

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي



UNION AFRICAINE

UNIÃO AFRICANA

P. O. Box 3243, Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA Tel.: 00251-11-5517700, ADDIS ABABA
Website: www.africa-union.org

ASSEMBLY OF THE AFRICAN UNION
Ninth Ordinary Council
1 – 3 July 2007
Accra, GHANA

Assembly/AU/Dec.166 - 170 (IX)
Assembly/AU/Decl.1- 2 (IX)



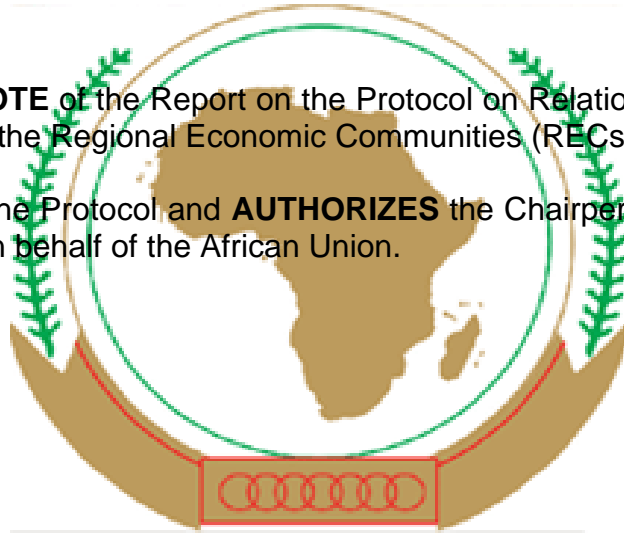
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**DECISION ON THE PROTOCOL ON RELATIONS BETWEEN THE AFRICAN
UNION AND THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES (RECs)**
DOC. EX.CL/348 (XI)

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the Protocol on Relations between the African Union and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs);
2. **ADOPTS** the Protocol and **AUTHORIZES** the Chairperson of the Commission to sign it on behalf of the African Union.



**DECISION ON THE ELECTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE AFRICAN
COMMISSION ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS
DOC. EX.CL/365 (XI)**

The Assembly:

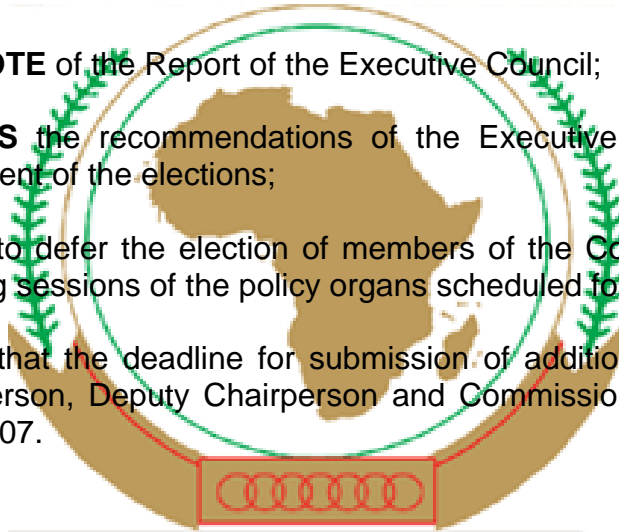
1. **TAKES NOTE** of the elections of the members of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights by the Executive Council;
2. **APPOINTS** the following members of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights:
 1. Mme Catherine Dupe Atoki (Nigeria) (6 year term)
 2. Mme Zainabu Sylvie Kayitesi (Rwanda) (2 year term)
 3. Mme Soyata Maiga (Mali) (6 year term)
 4. Dr. Angela Melo (Mrs) (Mozambique) (6 year term)
 5. M. Yeung Kam John Yeung Sik Yuen (Mauritius) (6 year term)



DECISION ON ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE AU COMMISSION
DOC. EX.CL/351 (XI)

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Executive Council;
2. **APPROVES** the recommendations of the Executive Council on the postponement of the elections;
3. **DECIDES** to defer the election of members of the Commission to the forthcoming sessions of the policy organs scheduled for January 2008;
4. **DECIDES** that the deadline for submission of additional candidatures for Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson and Commissioners shall be 30 October 2007.



**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE NEPAD HEADS OF STATE AND
GOVERNMENT IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE ON THE INTEGRATION
OF NEPAD INTO THE STRUCTURES AND PROCEDURES OF THE AU**

The Assembly:

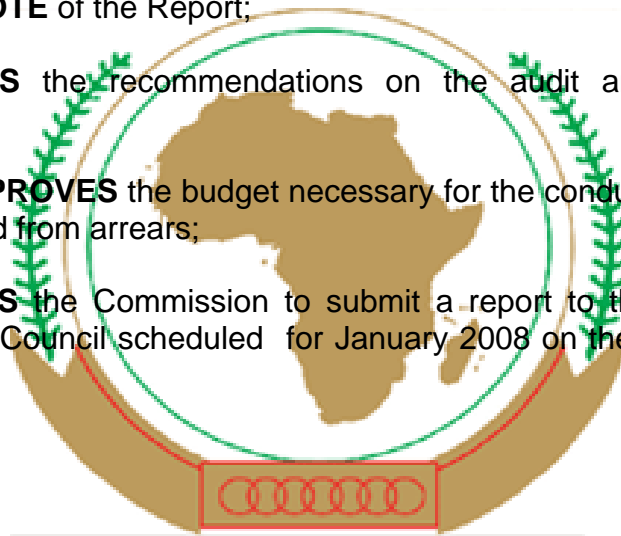
1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **ENDORSES** the proposal for the convening of a brainstorming session on the integration of NEPAD to be held in Dakar, Senegal;
3. **REQUESTS** the HISGC to submit a report thereon to the next Session of the Assembly.



**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE TENTH EXTRAORDINARY
SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL – ZIMBALI, SOUTH AFRICA**

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **APPROVES** the recommendations on the audit and its terms of reference;
3. **ALSO APPROVES** the budget necessary for the conduct of the audit to be financed from arrears;
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to submit a report to the next ordinary session of Council scheduled for January 2008 on the outcome of the audit.



DECLARATION ON THE ARAB PEACE INITIATIVE

We, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union meeting in our Ninth Ordinary Session, in Accra, Ghana, from 1 to 3 July 2007,

Having examined the grave situation resulting from the continued Israeli occupation of Palestinian and Arab lands,

1. **SUPPORT** the Arab Peace Initiative (API) in all its aspects, as adopted by the Arab Summit in its 14th Session in Beirut, Lebanon, on 28 March 2002, to resolve the Palestinian issue and the Arab-Israeli conflict;
2. **DECIDE** to deploy all efforts and means to promote the API, explain its dimensions and lobby international support for its implementation;
3. **SUPPORT** the Decision of the Arab Summit concerning the implementation of the API taken at its 19th Session, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on 29 March 2007;
4. **AFFIRM** that a comprehensive and just peace in the region can only be achieved by complete Israeli withdrawal from all Palestinian and Arab lands occupied since June 1967; by establishment of an independent sovereign Palestinian State with Al-Quds (East Jerusalem) as its capital and through a just solution to the problem of the Palestinian refugees in accordance with the UN-General Assembly Resolution 194 of 1948;
5. **CALL FOR** the organization of an International Conference for all concerned international and regional parties, to be held under the auspices of the United Nations and the Quartet, to launch the process of direct, serious and meaningful negotiations in accordance with the agreed instruments. This peace process should be within a well-defined time framework;
6. **CALL UPON** the Chairperson of the Commission to intensify his contacts and coordinate with the Secretary General of the League of Arab States to deploy concerted efforts to promote the API and to lobby international support for its implementation.

Done in Accra, Ghana, this 3rd day of July 2007

ACCRA DECLARATION

We, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, meeting at the 9th Ordinary Session of our Assembly in Accra, Ghana, from 1 to 3 July 2007,

1. **RECALLING** our decision Assembly/AU/Dec. 156 (VIII) adopted in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in January 2007 on the need for a “*Grand Debate on the Union Government*” with a view to providing a clear vision of the future of the African Union and of African unity;
2. **CONVINCED** that the ultimate objective of the African Union is the United States of Africa with a Union Government as envisaged by the founding fathers of the Organization of African Unity and, in particular, the visionary leader, Dr. Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana;
3. **ALSO CONVINCED** of the need for common responses to the major challenges of globalization facing Africa and boosting regional integration processes through an effective continental mechanism;
4. **RECOGNIZING** that opening up narrow domestic markets to greater trade and investment through freer movement of persons, goods, services and capital would accelerate growth thus, reducing excessive weaknesses of many of our Member States;
5. **FURTHER RECOGNIZING** that the Union Government should be built on common values that need to be identified and agreed upon as benchmarks;
6. **ACKNOWLEDGING** the importance of involving the African peoples in order to ensure that the African Union is a Union of peoples and not just a “Union of states and governments”, as well as the African Diaspora in the processes of economic and political integration of our continent;

HEREBY DECLARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. We agree to accelerate the economic and political integration of the African continent, including the formation of a Union Government for Africa with the ultimate objective of the African Union is to create the United States of Africa.
2. We agree on the following steps to attaining the Union Government:
 - a) to rationalize and strengthen Regional Economic Communities, and harmonize their activities, in conformity with our earlier decision, so as to lead to the creation of an African Common Market, through the stages set in the Treaty Establishing African Economic Community (Abuja Treaty), with a reviewed and shorter timeframe to be agreed upon in order to accelerate the economic integration and where possible, political integration;

- b) to conduct immediately, an Audit of the Executive Council in terms of Article 10 of the Constitutive Act, the Commission as well as the other organs of the African Union in accordance with the Terms of Reference adopted by the 10th Extraordinary Session of our Executive Council held in Zimbali, South Africa on 10 May 2007;
- c) to establish a ministerial Committee to examine the following:
 - i. identification of the contents of the Union Government concept and its relations with national governments;
 - ii. identification of domains of competence and the impact of the establishment of the Union Government on the sovereignty of Member States;
 - iii. definition of the relationship between the Union Government and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs),
 - iv. elaboration of the roadmap together with timeframes for establishing the Union Government; and
 - v. identification of additional sources of financing the activities of the Union.
- 3. The outcome of the audit and work of the Ministerial Committee will be submitted to the Executive Council, to make appropriate recommendations to the next ordinary session of our Assembly.
- 4. We agree on the importance of involving the African peoples including Africans in the Diaspora in the processes leading to the formation of the Union Government.

Done in Accra, Ghana, this 3rd day of July 2007

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