

**DECISION ON THE SITUATION OF REFUGEES, RETURNEES AND
INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS IN AFRICA**
Doc. EX.CL/413 (XIII)

The Executive Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Commission on the Situation of Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons in Africa;
2. **FURTHER NOTES** with concern the magnitude of the effects of global climate change and the current food crisis, and their devastating impact on already vulnerable populations;
3. **ALSO NOTES** that refugee influxes have continued to occur in various parts of the Continent, and **REITERATES ITS GRATITUDE** to the host countries for the generosity they are making in providing asylum to refugees despite their meagre resources;
4. **REQUESTS** the countries of origin to promote peace, security, stability and national reconciliation in order to create conducive conditions for the return of victims of forced displacement in safety and dignity, and continue to address the root causes of forced displacement to facilitate total elimination of the problem;
5. **CALLS UPON** the humanitarian organizations as well as donors, in view of the urgency, magnitude and complexity of the situation of forced displacement in the Continent to enhance their capacities and harmonize their activities so that the positive impact is brought to bear on the humanitarian situation;
6. **INVITES** the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), in recognition of its protection expertise, to continue and reinforce its role in the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons within the United Nations coordination mechanism;
7. **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the progress made by Member States' legal experts in the finalization of the draft African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons in Africa with a view to its adoption by the Heads of State and Government during the forthcoming Special Summit on Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons scheduled for November 2008; and **APPEALS** to Member States to consider hosting it;

8. **URGES** Member States to participate actively in the meetings of Experts and Ministers in charge of the Matter of Forced Displacement as well as the historical Special Summit on Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons in Africa;
9. **REQUESTS** the Commission, in consultation with Member States to update statistics and present to the Executive Council the latest figures on forced population displacement in the Report on the Situation of Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons in Africa;
10. **FINALLY REQUESTS** the Commission to continue to follow-up on the situation of refugees, returnees and internally displaced persons and to report thereon to the next ordinary session of the Assembly scheduled for January 2009.

2008

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