

DECLARATION ON UNCTAD AND UNIDO

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the African Union, meeting during the Seventh Ordinary Session of our Assembly to deliberate upon key issues relating to the economic development of our continent;

Conscious of the critical importance of improved performance in the areas of trade and productive capacities building for the effective integration of our countries into the global economy, the achievement of rapid and sustainable economic development, and the eradication of poverty among our peoples;

Recalling that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) are the two major international organizations that were established to support developing countries in their efforts to mainstream trade into development and promote industrial development;

Convinced of the continued relevance of the mandates of UNCTAD and UNIDO in meeting Africa's challenge of economic development and poverty eradication in the current era of globalization;

Call for, in the context of the reform of the United Nations (UN) system, the strengthening of UNCTAD and UNIDO with a view to enhancing their capacity building support to developing countries for the promotion of trade and industrialization.

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