries
Addis Ababa, 9 - 20 May 1977

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OPENING SPEECH BY

HIS EXCELLENCY WILLIAM ETEKI MBOUMOUA

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE OAU

Your Excellency,
Mr. Executive Secretary of ECA,
Mr. Secretary-General of ITU,
Mr. President of ADB,
Your Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,

It is pleasure and an honour for me to address you and welcome you on the occasion of the Plenipotentiaries Conference of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union. You are meeting here today where exactly fourteen years ago, this month, leaders of our continent met and established the Organization of African Unity. In establishing the Organization of African Unity then, the leaders of Africa pledged "to coordinate and intensify their cooperation and efforts to achieve a better life for the peoples of Africa" and to that end effectively harmonize the policies of Member States, among others in "economic cooperation including transport and communications.

It is no mere statement of fact on my part, therefore, but a vivid reality that today this august assembly represents on one of the fruits of the determination for cooperation to which the Organization of African Unity dedicated itself fourteen years ago.

Mr. Chairman,
Your Excellencies,

Your presence here today clearly demonstrates our continuous unanimous desire to respect and put into effect decisions taken by the various political organs of the OAU over

the past years on the implementation of the PANAFTEL Network Project and the creation of a Pan-African Telecommunications Union. Such conscientious decisions do not merely yield to the principles of African Unity but to a large extent serve as a concrete example of intra-African Co-operation in the field of communications.

The OAU attaches great importance to continental development of communication facilities which it believes will accelerate the socio-economic development of Africa. This is evidenced by the continuous effort the OAU and other members of the Co-ordinating Committee of PANAFTEL - ECA, ITU and ADB are making towards an early completion of the Projects. The Committee had mobilized all its resources in this respect and I am happy to mention that a substantial progress is being made in the completion of territorial links in most countries. However for some countries as the target dates for the final completion of the Networks draw near, I should like to express my deep regret over the lack of sources of financing. These countries are faced with problems arising from the world economic situation. In fact, most African countries are faced with a fall in their foreign currency reserves due to fluctuation in prices of basic local products. The general inflation only aggravates the situation, and more so because the UNDP which shouldered the greater part of financing, is now facing certain difficulties in its treasury.

We shall not proceed to discover new palliatives for these problems, we are simply thinking of the prospects opened up by new developments in Afro-Arab co-operation, which is henceforth institutionalized.

Mr. Chairman,

Your Excellencies,

The Union you are about to put a finishing touch to its establishment has multifarious purposes. It is not intended to be a rival body nor a threat to any existing Union of a similar nature.

On our part, we would like very much to see the Union perform the important tasks as fairly detailed in its constitution. As a body whose main task will be to coordinate the activities of various telecommunication administrations in OAU Member countries, it is absolutely charged with the supervision to defend the rights of all telecommunication administrations and equally serve as a liaison with the International Telecommunication Union.

Africa must now have its own centre, manned by Africans where research and technical materials are stored for the development of continental telecommunication networks rather than relying solely on external services whose interests are generally un-African. This "Africa first policy" that is to say, development based on self-reliance should be the underlying factor for the establishment of the Union if the Union is to be in the position to provide services of quality to Africa.

The role of telecommunications in present day Africa is very crucial indeed. Gradual improvement of modern means of communication within the continent is necessary for the rapid realization of our dreams of intra-African cooperation such as offered by various regional economic groupings on the continent. There is no gain saying that the effectiveness of the many

bilateral agreements on various cooperations which have been entered into by various African Governments also depend, to a large extent, on fast telecommunication service. In this regard, the OAU requests more times be devoted to the technical aspect in the establishment of the Union during your two-week long deliberations.

On the co-ordination aspect, the OAU had shown great interest as evidenced by its participation in all the sub-regional meetings on telecommunication administrations during the years under review. I am also happy to inform this august assembly that the Council of Ministers had now made it possible for me to intensify our role further by continuously participating in those meetings at Sub-Regional level. The decision has already been taken to create a separate unit in the Economic and Social Department to be headed by a Chief of Section for an overall liaison with PATU and other communication service.

Your constitution provides that the Union when established will take its place as one of the Specialized Agencies of the OAU. This decision of yours is commendable as the OAU will fully cooperate, and render practical assistance where possible to the young organization in the same way the African Civil Aviation Commission and the Union of African Railways have benefitted. I have no doubt in my mind therefore that the relationship between PATU and OAU will grow to live to the expectations of our peoples. As final note, I would like to assure you that the General Secretariat will give you its full cooperation during your deliberations to ensure that these historic meetings are crowned with success.

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As political liberation is achieved it is our duty now to make a greater impact than in the past on projects of economic, technical and cultural liberation.

This meeting is therefore a landmark in this direction.

It is a challenge that we shall have to take up.

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PAN-~~A~~FRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION

CONFERENCE OF PLENIPOTENTIARIES

Addis Ababa

9-20 May 1977

SPEECH DELIVERED BY
THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE E.C.A.A.

Your Excellencies Ministers and Plenipotentiaries,
 Mr. Secretary-General of the OAU,
 Distinguished Representative of the ITU,
 Honourable Delegates,
 Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of Dr. Adebayo Adedeji, Executive Secretary of the ECA, who has been kept away from this Conference by the duties of his Office, I would first like to cordially welcome you to the seat of your Committee.

This being a highly technical Conference, on behalf of the ECA, I do not intend to make a lengthy speech.

I shall simply communicate with you, and as you know, whether it is a question of tête-à-tête, the traditional tom-tom, or modern means such as the telephone, television and others, there should be two parties to be able to communicate.

It is only logical that you should have thought of establishing a regulating organ, in some form, and which would preferably be the work of those responsible for the means of communication. This organ should above all ensure effective and harmonious communication among the Member States.

This I believe is the essential raison d'être for your Conference.

Mr. Chairman,

Before the means of communication can be regulated, they should first of all exist and have strong ties established in the community, the nation or the region. The ECA, the ITU, the OAU and the ADB have been working in close collaboration since 1962

to set up a telecommunications network on a regional scale to provide effective means of direct communication between all the Member Countries of the region at reasonable tariffs. Thus, in 1966, during a regional telecommunications meeting organized jointly by the ECA and the OAU, it was decided, after considering the existing telecommunications network, to undertake on the lines of potential needs and not of the traditional traffic movements, a field study to draw up plans, specifications, estimates of expenditure for the materials that may be needed for a regional network, to study all special operational problems such as tariffs, to prepare a training programme aimed at producing enough qualified staff for the proper operation of the network, and, finally, to enter into negotiations to ensure the financing of the budget through the agency of the African Development Bank.

The preliminary field studies as well as the pre-investment studies carried out respectively in 1968-1969 and 1971-1972 following the 1966 meeting, which made it possible to collate the collective results of detailed and systematic feasibility studies on nearly 30 countries of the region and the subsequent PANAFTTEL regional meetings of 1972 and 1975, are the product of co-operation between the Co-ordinating Committee and the Member Countries.

The Pan-African Telecommunications Union (PATU) is in short the logical culmination of the efforts made over the years to set up a regional telecommunications network. Moreover, the part played by the members of the PANAFTTEL Co-ordinating Committee (in particular the OAU, the ECA and the ITU), which has resulted in this historic meeting, is well known and we need not harp on it.

The ECA sees the Pan-African Telecommunications Union as a natural successor of the Co-ordinating Committee whose role in the development of regional telecommunication has been chiefly that of a catalyst. I am convinced that the Committee will only wish to withdraw from the scene after giving the Pan-African Telecommunications Union every possible assistance during the period of its inception.

In Africa to day, there are multinational organizations that operate as unions in the various fields of communication. There is the National Broadcasting and Television Union (URTNA) in broadcasting, the PATU for post and telecommunications, and the African Postal Union APU in postal Services. These organizations or unions have one fundamental objective in common with the Pan-African Union for Telecommunications, namely the establishment of adequate effective, and profitable intra-regional means of communication, that would operate in co-ordination. The Pan-African Telecommunications Union should therefore contact these and other similar organizations. It should co-operate with the latter organization, and there is no reason why it should not merge with some, if not all. We can perhaps suggest that the Pan-African Telecommunications Union should devote part of its resources to a detailed study of the question.

I hope you will also consider the idea that the most important function of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union is to promote the rational development of all sectors of communication through telecommunications. I hope that unlike its predecessors, the Pan-African Telecommunications Union will not devote its resources to the sole purpose of preserving its existence, but that it will obtain practical results that will be a useful contribution to the development of telecommunications, and I was about to express the hope that it will abstain from organizing a host of conferences for pleasure.

Thank you for your kind attention!!

The Pan-African Telecommunication Union will of course have many possibilities of cooperating with the International Telecommunication Union. In that connection, it may be useful to look at the activities undertaken by the ITU on a world-wide basis.

The CCIR and the CCITT examine, through their Study Groups, questions arising in all telecommunication sectors. They consider the results of research in technology and issue recommendations which constitute the basis of international standardization. So far, the main contribution to the work of the CCI Study Groups has come from developed countries with sophisticated telecommunication networks and fairly high subscriber densities. The developing countries have, owing either to lack of staff or to insufficient knowledge of the activities of the International Consultative Committees, as yet taken a very small part in the work of the Study Groups. But the problems of the developing countries which have few resources, a minimal telephone network and often long distances to be covered by their telecommunication links, are as difficult to solve as those of the most advanced technology. We therefore hope that the Pan-African Telecommunication Union will encourage the African Administrations to take a more active part in the work of the Consultative Committees, which will thus be able to study the specific problems of these countries.

As for the radio frequency spectrum, it is, as we all know, a limited natural resource. Rational management of the spectrum is the duty of every telecommunication administration, to be discharged with the cooperation and coordination of the IFRB. At a time when an ever wider range of frequencies in the radio spectrum is used for long-haul systems, the role of the ITU is of capital importance, if full enjoyment of this natural resource is to be ensured. I am convinced that the Pan-African Telecommunication Union will, by its work, facilitate our task in the management of the spectrum.

But it is in the field of technical cooperation that the activities of ITU are often best known in Africa. With the Financial backing of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the ITU has carried out a large number of projects concerned with the development of both national and international telecommunication networks in all the independent countries of Africa. Assistance has been given for staff training, frequency management, the development of maritime radiocommunications, the organization of Administrations, network planning, preinvestment surveys of links and exchanges and in several other fields for which international assistance was required to upgrade telecommunication facilities in the various countries.

In 1976, a total of approximately 21 million United States dollars, about 1/3 of which was for Africa, was spent on technical assistance projects largely funded by UNDP and implemented by ITU.

The project having the greatest scope within the framework of the technical assistance provided by ITU to the African countries is the installation of the Pan-African Telecommunication Network. The purpose of this project is to bring about a general decolonization of Telecommunications in Africa.

The ITU has been engaged in this grand design for more than a decade, starting with the preliminary studies to ascertain that the network would involve and following up with preinvestment surveys. As soon as we embarked upon the active phase of project implementation, the heads of states and governments of the countries members of OAU decided to set up a Coordinating Committee consisting of the Secretary-General of OAU, the Secretary-General of ITU, the Executive Secretary of ECA and the President of ADB. The task of this Coordinating Committee is to keep close track of the rapid progress being made with PANAFTEL, ensuring perfect network integration and indentifying optimum sources of financing for the implementation of the complete project.

The Coordinating Committee has held a number of successful meetings and its 4th report will be submitted to your Conference and to the next meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity.

The remarkable results already achieved are due to the concerted efforts of all the members of the PANAFTEL Coordinating Committee, namely the OAU, which provides the political drive, the ECA, which is responsible for ensuring the harmonious integration of the economic development of the African continent, the ADB, acting as financial consultant and ITU, which played the key role of technical adviser.

The outcome of these continuous and perfectly meshed activities are so promising that the Heads of African States and Governments meeting in Kampala from 28 July to 1 August 1975 adopted a resolution instructing the Coordinating Committee to continue its efforts.

Pursuant to the terms of reference set out in this resolution, the Coordinating Committee held a Conference of African Telecommunication Administrations at Kinshasa in December, 1975 which, in addition to deciding on the establishment of the Pan-African Telecommunication Union, raised new problems for the PANAFTEL network relating to operation and maintenance. With the financial assistance of UNDP, ITU is attempting to tackle these new problems and to help Administrations cope with the tasks involved in setting up the new network.

Nevertheless, a serious threat looms from PANAFTEL. I am referring to the waste of resources liable to be caused by the proliferation of earth stations. Large sums are being invested to set up extremely costly earth stations without any guarantee of genuine improvement in international telecommunication facilities since the telecommunication services of a country cannot be said to be improved unless the investment made is rationally applied to the harmonious development of the national and international networks. What is the point of a country's having a very high quality link with the international exchange, when the local subscriber lines are of poor quality? It is axiomatic that the overall quality of a telecommunication link cannot be better than that of the worst section.

The PANAFTEL network was designed with an eye not only to the main arteries to be installed between the capitals of countries but to the development of the internal network of each country and to the need for securing an overall upgrading of telecommunications throughout Africa.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I was glad to learn, a month ago, of the decision taken by the Arab-African Conference in Cairo to establish closer cooperation between the Arab countries and the African countries and to request the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (ABEDA) to deal with the financial assistance which the rich countries are prepared to grant to

the less favourably situated African countries. This type of cooperation is exemplary and gives us great satisfaction. As I have already announced in the Telecommunication Journal, a cooperation agreement has recently been signed between the ABEDA and ITU, which will facilitate our future collaboration.

The ABEDA and other funding bodies are bound to play an increasing part in connection with the implementation of African cooperation projects in the future. The agreement between ABEDA and IAU will enable us to act as technical consultant for projects financed by ABEDA using the funds-in-trust system already employed for a number of our projects. I am certain that we are now at the beginning of a long and fruitful association.

Mr. Chairman,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As I pointed out a few moments ago, your regional Union will have numerous possibilities for cooperation with the International Telecommunication Union. This is provided for in the International Telecommunication Convention, Article 32 of which states that

"Members reserve the right to convene regional conferences, to make regional arrangements and to form regional organizations, for the purpose of settling telecommunication questions which are susceptible of being treated on a regional basis. Such arrangements shall not be in conflict with this Convention."

I am convinced that this will in fact be the case and that fruitful collaboration will soon be established between our two organizations in keeping with the provisions of our Convention which is of course your Convention also.

It is on this hopeful note that I should like to conclude, at the same time conveying to you my best wishes for your success.

CM/832 (XXIX)

Annex III
Attachment V (A)
CM/EL/SF.4(I)

PAN-AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION
CONFERENCE OF PLENIPOTENTIARIES
Addis Ababa, 9-20 May 1977

DECLARATION OF THE DELEGATION OF ZAIRE ON THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION CM/RES.401 (XXIV) PERTAINING TO
THE SEAT OF THE PAN-AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS
UNION (PATU)

Mr. Chairman:

Yesterday we listened to a discussion that we consider extremely regrettable. It is regrettable because although the matter was very simple, yet it has revealed a very grave confusion.

Before our delegation of Zaire took the floor yesterday we wished to hear the other delegations, and to give the OAU Assistant Secretary-General the opportunity to supply all the necessary information to the delegates to help them solve the problem raised by Resolution CM/Res.401(XXIV) pertaining to the seat of our Union. This is also in his capacity as OAU Secretary-General.

As the OAU Secretary-General did not do this, and considering that the discussions yesterday were held in an atmosphere of grave confusion, raising matters of a political and legal nature that are so grave, the delegation of Zaire found itself compelled to take the floor at this morning's meeting to state its position.

Also Mr. Chairman if you would allow the delegation of the Republic of Zaire to strongly protest to the OAU Administrative General Secretariat for the following reasons:

1. With regard to the question of the decision taken by the 24th Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers and ratified by the 12th Ordinary Session of the Conference of Heads of State and Government, establishing the seat of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union in Kinshasa, in this question the OAU Administrative General Secretariat keeping the archives of the Organization is in a very good position to help the Member States by supplying them with correct and exact information, yet it has once more shown a biased attitude and hostility towards a Member State, namely the Republic of Zaire.

2. In fact the OAU Administrative General Secretariat has all the necessary means at its disposal, to confirm the authenticity and legality of Resolution CM/Res.401(XXIV) pertaining to the establishment of the seat of PATU in Kinshasa. Its apparent inaptitude and its hesitation in communicating these means of evaluation to the Member States meeting in the PATU Plenipotentiary Conference amounts to a pure and simple sabotage, contrary to the responsibilities and the prerogatives with which it is vested.

3. The Authenticity of the Resolution

- Resolution CM/Res.401(XXIV) has been twice adopted, first by the 24th Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers in Addis Ababa in February 1975, and then by the 12th Ordinary Session of the Conference of Heads of State and Government in Kampala in July 1975, that is five months later.
- In fact only resolutions that are regularly adopted by the Council of Ministers, are raised in the form of recommendations to be approved by the Conference of Heads of State and Government. Such was the case with Resolution CM/Res.401(XXIV). The 12th Ordinary Session of the Conference of Heads of State and Government in Kampala had to approve the resolutions of the 24th Session and the 25th Session of the Council of Ministers.
- The procedure followed by the Conference of Heads of State and Government in the approval of the Resolutions of both sessions was exactly the same.

According to OAU practice this procedure consists of approving without discussion, the resolutions adopted regularly by the Council of Ministers, and only examining in detail resolutions contested by the Council of Ministers.

This was not the case with Resolution CM/Res.401 (XXIV) which was approved by the Heads of State and Government among the resolutions that were not contested by the 24th Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers.

- So to allow doubt on the authenticity and regularity of the above-mentioned resolution is an extremely grave precedent from the OAU Administrative General Secretariat, which thereby allows grave doubt to be cast on the authenticity and regularity of all resolutions adopted according to the same procedure by the 12th Ordinary Session of the Conference of Heads of State and Government, notably the resolutions of the 25th Session of the Council of Ministers.

4. Legal Considerations

A decision adopted by the Conference of Heads of State and Government, the "Supreme" Organ of the OAU can in no way be contested by the Council of Ministers, and certainly not by a technical meeting of Plenipotentiaries.

It is the duty of the OAU Administrative General Secretariat to draw the attention of the Member States to this important aspect of the problem. In failing to do so the OAU Administrative General Secretariat gravely falls short of its duties, and in fact are deliberately bringing about the confusion that has been raised on this question, and which has led the delegates, undoubtedly in good faith, to contest a decision properly adopted by the Heads of State and Government.

5. Procedural Infringement

The delegation of Zaire regrets the specious argument of procedural infringement that was raised during the discussion of this question.

In fact a procedural infringement can only occur and be invoked with reference to an OAU text or regulation, defining the procedure to be followed. The delegation of Zaire would like to ask the OAU Administrative General Secretariat to inform the Member States of the OAU text or regulation that has been violated by the adoption of Resolution CM/Res.401(XXIV) by the 12th Ordinary Session of the Conference of Heads of State and Government.

At any rate, the delegation of Zaire has proof that in the past, the Conference of Heads of State and Government adopted decisions on the Seats of Organizations even before they were definitely established.

Finally, in view of the regrettable situation created by the Administrative Secretary-General around this affair, the delegation of the Republic of Zaire is demanding the Administrative General Secretariat of the OAU, on the one hand, to provide the PATU Conference of Plenipotentiaries all the necessary information in order to remove all ambiguities and, on the other hand, to place this question on the Agenda of the Fourteenth Ordinary Session of the Heads of State and Government which will be held in Libreville from 2 - 5 July next.

This, Mr. Chairman, is the declaration that the delegation of Zaire wished to make to shed light on the question, for the benefit of the honourable and distinguished delegates of this Conference.

The delegation of Zaire demands that this declaration figure in the minutes and reports of this, and should be reproduced and distributed to all delegates.

Thank you very much.

CM/832(XXIX)

Annex III

Attachment V (b)

COUNCIL OF MINSTERS

Twenty-Ninth Ordinary Session

Libreville, Gabon

23 - 30 June, 1977

DECLARATION BY ZAIRE

DECLARATION BY ZAIRE

Mr Chairman,

Without wishing to take up too much of your time, I would like to draw attention to a certain attitude I have observed which, to say the least, does not promote the type of cooperation we want to see established among us.

At the end of this morning's Session, while the entire Zaire delegation was still seated, the Representative of the Secretary-General informed the Zaire delegates that by a decision of the Chairman of the Drafting Committee, the distinguished delegate from Botswana, the Drafting Committee refuses to consider the counter-draft.

The Zaire delegation does not believe this, for it is convinced that the competence of the Drafting Committee does not extend beyond preparing the texts and draft resolutions as they are adopted by the Assembly.

This once again reveals, Mr Chairman, the unfortunate attitude which the Secretary-General entertains as a means of opposing Member States.

I would like in this connection to emphasize the fact the relations between our two Heads of State are such that there is not a shadow of misunderstanding exists between Botswana and Zaire, much less among the Peoples of both countries.

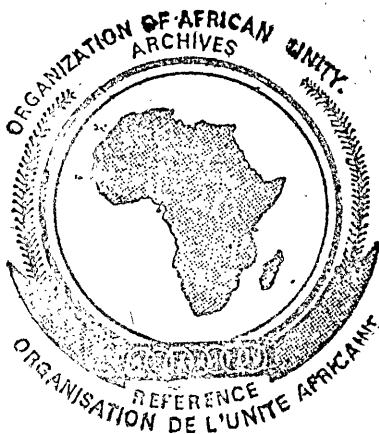
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Also since I have the floor, Mr Chairman, allow me to thank all those who are of our opinion and rightly believe that if we want seriousness to prevail in Africa and cooperation among Africans to be closer, we must respect the rules and principles we have ourselves laid down in our Charters and Conventions, etc.

For this reason, my country, Zaire, fully aware of all the positions adopted and realizing the gravity of the illegal stand the Plenipotentiary Conference, with its special and limited competence, has been led to take, solemnly announces the withdrawal of its candidature for the seat unless this withdrawal is rejected by the primary proposers and we are not applying for any other post. My delegation is also on this occasion withdrawing its counter-draft resolution relating to this.

In this way, the Zaire believes it is acting in the best way to promote the sort of increasing cooperation we desire for the well being of our respective peoples.

Mr Chairman, the Zaire delegation requests that for the OAU archives, this declaration should appear in the minutes and the report of this Conference and it also requests that it be reproduced and distributed to all the delegations present.



—/—

CM/832(XXIX)

Annex III

Attachment V(b)

Page 3

Finally, Mr Chairman, Zaire also requests that this item be cancelled from the agenda of the Heads of State Summit meeting. It however reserves its right to brand it with the incompetences and irregularities of the General Secretariat.

Thank you.

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
Twenty-Ninth Ordinary Session
Libreville, Gabon, 23 - 30 June, 1977

CM/832 (XXIX)
Annex III

REPORT OF THE RAPPORTEUR OF THE CONFERENCE OF
PLENIPOTENTIARIES OF THE PANAFRICAN
TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION



PAN-AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION
CONFERENCE OF PLENIPOTENTIARIES
Addis Ababa, 9 - 20 May, 1977

PATU/PL/Rapt. Rpt.

RAPORTEUR'S REPORT

RAPPORTEUR'S REPORT

I. OPENING CEREMONY

1. The Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union took place in Addis Ababa from 9 - 20 May 1977.
2. The inaugural session of the Conference was held in the afternoon of 9 May 1977. The Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU, H.E. Mr. William Eteki Mboumoua conducted the Ceremonial Opening.
3. The following countries and organizations attended the Conference: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroun, Cape Verde, Central African Empire, Chad, Congo, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Upper Volta, Zaire, Zambia.
4. Serviced by the General Secretariat of the Organization of African Unity, the Conference was also attended by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).
5. H.E. Ato Yusuf Ahmed, Minister of Transport and Communications delivered the opening statement. Opening statements were also made by H.E. Mr. William Eteki Mboumoua, Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU and Mr. David Ganao, Deputy Executive Secretary of the ECA. The full texts of those statements are attached to this report as Attachments IV(a), (b), and (c) respectively.
6. On behalf of the Plenipotentiaries, the Heads of Delegations of Libya, Nigeria, and the Central African Empire made statements in response to the statements made by the Minister of Ethiopia, the Administrative Secretary-General of OAU and Deputy Executive Secretary of ECA.

II. ELECTION OF THE BUREAU

7. Following the Ceremonial Opening, the Conference elected the Bureau of the Conference, composed of the following members:

Chairman: Cameroon
Vice-Chairmen: 1. Algeria
 2. Niger
 3. Kenya
Rapporteur: Botswana

8. The meeting then adjourned for the day.

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

9. The Conference resumed its work on 10 May 1977 at 10.00 a.m. At the opening of the session, the Chairman informed the meeting of the arrival of Mr. Mohamed Mili, Secretary-General of the ITU and called upon him to deliver his statement. The full text of the statement is attached to this report as Attachment IV (d).

10. The Chairman then called upon the Conference to consider and adopt the provisional agenda. The provisional agenda, containing 21 items, was unanimously adopted. The agenda is attached to this report as Attachment I.

IV. ORGANISATION OF THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

11. The Conference decided to adopt the following working hours:

Mornings: 10.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.
Afternoons: 3.30 p.m. - 6.30 p.m.

12. The Conference then elected a ten-member Drafting Committee, composed as follows: Nigeria, Upper Volta, Lesotho, Mozambique, Central African Empire, Congo, Uganda, Ethiopia, Egypt and Libya. The Rapporteur was to chair all the meetings of the Drafting Committee.

V. ITEM 5 DRAFT RULES OF PROCEDURE

13. The Conference then took up agenda item (5) dealing with the Draft Rules of Procedure of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union.

14. The Draft Rules of Procedure of the Plenipotentiary Conference of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union had embodied 38 Rules under various headings. In considering these Rules, the Conference made various amendments and decisions, notably:

- a) Throughout the Document the terminology "Conference of Plenipotentiaries" should be used instead of "Plenipotentiary Conference".
- b) The terminology "Ministers responsible for Communications" was amended to read "Ministers responsible for Telecommunications" wherever it appears.
- c) Rule 2 of the draft dealing with the results of the deliberation of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries was deleted in view of the fact that PATU, being a Specialized Agency of the OAU, would naturally use the normal channels to make known its decisions to the policy-making bodies of the OAU.
- d) Discussions on Rules 6 and 7 dealing with the Sessions of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries was suspended until the Convention was adopted in view of the fact that the provisions of these rules would reflect the adoption of the relevant part of the Convention on the Sessions of PATU.
- e) In Rule 9, dealing with working languages, the Conference adopted the usages of the working languages of the OAU.
- f) In Rule 16, dealing with the agenda, the Conference decided that the agenda should be circulated 60 days instead of 30 days, before the opening of ordinary session.

g) In Rule 17, it was decided to add additional points on the basis of Rules 16 and 17 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council of Ministers of the OAU.

h) With regard to Rule 37, it was adopted with the provision that it would be re-examined in relation to technical bodies provided for in the Convention.

15. All the other Rules were adopted with minor amendments. The Conference then decided to adopt the Rules as a whole when the Convention had been adopted in view of those Rules that were held over for consideration.

16. The meeting then proceeded to consider the Report of the Steering Committee. Accordingly, the Chairman gave the floor to the Chairman of the Steering Committee, Mr. Bobo Camara of Guinea, the Chairman of the Steering Committee then introduced in extenso the activities which the Steering Committee had undertaken in preparing the Draft Convention of PATU on the basis of the draft prepared by OAU and ECA as well as other relevant information.

17. The Chairman thanked the Members of the Steering Committee for the work well done.

18. The Meeting was then adjourned until 10.00 a.m. on 12 May 1977.

VI. CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE CONVENTION OF THE
PAN-AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION (PATU/SC.2(I)Rev.1)
(AGENDA ITEM NO.6)

19. Opening the debate on this item, the Chairman stressed the importance of the Draft Convention. He went on to call on the Conference to avoid time-consuming tactics and pleaded for pertinent observations only, to save time.

20. A delegate from Senegal reaffirmed the Chairman's words by adding that his delegation attached great importance to the establishment of the Union. He however pointed out that telecommunication activities were closely related to postal services. In most African countries both telecommunications and postal services were placed under one ministry for proper co-ordination of

communication activities, he added. He therefore suggested to the Conference that it would be much wise to amalgamate the two services in a union taking into consideration existing schedules on the Continent. He concluded by saying that such wise move would have a little adverse effect on our already shattered economies as Member States have to contribute to the budget after all.

21. The delegate of Ghana reminded the Conference that there already existed in Africa an African Postal Union responsible for postal harmonization on the Continent.

22. At this juncture, the Secretariat informed the Conference that the Secretariat of the African Postal Union had in fact already communicated to the OAU its desire to become a specialized agency of the OAU in the field of Postal Services.

23. The delegate of Nigeria introduced a 'somehow' compromised proposal. He suggested that, though his delegation fully supported the creation of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union, it would however like to see that the two African Postal Unions presently in existence should come together to form a greater union in the field of postal services. He ended by making reference to ITU and UPU, which exist as separate entities in their respective domains.

24. The delegate of Guinea made it clear that his delegation was not in principle against Senegal's proposal, but that the 'marriage' was in fact not appropriate. He added that telecommunications and postal services were not the same and did not perform the same services. He made references to AFCAC, an OAU specialized agency in the field of Civil Aviation, and the UAR, an OAU specialized agency in the field of railroad services as well as URTNA and the Arab Telecommunications Union. He ended by calling the Conference's attention to Article 20 of the Convention, which outlined the relationship between PATU and other related international agencies.

25. The Minister from the Central African Empire informed the Assembly that his Government had regretfully recalled him, though he intended to participate fully in the debate before his departure on 15/5/77 due to the importance of the item under discussion. He supported Senegal's proposal that only one Union

should be created to cater for the needs of telecommunications and postal services. He further requested that the full text of his speech should be included in the report.

26. The delegate of Libya made it clear that the Conference should understand that telecommunications and postal services were quite different, and that any attempt to blend them together into a Union would make their services ineffective. His delegation therefore supported wholeheartedly the establishment of a telecommunications union as a separate entity at all costs.

27. The delegate of Lesotho, while commending Senegal for its wise proposal, added that such a proposal came too late. Taking into account the amount of groundwork already accomplished, he did not think it feasible to go back and draft a new Convention and start negotiating all over again. In fact this would mean that delegates had to go back to their various countries to receive new mandates from their respective Governments, he contended. He concluded by saying that perhaps at the end of the Conference a resolution should be passed to take into account proposals made by Senegal and seconded by the Central African Empire.

28. The Congolese delegate said that his delegation firmly believed in the speeding up of development of the Continent but thought that Senegal's proposal was appropriate. He, therefore, supported the proposal made by Senegal and seconded by the Central African Empire. He requested that that proposal be recorded in the summary records of the Conference.

29. At this juncture, the Chairman declared that it looked as if the consensus was in favour of the creation of the Union as a separate entity and suggested that the house move to examine the Draft Convention.

30. The delegate of Upper Volta protested and expressed regret at the quick decision which the Chairman has taken. He said his delegation fully supported Senegal's proposal both in terms of savings and efficiency.

31. The delegate of Botswana moved that the house should move straight to the examination of the Draft Convention since the Chairman had already closed the debate.

32. The delegate of Ivory Coast said he was not in favour of the proposal made by Botswana, as most delegates had not been given the chance by the Chair to express their opinions.

33. At this juncture, the Chairman suggested that the house should vote on Botswana's proposal, "That the Conference proceed to the examination of the Draft Convention".

| | | |
|-----------|---|----|
| In favour | - | 25 |
| Against | - | 10 |

34. The Conference thus decided to proceed to the examination of the Draft Convention, and immediately took up the Preamble.

35. The delegate of Senegal made it clear that his delegation was in no way against the discussion of the Convention, and requested that his position be recorded.

36. The delegation of Lesotho proposed that the substance should be examined first, and then the editorial details.

37. On the preamble, the delegate of Guinea proposed the following amendment:

"CONSIDERING THE URGENT NEED TO DECOLONIZE TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK".

38. The delegation of Gabon in its turn proposed the following preambular paragraph:

"MINDFUL OF EXISTING PRINCIPLES OF THE ITU".

39. The delegation of Ivory Coast proposed an amendment to Guinea's amendment, to make it read as follows:

"CONSIDERING THE URGENT NEED TO DECLOLONIZE TELECOMMUNICATIONS IN AFRICA".

40. The Chairman then put to the vote Guinea's amendment, as amended by the Ivory Coast, with the following results:

| | | |
|-------------|---|----|
| In favour | - | 25 |
| Against | - | 2 |
| Abstentions | - | 8 |

41. The Chairman then put to the vote the proposal of Gabon with the following results:

| | | |
|------------|---|----|
| In favour | - | 12 |
| Against | - | 18 |
| Abstention | - | 5 |

Gabon's proposal was thus rejected.

42. After several amendments and proposals, the Conference decided that the preamble should conclude with, "HEREBY AGREES AS FOLLOWS".

43. On Article 4, providing for the Seat of the Union, the Secretariat drew the attention of the Conference to two relevant resolutions of the Council of Ministers, which had subsequently been endorsed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government. By resolution CM/Res.401 (XXIV), the Secretariat explained, the Council decided that the Seat of the Union, when the Union was eventually established, should be in Kinshasa, Zaire, while by resolution CM/res.404(XXIV) the Council decided that the Union should be established.

44. The delegation of Chad asked the Secretariat to give the reference number confirming that the Assembly of Heads of State and Government had endorsed Resolution CM/Res.401(XXIV) at the 12th Summit in Kampala in July 1975.

45. In reply, the Secretariat explained that resolutions of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government only bore Assembly reference numbers if the relevant subjects had been originally debated by the Assembly. Where resolutions were sent from the Council of Ministers for the approval of the Assembly, such resolutions retained their Council of Ministers reference numbers even after they had been approved by the Assembly.

46. The delegate of Lesotho suggested that the question of locating the Headquarters of the Union was so important that his delegation felt that it should be placed on the agenda of the Conference as a separate item. Lesotho's proposal was seconded by Botswana and Ivory Coast.

47. The Chairman suggested that the question of the Seat be referred back to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government in the form of an appeal.

48. The delegate of the Central African Empire requested the Secretariat to produce the minutes of the appropriate Summit endorsing the Council of Ministers' decision that the Seat of the Union be located in Kinshasa. The Secretariat promised to do so as soon as possible.

49. The delegation of Uganda dissociated itself from any move to alter the decision of the Heads of State, and requested that its position be recorded. It went on to observe that the Conference of Plenipotentiaries was not competent to refer the decision of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government back to the Assembly.

50. Rwanda expressed the belief that there was no use of debating the matter, as the decision of the Council of Ministers, as endorsed by the Heads of State, was clear-out.

51. The delegation of Ghana read a Resolution on the question of the siting of the Headquarters of the Union, passed by the West African Sub-Regional Meeting on Telecommunications Administrations in Lomé in March 1977. The Resolution requested the OAU Heads of State to consider their decision endorsing Resolution CM/Res.401(XXIV) and suggested that the OAU Secretariat provide temporary headquarters for the Union.

52. The delegate of the Ivory Coast stressed the importance of the Resolution passed in Lomé by the West African Group, and suggested that any decision taken by the Conference should take the resolution into account.

53. Some delegates suggested that the Chairman close the debate till the next day, to enable the Lomé resolution to be circulated by the Secretariat.

54. At the request of a number of delegations, the Secretariat gave additional explanations on the implications of the decisions of the Council of Ministers as reflected in resolutions CM/Res.401(XXIV) and CM/Res.404(XXIV). The Secretariat explained that it was not accurate to say that the Council's decision to locate the Headquarters in Kinshasa was putting the cart before the horse, because, during the same session at which the Council made the decision on the location of the Seat of the Union, the Council also decided that PATU should be established. The Council's decision on the location of the Headquarters of the Union was, therefore, properly made. Whether or not the Conference could question the Council's decision, which had been endorsed by the Assembly of Heads of State, the Secretariat could not say, because such a situation had never arisen before in the history of the OAU.

55. The delegate of Zaire, while asking the Chairman to close the debate, requested that his delegation be afforded opportunity to make a statement on the matter the next day.

56. The Chairman then put the matter to the vote, with the following results:

| | | |
|---|---|----|
| For referring the matter to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government | - | 25 |
| Against | - | 6 |
| Abstentions | - | 4 |

57. The Conference thus decided to refer the question of the location of the Headquarters of the Union to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government. The Drafting Committee was charged with drafting a resolution conveying the Conference's decision.

58. The delegation of the Upper Volta explained, and requested that it be recorded that the decision to refer the matter to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government did not imply that the Conference of Plenipotentiaries intended to question the decision of the Summit or any hostility intended to the Member State concerned.

59. The Chairman, in closing the debate on the matter, appealed to those Member States which were interested in hosting the Headquarters of the Union to advise the OAU General Secretariat, adding that Angola had already done so.

60. The meeting then adjourned until 10.00 a.m. the next day.

61. When the debate on the Convention resumed, the Chairman reminded the Conference of the heavy programme before it and pleaded for speed in the work.

62. The delegation of Zaire, which was the first to speak, referred to the previous day's debate and protested vehemently to the Chair on the way the decision was taken to refer the question of location of the Headquarters of PATU to the next OAU Summit. He charged the Secretariat with being partial and hostile to his country as the OAU Heads of State and Government had in Resolution CM/Res.401(XXIV) decided to locate the Union's Headquarters in Zaire.

He requested that an item be placed ~~on the agenda~~ of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government on the matter. He concluded by charging that the OAU Secretariat had failed to do its work, since it had not provided the Conference with all relevant informational material. The full text of the statement is attached hereto as Attachment V (a).

63. In response to the statement of the delegation of Zaire, the Assistant Secretary-General in Charge of Economic and Social Affairs explained that the Secretariat did not take part in the debate, but did its best to assist the Conference by making available to it the information which it needed to be able to arrive at a decision. The Secretariat did not, therefore, accept responsibility for the decision which the Conference had taken, he said. He concluded by saying that, if the matter was inscribed on the agenda of the next OAU Summit, the Secretariat would simply play the tape on which the discussion on Article 4 was recorded, since the proceedings of the Conference were being taped. (Also see paragraph 71 below)

64. The Conference then moved to consider Article 5 of the Draft Convention.

65. Nigeria proposed that Article 5(a) be amended to read:

"To maintain and extend African Co-operation among Member States for the improvement and rational use of telecommunications networks and services". The amendment was accepted.

66. Article 5(b) was also amended to read, "To promote the standardization and co-ordination of telecommunications networks among Member States of the Union". One delegate proposed that paragraphs (c) and (d) of Article 5 be reworded and combined into one paragraph. Thus, the delegation of the Ivory Coast proposed the following amendment which was accepted:

"To seek to harmonize tariff structures between Member States with a view to the establishment of tariffs compatible to good services and independent financial management of telecommunications".

67. Other subsequent paragraphs under Article 5 were amended as follows:



- (g) To harmonize, as far as possible, the position of Member States of the Union during international meetings affecting telecommunications in accordance with OAU practice;
- (h) To publish information and research materials relating to telecommunications for the benefit of all Member States of the Union and to encourage the exchange of information and staff between the administrations of the Member States.
- (i) To take, on the request of Member States, all appropriate measures to find funding sources for surveys and implementation of telecommunication projects.
- (j) To encourage and assist Member States in the establishment and development of telecommunications industries.

Article 6

68. The delegate of Cape Verde proposed that Organs of the Union be classified as follows:-

(a) Permanent Organs

1. The Conference of Plenipotentiaries
2. The Administrative Council and
3. The General Secretariat.

(b) Non-Permanent Organs

Administrative and
Technical Conferences

His proposal was accepted unanimously.

Article 7

69. Sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph 1 of Article 7 was amended to read as follows:

"It shall convene in an Ordinary Session every four years. At the request of a Member State, subjecto the agreement of two thirds of Member States, the Conference shall meet in an extraordinary session".

Paragraph 2(a) was amended to read as follows:

"Review the Convention if it feels this to be necessary"

Other paragraphs were amended to read as follows:

- 2(b) - determine the general policy which the Union must follow in order to achieve the objectives laid down in Article 5 of the present Convention;
- 2(c) - examine and approve the programme of activities and the accounts of the Union and determine the ceiling of 4 years budget until the next Conference of Plenipotentiaries;
- 2(e) - decide the scale of assessment of Member States;
- 2(f) - establish the structure of the General Secretariat and elect the Secretary-General and the Assistant Secretary-General of the Union, and fix their salaries and other conditions of service;
- 2(i) - adopt, at the conclusion of its sessions, a report addressed to all Member States as well as to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (OAU).

2(d) was deleted, while 2(g), 2(h), 2(i), 2(k), 2(l), 2(m) were passed without any amendment.

Article 8 - Administrative Council

70. The debate on Article 8 concentrated mostly on two issues: eligibility of the members of the Administrative Council for re-election and the size of the Council. After a long debate, the Conference decided that:

- a) The members of the Council should serve for 4 years and be eligible for re-election; and
- b) The Council should consist of 13 members, distributed as follows among the 5 sub-regions of Africa:

| | | |
|--------------|----|--------------|
| West Africa | -- | 4 seats |
| North Africa | -- | 2 seats |
| East " | -- | 2 seats |
| Southern " | -- | 2 seats; and |
| Central " | -- | 3 seats |

71. Before the Conference took a final position on Article 8, the Chairman interrupted the debate and invited the OAU Legal Adviser to advise the Conference on the elections of the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General. On learning, in the course of his appearance before the Conference, that the Conference had not completed Article 4 in spite of resolution CM/Res.401 (XXIV), the Legal Adviser advised the Conference that, since the resolution had been endorsed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, it would be illegal and improper for the Conference not to comply with that resolution, unless the Conference had new evidence which would have led the Assembly to decide differently on the matter, had that evidence been presented to it.

Article 9

72. Paragraph 7(a) of this Article was deleted.

Article 10

73. A new Article 10, proposed by the Ivory Coast was adopted by the Conference.

Article 11 - Finances of the Union

74. Paragraph 2(c) of this Article was reworded to read as follows:
"Each Member State to pay in accordance with the Scale of Assessment approved by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries".

Article 12 -- Legal Status of the Union

75. Paragraph 3 was amended to read "Immunities accorded in place of ... immunities recognized".

Article 13

76. A new sentence was added to read as follows: "Nothing in this Convention shall affect the rights of Member States of the Union to develop and regulate their telecommunications networks and services".

Articles 14, 15, 16 and 17

77. After a brief discussions of these Articles, the Conference accepted their texts with minor amendments.

Articles 18 - 27

78. Accepted with minor amendment.

Article 28

79. The following new text was substituted for the original one:

- (b) for three consecutive years fails to pay its financial obligations,
- (c) fails to respect the decisions of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries which are binding on all Member States,

Article 29 - Application of Provisions of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU)

80. The text was improved to read as follows:

- (a) The Pan-African Telecommunications Union shall act in accordance with the relevant provisions of the ITU Convention in force, and in particular, those articles referring to the setting up of regional organizations,
- (b) reference should be made to the ITU Convention and its appendices regarding all matters not mentioned in this Convention.

The proposals were accepted.

Agenda Item No. 7 - Administrative and Financial Arrangements

81. A representative of the General Secretariat introduced the document on this item.

82. The delegate from Congo proposed that the House should first of all consider the Structure of the Secretariat -- number of Departments and personnel, etc. This proposal was accepted after a lengthy exchange of views. The Chairman set up a Committee headed by Cameroon to study the Structure of the Secretariat and the draft budget prepared by the OAU Secretariat Doc. PATU/PL/WP/4 part I, with a view of recommending to the Conference a minimum budget for one year.

83. The Committee proposed:

- a) An annual budget of US\$700,000.
- b) Besides the Office of the Secretary-General and the Assistant Secretary-General, the following three departments:
 - i) Administrative and Finance Department,
 - ii) Technical Department,
 - iii) Technical Co-operation and Operations Department.

84. After a long debate, which concentrated on the financial resources of the Union, a consensus was reached on the following budgetary provisions:

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| (a) for first year | US\$300,000 |
| (b) for second year..... | 500,000 |
| (c) for third year | 600,000 |
| (d) for fourth year | 800,000 |

Items 8 & 9 - Election of the Secretary-General and the Assistant Secretary-General

85. The delegate of Rwanda stated that he could not see the practicability of having the elections at this stage, as the Convention has not been signed. He added that if elections took place, his delegation would request the Chair to reopen certain issues on which the Conference had taken decisions especially the question of location of the Seat of the Union, which the Conference had decided to refer to the next OAU Summit.

86. The delegate of Cameroon observed that there was not sufficient evidence in legal terms that the Convention had been adopted or signed. He suggested, therefore, that decisions on these two items on the agenda be postponed until after the Summit will have taken a decision on the Seat of the Union. The position of Cameroon was supported by many other delegations.

87. The delegate of Ghana, however, disagreed with this position, arguing that the OAU Charter did not mention the Seat of the Organization. He made reference to other organizations, like the UN and OCAM, which have similarly not referred to their Seat in their charters.

88. Zambia, Liberia, Libya and Lesotho supported Ghana and demanded that elections proceed.

89. The Conference, however, accepted a compromise proposal by the Chairman, that a resolution be passed requesting that the Conference re-convene within six months after the 14th Ordinary Session of the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government for the purpose of completing its work. In the circumstances, the Chairman further suggested and the Conference agreed, that elections of the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General would be postponed to the resumed proceedings of the Conference.

90. The Conference unanimously agreed to defer this item to its resumed session, as agreed at paragraph 89 above. Nevertheless, the following nominations were received:-

| | | |
|-----------------|---|----------------|
| Southern Africa | - | 1. Botswana |
| | | 2. Lesotho |
| East Africa | - | 1. Kenya |
| | | 2. Ethiopia |
| West Africa | - | 1. Nigeria |
| | | 2. Cape-Verde |
| | | 3. Ivory Coast |
| | | 4. Algeria |

Except for the North-African nominees, all other candidates were unanimously proposed by the sub-regions concerned.

91. The delegate of Ethiopia suggested that the Conference of Plenipotentiaries should establish a Credential's Committee to examine all the credentials whether they are valid and report back to the Conference of Plenipotentiaries. Though many delegates supported the suggestion, the Conference took no definite decision on it.

92. The Conference then requested the Drafting Committee to draft a resolution covering the following points of consensus:

- a) that the Conference had decided to establish the Pan-African Telecommunications Union,
- b) that the Convention should be initialled by all the delegates, and
- c) that the Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU should convene a Conference of Plenipotentiaries within six months after the Fourteenth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, by which time the Assembly would have given guidance on the questions of the Seat of the Union.

93. The delegation of Zaire made a statement announcing the withdrawal of Zaire's candidacy for the Seat of the Union, as well as a resolution they had proposed on the matter and the request that the matter be inscribed on the Agenda of the 14th OAU Summit.

94. In response, various delegations expressed the view that it was not up to the Conference to accept or reject the withdrawal of Zaire's candidacy.

95. At the request of the delegation of Zaire, its statement is attached hereto in its entirety as Attachment V (b).

96. The Conference then went on to discuss a draft resolution on the Seat of the Union whereby the matter was referred to the Council of Ministers of the OAU taking into account resolution CM/Res.401 (XXIV). The Conference adopted the resolution unanimously. The delegation of Zaire entered its reservation on this resolution.

REPORT OF THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON PANAFTEL:

97. The Conference then received a progress report of the Co-ordinating Committee on the Pan-African Telecommunications Network (PANAFTEL), (Doc. CM/829 (XXIX))

98. The representative of ITU requested all delegates to provide the ITU with any observations on the report in order to up-date the annexes containing the various stages of the implementation and financing of the project.

99. The Conference noted the report and then adjourned for the day.

100. The Conference resumed its Session on 20 May 1977, at 11.30 a.m. It had before it two draft resolutions:

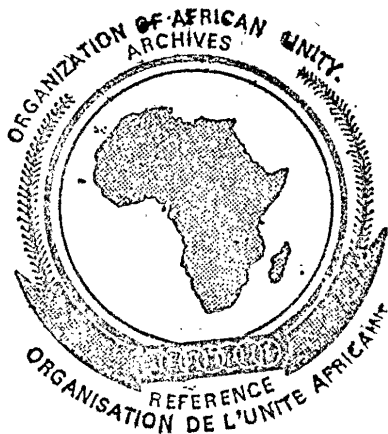
- a) Resolution on the Convention and the Rules of Procedure of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union, and
- b) Motion of thanks.

101. Minor amendments were made on the two resolutions, after which they were adopted unanimously.

102. The Conference then adjourned to resume its work in the afternoon.

CLOSING SESSION

103. In closing the proceedings of this part of the Conference's Session, the Chairman made a statement in which he assessed the Conference's achievements.



RESOLUTIONS

104. ~~The resolutions adopted by the Conference of Plenipotentiaries~~
are presented hereunder:

PATU/PL/Res.1

PATU/PL/Res.2

ATTACHMENTS

105. ~~The following are attached to this report:~~

- I. The Agenda of the Conference
 - II. Rules of Procedure of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries
 - III. Convention of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union
 - IV. Opening addresses by the Minister of Transport and Communications of Socialist Ethiopia, Administrative Secretary-General of OAU, Deputy Executive Secretary of ECA, and Secretary-General of ITU.
 - V. Statements by the Republic of Zaire.
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