

# ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY



Declarations Adopted By  
The First Afro-Arab Summit  
Conference Held In Cairo From  
7 To 9 March 1977

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D E C L A R A T I O N  
and  
PROGRAMME OF ACTION  
on  
AFRO-ARAB CO-OPERATION

I. PREAMBLE

1. We, the Kings and Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity and of the League of Arab States, meeting in Cairo from 7th to 9th March 1977,

2. Considering the Charters of the Organization of African Unity and the League of Arab States;

3. Recalling the decisions taken and the resolutions adopted, at various levels, particularly at the 8th Extraordinary Session, the 23rd and 24th Ordinary Sessions of the OAU Council of Ministers as well as at the 6th and 7th Arab Summit Meetings and at

the 62nd and 63rd Ordinary Sessions of the Council of Ministers of the League of Arab States with a view to strengthening co-operation between the States;

4. Conscious of our multiple ties and interests and by reason of geography, history and culture and our desire to promote co-operation in the political, economic and social fields, and by reason of our joint struggle against domination and exploitation in all their forms;

5. Appreciating the ties of friendship, brotherhood and good neighbourliness existing between African and Arab States;

6. Guided by a common will to strengthen understanding among our peoples and co-operation among our States so as to fulfil the aspiration of our peoples for the consolidation of Afro-Arab brotherhood;

7. Determined to strengthen the ties between our States and peoples by establishing common institutions;

8. Considering the common interests and aspirations of the African and the Arab peoples;

9. Convinced that Afro-Arab co-operation falls within the framework of common action by all developing countries in order to increase co-operation among themselves, on the one hand, and on the other, to intensify efforts to establish a new, fairer and more equitable international economic order;

10. Determined to harness our natural and human resources for the general progress of our people in all spheres of human endeavour;

††. Bearing in mind the principles and provisions of the Algiers Charter, the Lima Declaration, the African Declaration on Co-operation, Development and Economic Independence, the Declarations, Resolution and Programme of Action for Economic Co-operation of the Fourth Summit of Non-Aligned Countries, the economic and decolonization provisions of the Declaration of the Lahore Islamic Summit and of the Solemn Declaration of the Summit of the Kings and Heads of State of the Member States of the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting countries, the Declaration and Programme of Action for the Establishment of a New International Economic Order adopted by the Sixth Special Session of the U.N. General Assembly, the Charter of the Economic Rights and Duties of States, and the Declaration and Programme of Action of the Dakar Conference on Raw Materials and Development;

12. HEREBY DECIDE to adopte this Declaration and Programme of Action defining the principles and frame work of collective and individual action by African and Arab countries for Afro-Arab Co-operation.

## II. PRINCIPLES

13. Political and economic co-operation between African and Arab States shall be founded in particular on the following principles:

- a) Respect for the sovereignty, security, territorial integrity and political independence of all our States;
- b) Equality of all States;
- c) Permanent sovereignty of States and peoples over their natural resources;

- d) Non-aggression and inadmissibility of occupying or annexing territories by force;
- e) Non-interference in the internal affairs of other States;
- f) The safeguarding of mutual interests on the basis of reciprocity and equality;
- g) Peaceful settlement of differences and disputes in a spirit of tolerance;
- h) Joint struggle against domination, racism and exploitation in all their forms to safeguard world peace and security;



III. FIELDS OF CO-OPERATION

AND

PROGRAMME FO ACTION

A. Fields of Co-operation

14. African and Arab countries undertake to develop their relations at both the bilateral and multilateral levels on a comprehensive and long-term basis of co-operation in the following fields:

- a) Political and diplomatic
- b) Economic and financial
- c) Commercial
- d) Educational, cultural, scientific, technical and information.

B. Political and Diplomatic Co-operation:

15. African and Arab countries reaffirm their adherence to the

policy of non-alignment, an important factor in the struggle for:

- a) The freedom and independence of nations;
- b) The establishment of world peace and security for all States;
- c) The universal application of the principles of peaceful co-existence;
- d) The democratisation of international relations;
- e) Equal rights in co-operation;
- f) Economic development and social advancement.

16. CONDEMN imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, zionism, apartheid and all other forms of racial and religious discrimination and segregation particularly in Africa, Palestine and the occupied Arab territories;

17. REAFFIRM their support for African and Arab causes and UNDERTAKE to co-ordinate their action at the international level, in particular, at the United Nations, on questions of common interest. To this end, African and Arab Groups in international bodies shall establish close co-operation;

18. The two parties SHALL CONTINUE to give their political, diplomatic, material and moral support to African and Arab National Liberation Movements recognized by both the OAU and the League of Arab States.

19. The Member States of the two parties SHALL ENDEAVOUR to establish and strengthen their diplomatic and economic representations in each other's countries and shall promote contacts between their similar national, political and social institutions.

C. Economic Co-operation

20. Desirous of realizing the widest economic co-operation, the two parties resolve to expand, strengthen and intensify co-operation in the following fields;

- a) Trade
- b) Mining and Industry
- c) Agriculture and Animal Husbandry
- d) Energy and Water Resources
- e) Transport, Communications and Telecommunications
- f) Financial co-operation.

TRADE

21 The two parties DECIDE to take the necessary measures to:

- a) Establish direct commercial relations;
- b) Supply on a priority basis, as far as possible their respective markets;
- c) Facilitate direct African and Arab trade including the establishment of preferential trade regimes;
- d) Encourage and promote co-operation between trading Organizations and business enterprises and participation in Trade Fairs;
- e) Establish co-operation between African and Arab banking institutions and African and Arab insurance and reinsurance companies;

22. To this end, request the Administrative Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity and the Secretary-General of the

League of Arab States to prepare, in collaboration with the African Development Bank, the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa and the Economic Commission for Africa, studies of African and Arab markets with a view to encouraging Afro-Arab trade.

### MINING AND INDUSTRY

23. In conformity with the policy pursued by the two parties with respect to control by States over their natural resources and the realization of optimum value for their raw materials, the two parties DECIDED to:

- a) Co-operate in a systematic survey of their natural resources with a view to developing their rational utilization and exploitation;
- b) Intensify industrialisation through the exploita-

tion, marketing and transportation of their mineral and raw materials and encourage investment ventures in these fields;

- c) Develop financial and technical co-operation, encourage research in all industrial and mining fields and agree on the adequate conditions of this co-operation through the establishment of joint enterprises or the granting of donations and loans.

AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, FISHERIES  
AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

24. The two parties DECIDED TO:

- a) Develop agriculture through the introduction of modern and advanced techniques in the fields of production, distribution and storage.

- b) Promote the modernization of animal husbandry and the improvement of breeds and animal production.
- c) Ensure the rapid and substantial increase in food production through direct investment, joint ventures and other methods of cooperation in the fields of animal and food production as well as the exploitation of forestry and the marketing of timber products.
- d) Exchange information and research results aimed at improving the living conditions of rural populations with special emphasis on rural infrastructure.
- e) Take necessary steps, within an acceptable framework to assist African and Arab countries in the maximum



processing of their raw materials prior to exportation.

- f) Agree on modalities for financial and technical co-operation for the realization of joint action for the development of agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry and fisheries.

#### ENERGY AND WATER RESOURCES

25. The two parties DECIDE to ensure effective control by each State of its own energy resources.

26. The two parties DECIDE that States or competent national African and Arab institutions agree to:

- a. Promote prospecting operations of all sources of energy including oil,

their exploitation, transportation and storage and to work to develop investments in these operations.

- b) Exchange information, experiences and technology in the field of energy.
- c) Promote the exchange of information and make use of acquired experiences and appropriate technology in order to improve climatic and desert conditions, as well as of appropriate methods concerning the exploitation of rivers, lakes, basins and ground water resources.
- d) Co-operate for development purposes, within a mutually acceptable arrangement, in the exploitation of hydro-electric and other forms of ener-

gy on a regional basis  
wherever possible.

- e) Intensify the use of other sources of energy such as solar, thermal, nuclear and other sources of energy as well as research in this area with a view to accelerating economic development, halting the process of desertification and soil erosion and combating drought in Africa.

#### TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

27. With a view to facilitating communications between African and Arab States, the two parties  
RESOLVE to:

- a) Accelerate the development of modern infrastructure of roads, railways, air-

lines, inland waterways and shipping which constitute an important basis for the development of Afro-Arab co-operation;

Establish, according to priorities, links between national road, rail and airline networks in order to facilitate the rapid and economical transport of people and goods in accordance with bilateral or multilateral agreement;

- c) Undertake studies with a view to establishing consortia of shipping companies which will enable them to operate with greater efficiency, share the use of terminal and maintenance facilities, and explore the possibilities of technical innovation in transport and communications;

- d) Effectively strengthen co-operation between airline companies with a view to enhancing the expansion and rationalization of air services;
- e) Improve existing postal and telecommunications networks and expand them according to priorities;
- f) Co-operate in the implementation of subregional and continental projects in the fields of telecommunications, roads and railways.

#### FINANCIAL CO-OPERATION

28. The two parties DECIDE to:
- a) Take all necessary measures that will promote effective financial co-operation on terms that would provide security

and guarantees through:

- 1) bilateral direct long-term loans, on the most favourable terms possible for the two parties, direct investments as well as joint financial ventures;
- 2) multilateral long-term loans, on the most favourable terms possible, for the financing of projects, including feasibility studies;
- 3) Afro-Arab participation in international financial consortia for the financing of joint projects in Africa and the Arab world.

- b) Facilitate mutual preferential access, both of African and Arab financial institutions to each other's capital markets, in compliance with rules and regulations prevailing in each country;
- c) Invite the Organization of African Unity and the League of Arab States to co-operate with the African Development Bank, the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa and other specialized institutions in the search for an adequate formula for closer economic, financial and technical co-operation; in particular through the setting up of Afro-Arab financial institutions and the drawing-up of an Afro-Arab agreement governing investments;

- d) Invite the African Development Bank (ADB) and the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (ABEDA) to co-ordinate their investment activities and to engage in the joint financing of multinational African projects.

D. Co-operation in the Social, Cultural and Educational Fields

29. With a view to achieving better understanding between African and Arab peoples and States, the two parties agree to reinforce links in the social, cultural and educational fields through the conclusion of appropriate agreements on:

- a) Cultural missions and festivals;



- b) Scholarships, training programmes and sports;
- c) Labour and trade union activities;
- d) Co-operation in the information media such as the press, news agencies, communication satellites, radio and television;
- e) The exchange of appropriate information and experiences and assistance in the solution of social problems such as the settlement of nomads.

30. In view of the human and cultural role played by tourism in the promotion of better understanding, the two parties also agree to encourage and facilitate tourism and to enhance co-operation in this field, in particular, through investments and joint ventures in the tourist industry.

E. Scientific and Technical  
Co-operation

31. The two parties DECIDE to:

- a) Promote and co-ordinate research activities through the exchange of scientific and technical information and studies;
- b) Establish joint consultancy services and specialized training institutions;
- c) Provide direct technical co-operation involving the provision of training grants and fellowships in the field of science and technology;
- d) Expand technical co-operation to ensure the availability of experts.

#### IV. INSTITUTIONS

32. With a view to enhancing closer co-ordination of Afro-Arab co-operation activities, and to assist in the implementation of this Declaration and Programme of Action, the two parties  
DECIDE:

- a) to establish a joint Standing Commission, at ministerial level, to follow-up periodically and ensure the implementation of the provisions of this Declaration and to explore new horizons of co-operation;
  
- b) to grant each other observer status at the meetings of their respective Organizations when matters of common interest are to be discussed;

33. This Declaration was issued in Cairo, on the 9th (Ninth) of March 1977. The Arabic, English and French texts of this Declaration are equally authentic..

In witness whereof, we have appended our signature.

DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF  
ALGERIA

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA

THE STATE OF BAHRAIN

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BENIN

REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI

UNITED REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON

REPUBLIC OF CAPE VERDE

CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE

REPUBLIC OF CHAD

REPUBLIC OF COMORO

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CONGO

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF  
YEMEN

ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

REPUBLIC OF EQUATORIAL GUINEA

SOCIALIST ETHIOPIA

REPUBLIC OF GABON  
REPUBLIC OF GAMBIA  
REPUBLIC OF GHANA  
REPUBLIC OF GUINEA  
REPUBLIC OF GUINEA BISSAU  
THE IRAQI REPUBLIC  
REPUBLIC OF IVOTY COAST  
THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN  
REPUBLIC OF KENYA  
THE STATE OF KUWAIT  
THE LEBANESE REPUBLIC  
KINGDOM OF LESOTHO  
REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA  
PEOPLE'S SOCIALIST ARAB MASSES OF  
LIBYA  
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF  
MADAGASCAR  
REPUBLIC OF MALI  
THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA  
MAURITIUS  
KINGDOM OF MOROCCO  
PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF  
MOZAMBIQUE  
REPUBLIC OF NIGER  
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA  
THE SULTANATE OF OMAN  
PALESTINE

THE STATE OF QATAR  
REPUBLIC OF RWANDA  
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF SAO TOME  
AND PRINCIPE  
KINGDOM OF SUDI ARABIA  
REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL  
REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES  
REPUBLIC OF SIERRA-LEONE  
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF SOMALIA  
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF SUDAN  
KINGDOM OF SWAZILAND  
THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC  
UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA  
REPUBLIC OF TOGO  
THE TUNISIAN REPUBLIC  
REPUBLIC OF UGANDA  
STATE OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES  
REPUBLIC OF UPPER VOLTA  
THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF YEMEN  
REPUBLIC OF ZAIRE  
REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

DECLARATION  
ON AFRO-ARAB ECONOMIC  
AND FINANCIAL CO-OPERATION

adopted by

THE FIRST AFRO-ARAB SUMMIT  
CONFERENCE

held in Cairo from 7 to 9 March 1977

DECLARATION ON  
AFRO-ARAB ECONOMIC AND  
FINANCIAL CO-OPERATION

The first Afro-Arab Summit  
Conference Meeting in Cairo from  
7 to 9 March, 1977;

Considering that the African  
and Arab peoples are waging a joint  
struggle for shouldering the bur-  
dens of development, for putting  
an end to domination, subservience  
and exploitation, and for taking  
steps towards the establishment  
of a new, just international  
economic order;

Conscious of the fact that  
backwardness and the economic  
problems from which the African  
and Arab peoples suffer have  
been originally created by moda-  
lities of exploitation and colo-  
nialism over long centuries, and  
that they are inherent in the  
unequal nature of the current



framework of international economic relations, as well as the nature of current international economic order which is basically designed to serve the interests of exploiting industrialized States;

Out of the conviction of Afro-Arab States that the cause of Afro-Arab liberation and development is indivisible;

Noting that Afro-Arab co-operation has already taken positive strides towards contribution in the process of development and enabling Afro-Arab peoples to control their own natural resources and wealth;

Noting also that the volume of Afro-Arab co-operation in the economic and financial spheres has increased sevenfold in the last three years, that it has been mostly founded on preferential bases and easy terms compatible

structural projects in Africa preparing their financing, including the four projects proposed by the Economic Commission for Africa;

2. Enhancing the resources of national and multi-lateral financial institutions working in the field of African development;
3. Enhancing the financial resources of the African Development Bank through loans from Arab financial markets at the most favourable terms possible;
4. Increasing the resources of the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa to enable it to contribute more to meeting African development needs;

5. Consolidating commercial relations among the African and Arab States through reciprocal preferential treatment;
6. Coordinating the financial aid provided by Arab States and multilateral financial institutions, in order to consolidate the impact of this aid on development in the recipient African States;
7. Encouraging Arab investments particularly through the realization of establishing joint Afro-Arab projects; and working for the establishment of a system to guarantee Arab investments in the African countries;
8. Promoting the placement of Arab capital in African countries whether in

the form of direct investments, loans or deposits;

9. Encouraging technical co-operation among African and Arab countries;
10. Increasing bilateral assistance extended to African countries through national funds;
11. The Standing Committee, shall in close collaboration with African and Arab specialized institutions, (particularly the ECA, ADB, ABEDA), endeavour to ensure the quick implementation of the above provisions particularly paragraphs 3,4,7 and 10.

ORGANIZATION AND METHOD  
FOR THE REALIZATION OF  
AFRO-ARAB CO-OPERATION

adopted by

THE FIRST AFRO-ARAB SUMMIT  
CONFERENCE

held in Cairo from 7 to 9 March 1977

ORGANIZATION AND METHOD FOR  
THE REALIZATION OF  
AFRO-ARAB CO-OPERATION

In addition to the Joint Afro-Arab Summit and the Joint Council of Ministers, the following joint bodies shall be created to ensure the realization of Afro-Arab Co-operation as defined in the Declaration and Programme of Action on Afro-Arab Co-operation:

1. Standing Commission.
2. Working Groups and Specialized Panels.
3. Co-ordinating Committee.
4. Ad Hoc Court for Commission of Conciliation and Arbitration.

I. JOINT SUMMIT CONFERENCE  
AND COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

The Afro-Arab Summit shall be held every three years and the Joint

Ordinary Meeting of the Council of Ministers shall be held every eighteen months.

## II. STANDING COMMISSION

Composition: The Standing Commission shall be composed of 24 Ministers twelve of whom shall be appointed by the Organization of African Unity and twelve by the League of Arab States or their Representatives who must be at least of Ambassadorial rank, the two Secretaries-General of the Organization of African Unity and the League of Arab States.

The Chairmanship: The Chairmanship of the Group of Twelve of the Organization of African Unity and of the Group of Twelve of the League of Arab States shall be Co-Chairmen of the Standing Commission.

Meeting and Venue: The Standing Commission shall meet in

Ordinary Session twice every year alternatively at the Headquarters of the two Organizations unless in case of an invitation extended by a Member State. By agreement of the two Chairmen, an Extraordinary Session of the Commission shall be convened when necessary.

The dates and duration of such meetings shall be fixed after consultation between the Chairmen and the Secretaries-General of the two Organizations.

Terms of Reference: The Standing Commission is entrusted with the implementation of Afro-Arab Co-operation and shall follow up its development in the various fields. It shall examine and direct co-operation towards the political, cultural, social, technological and economic objectives as envisaged in the Declaration and Programme of Action on Afro-



## Arab Co-operation:

To this end, the Commission shall take the appropriate decisions:

### It shall, inter alia:

- a) Ensure the implementation and follow-up of decisions of the Conference of Heads of State and Government and the Council of Ministers;
- b) Consider issues raised by each party and work out the necessary proposals to be submitted to the Council of Ministers for the promotion and strengthening of Afro-Arab Co-operation;
- c) Set up the necessary working groups on the various aspects of Afro-Arab Co-operation and

define their terms of reference and rules of procedure:

- d) Approve the projects proposed by the appropriate working groups;
- e) Deal with matters relating to general organization and co-ordination in the establishment of co-operation;
- f) The Standing Commission may, if necessary, propose a joint Extraordinary Meeting of the Council of Ministers.

### III. WORKING GROUPS AND SPECIALIZED PANELS

Working Groups and Specialized Panels shall be established in accordance with the Declaration and Programme of Action on Afro-Arab Co-

operation in the following fields as the necessity arises:

- a) Trade;
- b) Mining and Industry;
- c) Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries and Animal Husbandry;
- d) Energy and Water Resources;
- e) Transport, Communication and Telecommunications;
- f) Financial Co-operation;
  
- g) Educational, Social, cultural and Information;
- h) Scientific and Technical Co-operation.

The Standing Commission may set up other Working Groups.

Composition: Each Working Group shall be composed as far as possible of an equal number of experts and specialists from both sides. Each side shall, as

far as possible, ensure the continuity of the terms of office of the members of the Group.

Each of the two sides shall appoint a Chairman for each Working Group and shall inform the Chairman of the other side of its choice. Each Working Group shall appoint a Rapporteur

Each Working Group may consult specialists from the public or private sector when necessary.

#### TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Each Working Group shall submit any appropriate proposal, within its competence, to the two Chairmen, especially with regard to the selection and implementation of projects with due consideration of the instructions issued by the Standing Commission.

2. The Working Groups shall submit their proposals and recommendations to the Standing Commission to take necessary measures in this respect.

3. Each Working Group may, after consultation with the Chairmen, decide to set up Specialized Panels to undertake any specific assignment within the former's terms of reference.

4. The Working Groups shall each define, within the framework of its competence, the terms of reference of the Specialized Panels as well as the method of work of these panels.

5. The Working Groups may terminate the assignment of any Specialized Panel.

#### IV. COORDINATING COMMITTEE

The Co-ordinating Committee shall be responsible, under the authority of the Standing Commission, on the one hand, for co-ordinating the work of the work of the various Working Groups and, on the other, for ensuring the implementation of decisions taken. Within the limits of these powers, the Co-ordinating Committee shall deal exclusively with matters of a practical and administrative nature requiring urgent decisions.

Composition: The Co-ordinating Committee shall be composed of:

- The Chairman of the Committee of twelve and the Secretary-General of the OAU, on the one hand, and the Chairman of the Committee of Twelve and the Secretary-General of

the League of Arab States  
on the other;

The Co-Chairmen and Rap-  
porteur of each of the  
Working Groups concerned,  
if the Co-ordinating  
Committee deems it neces-  
sary..

V. AFRO-ARAB AD HOC COURT OR  
COMMISSION OF CONCILIATION  
AND ARBITRATION

An Afro-Arab Court or Com-  
mission of Conciliation and Arbi-  
tration shall be set up charged  
with the legal interpretation of  
texts governing Afro-Arab Co-ope-  
ration and any disputes that may  
arise. The Status and composition  
of such an Institution shall be  
laid down by a meeting of experts  
to be convened under the auspices  
of the OAU and the Arab League.

## VI. MEANS OF ACTION

A Special Fund shall be established for the running of the executive bodies of Afro-Arab Co-operation. This Fund shall be financed on a 50% contribution from each of the two Organizations' regular budgets. Individual and voluntary contributions could be made to this Special Fund.

The budget of the Special Fund shall be approved by the Standing Commission.

This Fund shall be administered by the Secretaries-General of the Organization of African Unity and the League of Arab States under the control and responsibility of the Co-ordinating Committee which will regularly report to the Standing Commission.



POLITICAL DECLARATION

adopted by

THE FIRST AFRO-ARAB SUMMIT  
CONFERENCE

held in Cairo from 7 to 9 March 1977

## POLITICAL DECLARATION

1. The First Conference of Heads of State and Government of the OAU and the League of Arab States met in Cairo from 7 to 9 March 1977.

2. The African and Arab Heads of State and Government guided by the faith of their peoples and the promotion of Afro-Arab Co-operation based on the principles and objectives of the Charters of the Organization of African Unity and the League of Arab States and on the application of their common political will as expressed in their relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the Summit Conference of their respective Organizations, examined and adopted the Draft Declaration and Programme of Action prepared by the meeting of the Joint Ministerial Council at Dakar from 19 to 22 April 1976 dealing with co-operation in the politi-

cal, diplomatic, economic, financial, commercial, educational, cultural, scientific, social and technical fields.

3. The Afro-Arab Summit Conference reaffirms its commitment to the principles of non-alignment and peaceful co-existence and to the establishment of a just international economic order.

4. The Afro-Arab Summit Conference affirms its commitment to the principles of respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, non-interference in the internal affairs of other States, non-aggression, self-determination, and the inadmissibility of the occupation or annexation of territories by force and the peaceful settlement of disputes and conflicts.

5. The African and Arab Heads of State and Government reaffirm the need to strengthen their peoples' united front in their struggle for national liberation and condemn imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, zionism, apartheid and all other forms of discrimination and racial and religious segregation, especially under the forms in which they appear in Southern Africa, Palestine and the other occupied Arab and African territories. In this connection they express their full support for the struggle of the peoples of Palestine, Zimbabwe, Namibia, South Africa and the so-called French Somaliland (Djibouti) for the recovery of their legitimate national rights and the exercise of their right to self-determination and affirm their support for the political unity and territorial integrity of the Comoros.

6. The Afro-Arab Summit Conference invites the OAU and the League of Arab States to exchange information regularly on the development of the common struggle for the liberation of their respective peoples in Africa and the Middle East to enable Member States to play an effective and positive role in this respect.

7. The African and Arab Heads of State and Government condemn the constant military aggressions as well as other political and economic manoeuvres carried out by imperialism through the racist regimes of South Africa and Rhodesia and their allies, against the sovereign States of Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique and Zambia, with the aim of politically destabilizing the governments of these countries and of sabotaging their efforts for economic development. The summit regards such aggressions as directed against the Afro-Arab

world and a threat against world peace. The Conference also condemns similar activities carried out by Israel against Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the people of Palestine. Further, the African and Arab Heads of State and Government decided that their respective countries should provide and increase their material support and any other type of assistance required to enable these countries to consolidate and defend their independence.

The Conference condemns the Israeli authorities for their persistence in changing the demographic and geographic features of the occupied Arab territories in violation of the international law and U.N. resolutions. The Conference demands that Israel should desist from taking such measures with a view to creating better conditions to facilitate the establishment of a settlement in the region.

8. The Afro-Arab Summit Conference decides that increased efforts be made within the OAU. The Arab League and the United Nations and all other international Forums to find the most effective ways and means of accentuating at the international level the political and economic isolation of Israel, South Africa and Rhodesia so long as the regimes of these countries persist in their racist, expansionist and aggressive policies. To this effect, the Summit Conference affirms the necessity to continue to impose total boycott, political, diplomatic, cultural, sporting and economic and in particular the oil embargo against these regimes.

9. The Afro-Arab Summit Conference expresses its strong conviction that the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action on Afro-Arab Co-operation will constitute a significant

turning point in history for the strengthening of all forms of ties between them, the consolidation of their political independence and sovereignty particularly their permanent control over their natural resources, in the struggle of the peoples of the Third World and the maintenance of world peace and security.

10. The Afro-Arab Summit Conference, after a thorough examination of the situation, expressed great concern about the problems of Palestine, the Middle East, Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa. Fully convinced that these causes are Afro-Arab causes, the Summit decides to extend its total support to the peoples struggling against the racist and zionist regimes and to the Front-line States bordering confrontation zones for their assistance to the National Liberation Struggle



11. The Conference strongly condemns the practice of mercenaries and undertakes to eliminate this phenomenon in Africa and the Arab World.

12. The Afro-Arab Summit Conference further decides to take all necessary measures to promote direct economic and financial relations and exchanges of every kind especially commercial, cultural, educational, scientific and technological between African and Arab States.

13. The African and Arab Heads of State and Government express their unshakeable faith in Afro-Arab Co-operation and declare their determination to undertake to mobilize all their energies and exert all their efforts to attain the objectives laid down in the Declaration and Programme of Action on Afro-Arab Co-operation with a view to strengthening furthe

understanding among all their peoples and creating indissoluble ties of Afro-Arab fraternity based on strong and lasting foundations.

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1977

# Declarations Adopted By The First Afro-Arab Summit Conference Held In Cairo

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