

**DECISION ON THE SITUATION OF REFUGEES, RETURNEES AND  
DISPLACED PERSONS IN AFRICA – DOC.EX.CL/299 (X)**

**The Executive Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the Situation of Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in Africa;
2. **EXPRESSES CONCERN** over the recurrent problem of forced displacement, in particular the internal displacement of persons, and the alarming deterioration of their living conditions, especially the vulnerable groups;
3. **FURTHER NOTES WITH GRAVE CONCERN** the diminishing availability of resources to over 20 million victims of forced displacement in Africa and the disparity in meeting their assessed needs that places a heavy social and economic burden on the countries affected by the presence of these victims of forced displacement;
4. **REAFFIRMS** that the best solution to the problem of forced displacement is voluntary repatriation and **APPEALS** to countries of origin to create conducive conditions for the return of their nationals in safety and dignity;
5. **NOTES WITH GRATITUDE** the readiness and willingness with which Member States continue to welcome refugees and assist them in spite of their meager resources;
6. **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;
7. **RECOGNIZES** the constraints faced by Member States in addressing the critical needs of the victims of forced displacement;
8. **CALLS UPON** the international community to increase its assistance to victims of forced displacement in Africa;

9. **REQUESTS** the Commission together with the PRC 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;
10. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the PRC Sub-Committee on Refugees and the Commission to work closely with AU partners in the planning and preparations of the Special Summit on Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons scheduled to take place in 2008.



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