

**DECISION ON THE SECOND AFRICA-SOUTH AMERICA (ASA) SUMMIT
DOC. EX. CL/544 (XVI)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Commission on the Second Africa-South America (ASA) Summit held in Margarita Island, Venezuela, from 22 to 27 September 2009 and the ASA Declaration;
2. **WELCOMES** the hosting by the Government of Venezuela of the Second ASA Summit in Margarita Island, Venezuela, from 22 to 27 September 2009;
3. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** of the difficulties encountered by the African side with respect to the organization of the meetings with the South American side and, in particular, the preparatory meetings of the eight (8) Working Groups;
4. **RECALLS** that the Commission and the Permanent Representatives Committee (PRC) through its Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation are charged with the responsibility of managing the partnership processes and that Africa's representatives in South America should take due note of this and liaise with them on all issues relating to this summit process;
5. **TAKES NOTES** of the important decisions taken by the ASA Summit regarding the establishment of the ASA Pro-Tempore Secretariat in Margarita Island and the Presidential Committee to develop ASA's Strategic Plan and **REQUESTS** that their roles be clearly defined so as to ensure their value addition to the ASA Summit process;
6. **ALSO TAKES NOTES** of the establishment of the Bank of the South and **REQUESTS** the Commission to explore the possibility of opening subscription to the Bank to African countries so as to make it an ASA institution;
7. **REQUESTS** the Commission to deploy all efforts to produce a harmonized Implementation Plan/Programme within the period stipulated in the Margarita Declaration for approval by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of both sides meeting on the margins of the 65th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York;
8. **DECIDES** as follows:
 - i) In determining the dates and venues of summits, the side convening will ensure that it obtains the agreement of the other side before it proceeds with the preparations;
 - ii) The principle of rotating the venues should be respected and therefore, the meetings of the eight (8) Working Groups at bi-regional level will be alternated between Africa and South America unless otherwise decided by the competent organs of both sides;

- iii) In the preparation and management of summits and other meetings the two sides should share information and conduct them on the basis of co-chairing and joint secretariat;
 - iv) Africa's representatives in South America should continue to make contributions to the ASA process in consultation and coordination with the PRC and the Commission;
 - v) The responsibility and obligations of host countries on both sides, vis-à-vis the Commission, must be defined in a host agreement to be signed between the Commission and the host country.
9. **WELCOMES** the offer by the Great Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to host the next ASA Summit in 2011, on a date to be determined through consultations.



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