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**REPORT OF THE MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE ON AFRICAN
CANDIDATURES FOR POSTS WITHIN THE
INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM**

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REPORT OF THE MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE ON AFRICAN
CANDIDATURES FOR POSTS WITHIN
THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Ministerial Committee on African candidates for posts within the international system held its Twentieth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 27 January 2012, under the chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Alexis Thambwe-Mwamba, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

2. The Legal Counsel reminded the Committee that it is the duty of Member States to abide by the rules of procedure. Then, the representative of the Department of Political Affairs presented a report on the implementation of Decision EX.CL/Dec.664(XIX), as well as the new African candidatures for posts within the international system which the Ministerial Committee should review to make appropriate recommendations to the 20th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council.

II. ATTENDANCE

3. The following countries were in attendance:

- i) South Africa
- ii) Angola
- iii) Benin
- iv) Cameroon
- v) Democratic Republic of Congo
- vi) Egypt
- vii) Gambia
- viii) Malawi
- ix) Uganda
- x) Rwanda
- xi) Chad
- xii) Tanzania
- xiii) Tunisia
- xiv) Senegal
- xv) Sierra Leone

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

4. The agenda was adopted as follows:

- i) Implementation of Decision EX/CL/664(XIX);
- ii) Review of African candidatures for posts within the international system;
- iii) Any other business.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL DECISION EX.CL.Dec.664(XIX)

5. The Committee took note of the implementation of Decision EX.CL.Dec.664 (XIX) on African candidatures which were endorsed at the 19th session held in June 2011 in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea.

V. DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6. The Committee approved the following candidatures:

- i) Mr Charles Dan of Benin as candidate for election to the post of Director General of the International Labour Office (ILO) during elections due to take place on 28 May 2012, in Geneva, Switzerland.
- ii) Judge Memooda Ebrahim-Carstens of Botswana as candidate for re-election as Judge of the UN Dispute Tribunal during elections due to take place in June 2012, in New York (United States of America);
- iii) Mr Joseph V. Acakpo-Satchivi of Benin for election as member of the United Nations Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), at the elections due to take place during the 67th Session of the UN General Assembly in November 2012 , in New York (USA).
- iv) The Republic of Rwanda for election to one of the seats of non-permanent members of the United Nations Security Council for the 2013-2014 period, at elections due to take place during the 67th Session of the UN General Assembly in October 2013, New York (USA).
- v) Dr. Mohamed Ezzedine Abdel-Morein of the Arab Republic of Egypt as a candidate for re-election as a member of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, during elections due to take place in April 2012, in New York (United States of America);
- vi) The Arab Republic of Egypt for re-election as member of the Council of Administration and Postal Operations Council of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) in elections due to take place during the 24th Session of the UPU Congress scheduled from 24 September to 15 October 2012, in Doha (Qatar);
- vii) South Africa for election as a member of the Council of Administration and re-election to the Postal Operations Council of the Universal Postal Union (UPU), in the elections to be held during the 24th UPU Congress scheduled for 24 September to 15 October 2012 in Doha, Qatar;
- viii) Mr. Rachid Essoussi of the Tunisian Republic for election as Director at the Bureau of the International Hydrographic Organization, in elections to

be held during the IHO 18th Conference scheduled for 23 to 27 April 2012 in the Principality of Monaco;

- ix) the Federal Republic of Nigeria for election as a member of the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for the period 2012 to 2014, during elections to be held in September 2012 in Vienna, Austria;

7. The Committee was satisfied with the high number of candidates who were successfully elected following endorsement by the African Union.

8. It however deplored the non-respect by certain African candidates of African Union decisions concerning endorsements and who present other candidatures which could create division during elections.

9. To remedy this situation, the Committee reiterated Article 23, paragraph 2 of the Constitutive Act of the African Union which provides for sanctions against any Member State that fails to comply with the decisions and policies of the Union. Consequently, the Committee proposes sanctions aimed at suspending such States and candidates from endorsement of any candidatures for a period of at least three years.

10. The Committee postponed the review of the following candidatures to its next session:

- i) the Republic of Chad for election to one of the seats of non-permanent members of the United Nations Security Council for the period 2014-2015, during elections to be held at the 68th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in October 2013 in New York, USA;
- ii) Dr. Kanayo F. Nwanze of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for election as President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), in the elections that will take place in September 2013 in Rome, Italy.

11. The Committee reaffirmed its adherence to its rules of procedure and stressed the importance of timely submission of candidatures for vacant posts within the international system.

12. Concerning the candidature for the post of Director General of the International Labour Office (ILO), the Committee proposed a dialogue between the three countries which had presented candidates, namely Benin, Senegal and Niger. This proposal, like that on the review of candidatures by the Labour and Social Affairs Commission, was not accepted by the States concerned, therefore the Committee chose the candidature of the Republic of Benin, which had been received by the Commission within the deadline.

13. Senegal expressed reservations on the decision and said it would continue to promote its candidate.

14. The Committee pointed out that Senegal was free to promote its candidate at the level of the Council of Ministers and even at the Summit, but recalled the principles stipulated under paragraphs 8 and 9 above.

VI. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

15. No delegation proposed other business.

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