

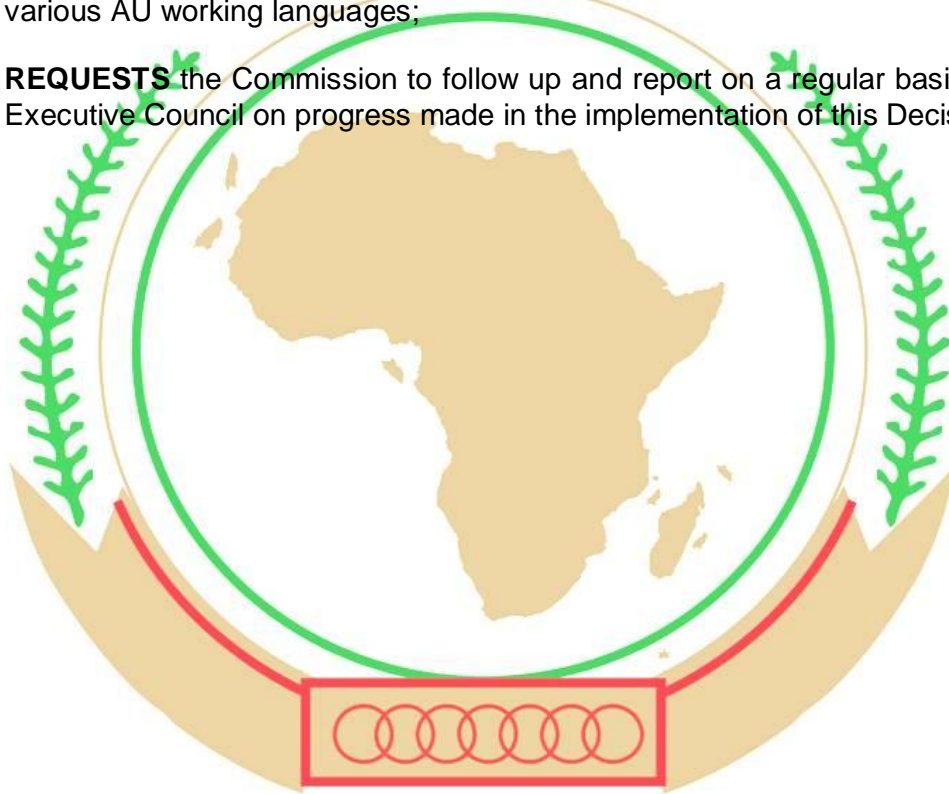
**DECISION ON THE STATUS OF SIGNATURE AND  
RATIFICATION OF OAU/AU TREATIES  
DOC. EX.CL/539(XVI)**

**The Executive Council,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the Status of Signature and Ratification of OAU/AU Treaties;
2. **WELCOMES** efforts made by the Commission and Member States during the Signing Week, which is organised in December of every year, aimed at ensuring that treaties are signed;
3. **ALSO WELCOMES** the initiative taken by the Commission to arrange a ceremony for signing of OAU/AU Treaties by the Heads of State and Government of the Union, during the Fourteenth Ordinary Session of the Assembly and **REQUESTS** it to ensure that signing takes place at all future ordinary sessions of the Assembly.
4. **REITERATES** its appeal to Member States to prioritize and accelerate the signing and ratification/accession to OAU/AU Treaties and in particular to the Member States which are not yet states parties to the following:
  - i) The Treaty establishing the African Economic Community (1991);
  - ii) The Protocol to the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community relating to the Pan-African Parliament (2001);
  - iii) The Protocol relating to the establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union (2002);
  - iv) The African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance (2007);
  - v) The Protocol on the Statute of the African Court of Justice and Human Rights (2008);
  - vi) The Protocol on the African Investment Bank (2009) and its Annexes;
  - vii) The African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention) (2009);
  - viii) The Revised Constitution of the African Civil Aviation Commission (2009).
5. **ALSO REITERATES** its appeal to Member States to commence the process of ratification of existing treaties not yet ratified or acceded to, within the next one (1) year; and for future treaties, within one (1) year of their adoption in conformity with Decision EX/CL/Dec.459 (XIV) adopted by the Fourteenth

Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in January 2009;

6. **FURTHER REITERATES ITS APPEAL** to the Pan-African Parliament (PAP), the Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC), the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) and the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC) to assist with advocacy and sensitization of Member States to expedite the process of signature/ratification/accession to OAU/AU Treaties;
7. **REITERATES ITS REQUEST** to the Commission to expedite the implementation of previous decisions on the review of OAU/AU Treaties, particularly those related to the need to harmonize the OAU/AU Treaties in the various AU working languages;
8. **REQUESTS** the Commission to follow up and report on a regular basis to the Executive Council on progress made in the implementation of this Decision.



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