

**DECISION ON THE SITUATION OF REFUGEES, RETURNEES
AND INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS IN AFRICA
DOC.EX.CL/372 (XII)**

The Executive Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the Situation of Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons in Africa;
2. **EXPRESSES CONCERN** over the unrelenting state of Africa's refugees, returnees and internally displaced persons and the frequency of natural disasters on the Continent;
3. **NOTES WITH APPRECIATION** the efforts made by Member States in addressing the root causes of forced displacement, and in responding to the needs of victims of natural disasters;
4. **COMMENDS** the efforts and contributions made by the AU Partners, humanitarian agencies, donor countries and other organizations to assist Member States faced with the problem of forced displacement and **URGES** them to continue their work in addressing the critical needs of the victims of forced displacement in Africa;
5. **CALLS UPON** the International Community to redouble its assistance to victims of forced displacement in Africa;
6. **REQUESTS** the AU Commission together with the Permanent Representatives' Committee's Sub-Committee on Refugees and the AU Partners, in particular the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, International Committee of the Red Cross, World Food Programme and International Organization for Migration to keep monitoring closely the problem of forced displacement in Africa;
7. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to develop a mechanism for verification of the statistics provided on victims of forced displacement to ensure that it matches the realities on the ground;
8. **SUPPORTS** the preparatory efforts being made by the Task Force for the Special Summit of Heads of State and Government on Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons scheduled for November 2008, **AND REQUESTS** it to continue the preparations for the success of the Summit; and
9. **TAKES NOTE** of the convening of the Meeting of Legal Experts from AU Member States on the draft AU Convention on the Protection and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons in Africa which was held in December 2007 and **REQUESTS** the AU Commission to convene a second meeting to finalize the document before the Special Summit in 2008.

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