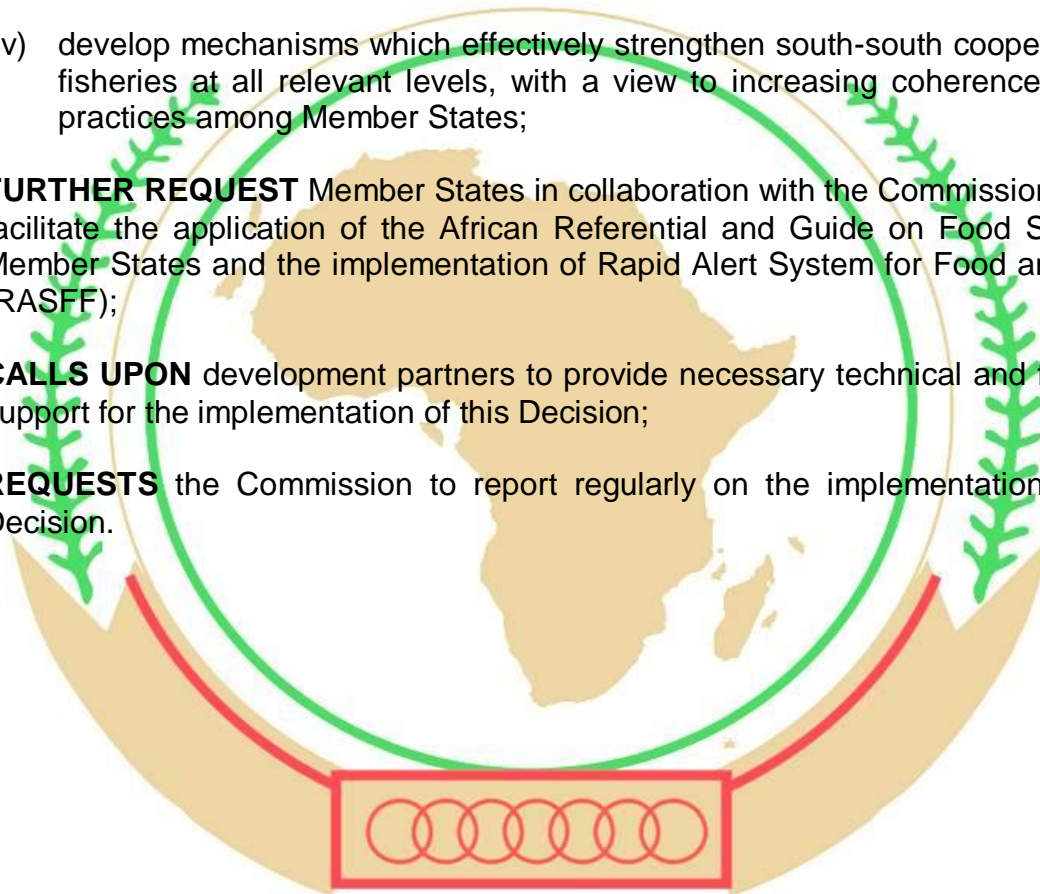


**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE FIRST CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN
MINISTERS OF FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE (CAMFA)
Doc. EX.CL/627 (XVIII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the report of the First Conference of African Ministers of Fisheries and Aquaculture (CAMFA) on the implementation of Regional Fisheries and Aquaculture plans held in Banjul, the Gambia from 22 to 25 September 2010; and **ENDORSES** the recommendations contained therein;
2. **URGES** Member States to:
 - (i) increase budgetary allocations to the fisheries and aquaculture sector consistent with 2003 Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Maputo commitment to allocate ten percent (10%) of their national budget allocation to agriculture;
 - (ii) submit to the Commission annual progress reports on the implementation of the African Union (AU)/New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) *Action Plan for the Development of African Fisheries and Aquaculture*.
3. **FURTHER URGES** Member States, the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFBs) to;
 - (i) adopt and integrate ecosystem approaches in their national and regional fisheries management plans;
 - (ii) strengthen, monitor, control, and undertake surveillance as well as foster regional cooperation to curb Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing.
4. **CALLS UPON** Member States to eliminate Trade barriers to facilitate intra and inter regional trade of fish and fishery products;
5. **DECIDES** that an African Fisheries Day be instituted to highlight the potential of fisheries and aquaculture in wealth generation and economic development for Africa;
6. **REQUESTS** the Commission and the RECs to:
 - (i) engage the European Union with a view to reviewing fisheries trade-related issues such as rules of origin in order to maximize benefits to African countries and to ensure that the new EU-IUU regulation does not represent a barrier to trade for African States;

- (ii) facilitate harmonized position of Member States in the World Trade Organization (WTO), the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICATT), the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) and other negotiations, and strengthen the capacity of Member States to participate effectively in relevant regional and global fisheries fora;
 - (iii) facilitate discussions and engagement with development partners, to review their funding portfolio and increase allocation to fisheries sector investments, including sustainable aquaculture development, within the CAADP framework;
 - (iv) develop mechanisms which effectively strengthen south-south cooperation in fisheries at all relevant levels, with a view to increasing coherence in best practices among Member States;
7. **FURTHER REQUEST** Member States in collaboration with the Commission with to facilitate the application of the African Referential and Guide on Food Safety in Member States and the implementation of Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF);
8. **CALLS UPON** development partners to provide necessary technical and financial support for the implementation of this Decision;
9. **REQUESTS** the Commission to report regularly on the implementation of this Decision.



2011

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