

**DECISION ON THE AFRICAN UNION REPRESENTATIONAL OFFICES**  
**Doc. EX.CL/687(XX)ii**

**The Executive Council,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report and recommendations of the Commission on the African Union (AU) Representational Offices;
2. **WELCOMES** the efforts by the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC), through its Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation, and the Commission to finalize the evaluation of the Study by the Consultants on AU Representational Offices;
3. **ENDORSES** the Recommendations contained therein;
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to take additional measures to implement all the recommendations of administrative nature which do not have financial implications, with a view to improving the smooth functioning of those offices;
5. **APPROVES** the criteria for the establishment of new AU Representational Offices, particularly those outside Africa;
6. **DECIDES** as follows:
  - i) The Commission should formulate a Policy on the Modalities of Appointment, Grade, Emoluments and Tour of duty, the Duration and Terms of Employment, as well as other Conditions of Service of the Heads of the Representational Offices;
  - ii) The Regional Offices should be established in the other four (4) Geographical Regions of the Continent, and should be located where the Headquarters of the RECs are; as a temporary measure, and until the finances of the AU allows, one (1) AU Technical Office per Region should be capacitated to perform Representational functions by appointing a Senior Political Officer to that Office, a Staff of the Commission could also be appointed to work at the Headquarters of each of the RECs as per an already existing decision on the matter;
  - iii) Where the AU cannot establish offices immediately or in the near future, the Dean of African Ambassadors in the country of interest could be requested to represent the AU ;
  - iv) The Office in Vienna should be established as soon as possible, taking advantage of the offer made by the Austrian Government;
  - v) The establishment of other Offices should be prioritised in accordance with the approved criteria and by taking into account Africa's priorities and the on-going partnerships;

- vi) The newly established Partnerships Management and Coordination Division in the Office of the Chairperson should be strengthened and be assigned the responsibility of ensuring the links between the Representational Offices and the AU Headquarters;
7. **REQUESTS** the PRC, through its Sub-Committee on Structures and that on Administrative, Budgetary and Financial Matters to consider the implications of the establishment of such Offices before they are operationalized;
8. **AUTHORISES** the Commission to mobilize resources for the implementation of this Decision;
9. **REQUESTS** the Commission to report on regular basis on the implementation of this Decision.



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