

**ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE
AND GOVERNMENT
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**AHG/Dec. 1 - 11 (XXXVII)
AHG/Decl. 1 - 2 (XXXVII)**

DECISIONS AND DECLARATIONS

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DECISION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
SIRTE SUMMIT DECISION ON THE AFRICAN UNION

The Assembly,

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report;

2. On the Ratification of the Constitutive Act:

URGES all those Member States that have not yet ratified the Constitutive Act to do so expeditiously and before the inaugural session of the African Union;

3. On Consultations with Member States:

MANDATES the Secretary-General to work with Member States through the Permanent Representatives and experts, the results of whose work should be examined by a Representative Committee of Ministers to be established for this purpose before final submission to the Council and the Assembly;

4. On the Launching of the Organs of the African Union:

MANDATES the Secretary General to undertake the necessary consultations with Member States with a view to working out the modalities and guidelines for the launching of the Organs of the African Union, including the preparation of the Draft Rules of Procedure of these Organs and ensuring the effective exercising of their authority and discharging their responsibilities. In undertaking this task, priority should be given to the launching of the key Organs, namely: the Assembly, the Executive Council, the Commission and the Permanent Representatives Committee.

5. On the Commission:

MANDATES the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States to submit proposals regarding the structure, functions and powers of the Commission;

6. On Popularising the African Union:

The primary responsibility of popularizing the African Union belongs to each Member State, which should involve citizens at all levels. In this regard, it URGES all Member States to take the necessary steps so that all can be truly a Community of Peoples;

It further requests the OAU General Secretariat and the Regional Communities to undertake complementary actions to popularize the African Union.

7. On the Organs of the African Union and its Relationship with Other Bodies:

(a) The Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC):

(i) STRESSES the importance of involving African non-governmental organizations, socio-economic organizations, professional associations and civil society organizations in general in Africa's integration process as well as in the formulation and implementation of programmes of the African Union;

(ii) REQUESTS the Secretary General in consultation with Member States, to submit to the 76th Ordinary Session of Council, a comprehensive report on ECOSOCC, with recommendations on:

1. its structure, functioning, areas of competence and relationships to other organs of the Union;
2. the procedure and criteria for selecting the members of ECOSOCC, including their terms of office;
3. the relationship between ECOSOCC and African regional non-governmental organizations and professional groups;

4. the Rules of Procedure of ECOSOCC and the preparation of its work programme.

(b) The Economic and Social Commission:

DECIDES that in view of the establishment of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council in the Constitutive Act of the African Union, as well as of the Specialised Technical Committees that report to the Executive Council of the African Union, the ECOSOC provided for in the Abuja Treaty will cease to exist at the end of the transition period.

8. On the Incorporation of other Organs:

(a) The Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution as an Organ of the African Union:

- a. CONSIDERS that the objectives and principles stipulated in the Cairo Declaration establishing, within the OAU, a Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution constitute an integral part of the declared objectives and principles of the African Union;
- b. DECIDES to incorporate the Central Organ of the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution as one of the Organs of the Union in accordance with Article 5 (2) of the Constitutive Act of the African Union;
- c. REQUESTS the Secretary-General to undertake a review of the structures, procedures and working methods of the Central Organ, including the possibility of changing its name.

(b) The Regional Economic Communities (RECs):

- (i) RECALLS the Protocol on Relations between the African Economic Community and Regional Economic Communities;

- (ii) REAFFIRMS the status of the Regional Economic Communities as building blocs of the African Union and the need for their close involvement in the formulation and implementation of all programmes of the Union;
 - (iii) REQUESTS the Secretary General to undertake necessary consultations with all the RECs in order to examine the implications of the Constitutive Act of the African Union on:
 - 1. the existing institutional, operational and programmatic relationship between OAU and RECs;
 - 2. the current and future programmes of the RECs in relation to the objectives of the African Union;
 - 3. the Protocol between the AEC and RECs, with a view to its amendment or to preparing a new protocol to govern the relationship between the African Union and the Regional Economic Communities.
 - (iv) CALLS UPON the policy organs of the RECs to initiate a reflection on the relationship between the African Union and the respective RECs, including the adoption of appropriate decisions on the most effective modalities for actualizing this relationship.
- (c) OAU Specialized Agencies:
- (i) MANDATES the Secretary General to undertake a review of the existing OAU Specialized Agencies so as to determine their continued relevance and make concrete proposals on their possible incorporation as Specialized Agencies of the African Union;
 - (ii) REQUESTS the Secretary General to convene as soon as possible, a meeting with all the relevant Specialized Agencies, so as to define all aspects of their relationship with the African Union with emphasis on the modalities for their

full involvement in the programmes of the African Union and all the functional, institutional and programmatic dimensions of the relationship.

9. The Specialized Technical Committees (STCs):

- (i) TAKES NOTE of the existence of ministerial conferences and commissions and of the role of Africa's partner institutions in these organs, and STRESSES the need for ensuring that they operate within the framework of the African Union as its integral part;
- (ii) REQUESTS the Secretary General to prepare and submit to Council a comprehensive report on:
 - 1. all aspects of the functioning of the STCs, including their terms of reference and modalities for programme formulation and implementation;
 - 2. the relationships between the STCs and similar organs of the Regional Economic Communities, African governmental and non-governmental organisations and international institutions;
 - 3. streamlining of the activities and functional and programmatic relationship between the STCs and the existing ministerial sectoral conferences and commissions.

10. On the Signing and Ratification of the Protocol to the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community Relating to the Pan-African Parliament:

APPEALS to all Member States to sign and ratify the Protocol to the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community relating to the Pan-African Parliament as expeditiously as possible so as to ensure the speedy establishment of the Pan-African Parliament as one of the organs of the African Union.

11. On Reorienting the Programmes and Budgetary Resources of the OAU and Management of the Transitional Period:

(i) AUTHORIZES the Secretary-General to re-visit and re-orient the programmes of the General Secretariat to enable it to undertake the additional responsibilities and corresponding additional programmes arising from the implementation of the Constitutive Act and the operationalisation of the African Union during the transitional period.

(ii) AUTHORIZES the Secretary-General to:

1. review the current Programme Budget (2001/2002 Financial year) and to re-allocate the budgetary appropriations contained therein in order to implement activities related to the transition from the OAU to the African Union in consultation with the Advisory Committee on Administrative, Financial and Budgetary Matters, including the activities relating to the popularization of the African Union;
2. explore the possibility of mobilizing extra budgetary contributions from Member States, OAU Partners and others;
3. undertake studies, with the assistance of experts, to identify alternative modalities of funding the activities and programmes of the African Union, bearing in mind that the Union cannot operate on the basis of assessed contributions from Member States only, and to make appropriate recommendations thereon.

12. On the Devolution of OAU Assets and Liabilities:

AUTHORIZES the Secretary-General to:

(ii) undertake the necessary measures for the devolution of assets and liabilities of the OAU to the African Union in accordance with Article 33 (1) of the Constitutive Act;

- (iii) review and, where appropriate, seek the amendment of OAU agreements with other parties, including the Headquarters and Host Agreements.

13. On Preparation of the Paraphernalia or Symbols of the African Union:

AUTHORIZES the General Secretariat to continue to use the OAU Logo, Flag and Anthem until the General Secretariat or the Commission initiates and finalizes the process of their review for gradual adaptation or replacement through competitions and REQUESTS the Secretary-General to include this task/activity in the work programme of the OAU during the transitional period and to prepare and submit a progress report for consideration by the inaugural session of the Assembly of the Union.

14. On the Commemoration of Africa Day and Union Day:

- (i) REAFFIRMS its earlier decision to the effect that 25 May should be commemorated as Africa Day and URGES all the Member States to observe it as an official holiday;
- (ii) DECIDES that 2 March should be commemorated as Union Day and URGES all Members to observe it appropriately.

15. On the Duration of the Transitional Period:

DECIDES that, in view of the magnitude of the tasks to be performed and bearing in mind the need for consultations with Member States, the transitional period shall be for a period of one year following the adoption of this decision.

DECISION ON THE AFRICAN SUMMIT ON HIV/AIDS,
TUBERCULOSIS AND OTHER RELATED INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The Assembly:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report on the African Summit on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Other Related Infectious Diseases;
2. COMMENDS President Olusegun Obasanjo and the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for successfully hosting the African Summit on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Other Related Infectious Diseases.
3. REITERATES its Commitment on the fight against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Other Related Infectious Diseases as enshrined in the Abuja Declaration;
4. ENDORSES the Abuja Declaration, the Abuja Framework for Action and Framework Plan of Action for the implementation of the Abuja Declaration on the Control of HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Other Related Infectious Diseases in Africa;
5. URGES Member States to immediately operationalize the Framework Plan of Action as a minimum programme of Action and adapt it to the national context;
6. APPEALS to Member States to commit adequate national resources in order to meet the challenges posed by the epidemics and the implementation of the Plan of Action.
7. ALSO APPEALS to the International Community and to Donors and other Stakeholders to provide necessary financial support to Member States in the implementation of the Plan of Action either individually or through the Global Fund for the Control of HIV/AIDS.

8. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General, in collaboration with all relevant institutions and stakeholders to develop a Mechanism for implementation, monitoring and follow-up which will ensure that the Plan of Action is implemented in a sustainable manner by ensuring that the actions are well-coordinated and that evaluation and feedback are continuous and **FURTHER REQUESTS** UNAIDS, WHO and UNICEF to assist the OAU to put in place a small unit which will service the mechanism on a daily basis;

9. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Secretary General in consultation with the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), and in collaboration with ECA, ADB, WHO, UNAIDS and UNICEF to follow up on the implementation of the Abuja Plan of Action and report annually to the Assembly.

**DECISION ON THE 14TH ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT
OF THE AFRICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN
AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS**

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE WITH SATISFACTION** of the 14th Annual Activity Report of the African Commission on Human and People's Rights and **COMMENDS** the African Commission for the excellent work accomplished in the past year in the area of promotion and protection of human rights
2. **CALLS UPON** the African Commission to pursue reflection on the strengthening of the African system for the promotion and protection of Human and People's Rights to enable it to effectively meet the needs of the African populations within the context of the African Union, and submit a report thereon as early as possible;
3. **AUTHORIZES** the publication of the 14th Annual Activity Report pursuant to Article 59 of the African Charter on Human and People's Rights.

DECISION
ON PARTNERSHIP CONFERENCE ON THE AFRICAN PROCESS
FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND PROTECTION OF
THE COASTAL AND MARINE ENVIRONMENT

The Assembly:

1. **RECALLS** Decision CM/Dec.479 (LXX) of the 70th Ordinary Session of Council, held in Algiers, Algeria in July 1999 which endorsed the Cape Town Declaration on an African Process for the Development and Protection of the Coastal and Marine Environment including the convening of a Partnership Conference to consider concrete action proposals to alleviate environmental problems based on the recommendations of its Preparatory Committee established to that effect.
2. **ACKNOWLEDGES WITH GREAT SATISFACTION** that the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) will be held in South Africa in September 2002, focusing attention of the world leaders on the environmental and developmental problems and need for effective solutions and **RECOGNIZES** the opportunity which WSSD represents in terms of the evolution of the African Process for the development and protection of the coastal and marine environment and its linkages to African sustainable development.
3. **FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGES** the Land Water Initiative for Africa presented on behalf of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) by the Executive Director of UNEP at the 35TH Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU as reflected in paragraph 271 of the report of the Secretary General of the OAU Doc. CM/(.....) ;
4. **ENDORSES** the generous offer of the Government of Nigeria in its capacity as the Presidency of AMCEN, to convene not later than February 2002 a high level Preparatory Meeting of the Partnership Conference;

5. REQUESTS the Secretary General, in collaboration with the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, to convene the Partnership Conference on the African Process for the Development and Protection on the Coastal and Marine Environment in conjunction with WSSD at the level of Heads of State and Government and CALLS UPON the African partners to be represented at the highest level;
6. INVITES all African States:
 - a) to support and actively participate in the implementation of the African Process for the Development of the Coastal and Marine Environment;
 - b) to liaise, through the Preparatory Committee, on preparation for the Partnership Conference; and
7. FURTHER REQUESTS the Secretary General to report on the results of the Partnership Conference to the next Summit of the African Union.

DECISION ON THE DECLARATION OF THE PERIOD
2001-2010 AS THE OAU DECADE FOR AFRICAN
TRADITIONAL MEDICINE

The Assembly:

1. WELCOMES the proposal by Uganda to declare the Decade 2001 - 2010 as the OAU decade for African Traditional Medicine.
2. RECOGNIZES the important role Traditional Medicine continues to play in African societies, hence almost 85% of the African population resort to it for their health delivery services.
3. RECOGNIZES FURTHER that Member States and their governments need to acknowledge and build upon this traditional knowledge resource-base, thereby making the goal of health for all easier to achieve by mobilizing and using these resources more effectively;
4. ACKNOWLEDGES that it is unlikely that social, technical or economic changes in Member States over the next Decade will reduce significantly the dependency of rural populations on medicinal plants species resources.
5. ENDORSES the Nairobi Declaration formally recognizing Traditional Medicine as the most affordable and accessible form of healthcare system for the majority of the African rural population.
6. REITERATES ITS COMMITMENT AND SUPPORT for the on-going two processes initiated by the General Secretariat of elaborating:
 - a) an African Model Law for the Protection of the rights of Local Communities, Farmers and Breeders and for the Regulation of Access to Biological Resources;
 - b) an African Biosafety Model Law and an Africa-wide Biosafety System.

7. CALLS for a speedy finalizations of these two processes and CALLS UPON Member States to use these models as a basis for finalizing their national legislation by adapting their provisions to the national context and within the framework of the WTO Negotiations;
8. REQUESTS the General Secretariat, in collaboration with relevant partners and stakeholders to also initiate a process to draw-up the appropriate elements for national legislation in relation to compulsory licensing, parallel imports and other aspects to incorporate in national patent laws that are important to increase access to vitally-needed medicines, and thereafter, to draft a “National Model Law” or ‘Model elements to be incorporated into national patent laws” in Africa for this purpose;
9. DECLARES the period “2001-2010, the *DECADE FOR AFRICAN TRADITIONAL MEDICINE*” and REQUESTS the General Secretariat, in collaboration with WHO and other interested stakeholders to assist OAU Member States to prepare a Plan of Action for implementation;
10. FINALLY REQUESTS the Secretary General to report regularly to Assembly on progress made in the implementation of this Decision.

DECISION ON THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ADOPTION
OF THE 1951 CONVENTION ON THE STATUS OF REFUGEES

WE, the Heads of State and Government of Member States of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), meeting in our 37th Ordinary Session in Lusaka, Zambia from 9 to 11 July, 2001:

RECALLING previous resolutions of the Heads of State and Government Declarations and/or OAU Council of Ministers Decisions/resolutions, on the situation of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa.

DEEPLY CONCERNED by the recurrent cycles of armed conflicts and persecution which generate displacement often on a massive scale, as well as by the absence of safe and timely solutions for millions of refugees in Africa who require international protection,

NOTING that 2001 will mark the 50th anniversary of the 1951 *United Nations Convention relating to the Status of Refugees*, which together with its 1967 Protocol, as complemented by the *1969 OAU Convention governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa*, remain the foundation of the international refugee protection regime,

RECOGNISING with appreciation that the fundamental principles and rights embodied in these Conventions have provided a resilient protection regime within which millions of refugees have been able to find safety from armed conflicts and persecution,

REFERRING to the Comprehensive Implementation Plan (CIP) by the Special OAU/UNHCR Meeting of Government and Non-Government Technical Experts on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the 1969 OAU Convention on 29 March 2000 in Conakry which was endorsed by the 72nd session of the OAU Council of Ministers meeting in Lome, Togo,

ALARMED at the growing number of refugees throughout Africa and their terrible plight as well as the many challenges faced by States, the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The latter being the key institution mandated to secure respect for the 1951 Convention by ensuring both legal protection and humanitarian assistance particularly in emergency situations,

AWARE that the problem of refugees is social and humanitarian in nature, and therefore should not become a cause of tension between States, and that as the grant of asylum may place unduly heavy burdens on host countries, a satisfactory solution of the problem of refugees can only be achieved through international co-operation and responsibility sharing.

WELCOMING the process of Global Consultations on International protection initiated by UNHCR to revitalize the international protection of refugees,

CONVINCED that the first-ever meeting of States Parties, jointly organized by the Swiss Government and UNHCR, will serve both to reinforce a truly global and meaningful commitment to the foundation principles, and contribute to the search for complementary and compatible new approaches to strengthen the protection of refugees and solutions to refugee problems:

1. SOLEMNLY REAFFIRM that the 1951 *Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees* and the 1967 Protocol, as complemented by the OAU 1969 Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa, constitute the foundation of international refugee law and as such are pivotal in securing refugee protection;
2. URGE States that have not yet acceded to the Convention and the Protocol to join the 140 States including 49 OAU Member States who are currently party to these instruments, in order that, as soon as possible, all African states will have acceded to the international instruments on refugees;
3. REAFFIRM our commitment to the full implementation and follow-up of the Comprehensive Implementation Plan which will lead to strengthened and more effective implementation of the OAU 1969 Convention as well as of the 1951 Convention, including considering withdrawing reservations made at time of accession to the regional and universal instruments;
4. AFFIRM our determination to contribute to the Global Consultations on International Protection undertaken by UNHCR and their subsequent follow-up, with a view to consolidating the international refugee protection regime;

5. REAFFIRM the fundamental importance of the Office of the United Nations High commissioner for Refugees as the multilateral institution with the mandate to serve the protection of refugees and calls on Governments to further examine the mechanisms, resources and modalities available to UNHCR to enable it to fulfill its supervisory role.
6. COMMIT ourselves to finding durable solutions to refugee problems most importantly by facilitating voluntary repatriation, while endeavouring to create conducive conditions to that effect, and concomitantly to taking preventive measures, to peacefully resolve conflicts, to avoid forced displacement of populations.

**DECISION ON THE HOLDING OF A
MINISTERIAL MEETING ON EMPLOYMENT
AND POVERTY CONTROL IN AFRICA**

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the proposal by Burkina Faso to organize a Ministerial meeting whose central theme would be “Employment and Poverty Control in Africa” and **ENDORSES** its offer to organize this Ministerial meeting parallel to the Twenty-fifth Ordinary Session of the OAU Labour and Social Affairs Commission;
2. **EXPRESSES** gratitude to President Blaise Compaore and the Government of Burkina Faso for their offer to host this Ministerial meeting;
3. **RECOGNIZES** the challenges facing African countries due to the current economic situation, globalization and technological changes as well as the increased risks of unemployment, underemployment and the resulting social exclusion;
4. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General in collaboration with the International Labour Office (ILO), the other regional and international institutions concerned, other stakeholders and the host country, to take all the necessary measures towards the organization of this meeting.

DECISION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF
THE AFRICAN ENERGY COMMISSION (AFREC)

The Assembly:

1. TAKES NOTE WITH APPRECIATION of the conclusions and recommendations of the Conference of African Ministers of Energy held in Algiers from 23 to 24 April 2001 on the immediate establishment of the African Energy Commission (AFREC);
2. ADOPTS the Convention of the African Energy Commission.
3. URGES Member States to accede without delay to the Convention and make voluntary contributions towards the financing of the interim structure of AFREC;
4. COMMENDS the Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria for having accepted to host the headquarters of AFREC and for its commitment to provide the Commission with the necessary support including premises, equipment and supplies;
5. REQUESTS the President of the African Development Bank to cooperate closely with AFREC within the framework of the African Energy Programme being implemented by the Bank with a view to its future transfer to the African Energy Commission (AFREC), and provide the latter with the requisite technical and financial support;
6. INVITES the agencies of the United Nations System (FAO, UNIDO, UNESCO, UNEP, UNDESA) and other international organizations such as the World Energy Commission to lend technical, financial and material support to the African Energy Commission;

7. CALLS UPON all Member States to participate actively in the Africa-Latin America Conference on Energy scheduled to take place in Algiers in the second quarter of the year 2002;
8. REQUESTS the Secretary General to cooperate closely with Algeria, the host country of AFREC and the Bureau of the Conference of African Ministers of Energy, for the implementation of the provisions of the Convention and the early establishment of an interim structure of the Commission to enable the latter to begin its activities without delay;
9. CALLS UPON the Advisory Committee on Administrative, Budgetary and Financial Matters to consider the possibility of allocating the necessary resources for the take-off and operation of AFREC during the first years of its inception on the basis of a budget to be submitted by the General Secretariat;
10. REQUESTS the Secretary General to submit a Progress Report to it on the implementation of this decision.

DECISION ON THE LOCKERBIE ISSUE

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report;
2. RECALLS decision EAHG/Dec.3 (V) adopted by the 5th Extraordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, held in Sirte, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on 5 March 2001;
3. CALLS UPON the UN Security Council to immediately and definitively lift the unjust sanctions and suspend the embargo imposed on Libya and which has no legal or moral justification following the positive stand, civilized handling and great cooperation displayed by the Jamahiriya in dealing with this issue;
4. DEMANDS the immediate release of the Libyan citizen Abdel Basset Al-Megrahi who has been convicted for political reasons totally unrelated to law; his continued detention may be regarded as an abominable kidnapping under all applicable laws and customs;
5. REAFFIRMS the right of the Great Jamahiriya to compensation for the material and moral damage it has suffered;
6. REQUESTS the Secretary General to initiate the necessary steps, including the mobilization of financial resources, for the establishment of the Commission of Jurists which was established by decision EAHG/Dec. 3 (V) to follow up on all aspects related to the legal proceedings of the Lockerbie issue;
7. RECOMMENDS that the Current Chairman and other members of his Bureau make use of their good offices to undertake the necessary contacts with all the concerned parties with a view to ensuring a speedy and satisfactory resolution of the issue.

**DECISION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN OF ACTION
FOR THE ERADICATION OF TSETSE FLIES IN AFRICA**

The Assembly:

1. **RECALLS** Decision AHG/156 (XXXVI) of the 36th Assembly of the Heads of State and Government which urged Member States to rise to the challenge of the campaign for eradication of tsetse flies from the continent of Africa;
2. **ACKNOWLEDGES** with satisfaction that the OAU Secretariat has prepared a Plan of Action for the implementation of the Summit Decision on tsetse flies eradication;
3. **URGES** the OAU Secretariat and the relevant offices in the affected Member States dealing with health, agriculture, livestock production, rural development and poverty reduction to include the objective of the said Plan of Action among their priority programmes for implementation;
4. **APPEALS** to the international community to provide technical, financial and material support and assistance to Member States in their efforts to eradicate tsetse flies.

**DECISION ON THE PAN-AFRICAN
FORUM ON THE FUTURE OF CHILDREN**

1. **TAKES NOTES** of the recommendations of the 74th Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers and its Decision CM/Dec. 4 (LXXIV) on the Pan African forum on the future of children in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, held from 28 to 31 May 2001,
2. **EXPRESSES** its sincere thanks to the Arab Republic of Egypt for having hosted the Forum and to UNICEF for its invaluable contribution;
3. **INVITES**, in particular, Member States to reaffirm, in a concrete manner, their commitment to the cause of the African child, and to draw inspiration from the African Common Position adopted in Cairo as their contribution at the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Children to be held in New York from 19 to 21 September, 2001;
4. **URGES** Member States, which have not yet done so, to ratify the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the child;
5. **REQUESTS** African Heads of State to participate personally and massively in the Special Session in order to reaffirm the priority, which Africa accords to the well-being of its children by respecting all their rights.

DECLARATION ON THE NEW COMMON INITIATIVE
(MAP AND OMEGA)]

1. WE, the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting at the 37th Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government in Lusaka, Zambia from 9 to 11 July 2001, have undertaken an in-depth and critical review of the political, economic and social situation in our continent as presented in the report of the Secretary General to the 74th Session of the Council of Ministers:
2. ARE FULLY AWARE of the fundamental changes, which have occurred in the world since the beginning of the 1990s. These include the establishment, enlargement as well as strengthening of economic and trading groupings, the conclusions of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, the creation of WTO, and the rapid progress in information and communication technology. Consequently, Africa needs to take urgent and effective steps to avoid marginalization and ensure that it becomes an active partner in the emerging world economic order. To this end, Africa must adopt a new vision for its revival and development, and translate this vision into an appropriate and coherent Programme of Action;
3. REAFFIRM that the Revival and Development of Africa are primarily the responsibility of our Governments and Peoples. Consequently, we are determined to establish the conducive political, economic and social environment and create the required structural economic transformation in our countries with the objective of achieving a human centered and sustainable development.

4. **RECALL** the endorsement of the 5th Extraordinary Summit of the OAU, held in Sirte, Libya, from 1-2 March 2001, of the work done regarding the Revival and Development of Africa by Presidents Mbeki of South Africa, Obasanjo of Nigeria, Bouteflika of Algeria, Hosni Mubarak of Egypt and Wade of Senegal, respectively;
5. **COMMEND** the efforts of the five Presidents for producing a single coordinated and inclusive Plan for Africa's renewal based on the two initiatives, namely, the Millennium Partnership for the African Recovery Programme (MAP) and the OMEGA Plan, complement each other;
6. **REITERATE** our commitment and determination to uplift the living conditions of our people through the promotion of collective self reliance as stated in the Lagos Plan of Action, the Abuja Treaty and the Cairo Agenda for Action;
7. **FURTHER COMMIT** ourselves to the objectives of the Declaration which we adopted at the Fourth Extraordinary Session of our Assembly in Sirte, The Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya on 9.9.99 in which we decided to establish the African Union;
8. **RECOGNIZE** the need to reassert and revitalize the existing continental development strategies in order to achieve self sustained development of our continent;
9. **ADOPT** the Strategic Policy Framework of the New African Initiative as well as its Programme of Action and **REAFFIRM** our commitment to the provisions of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community and the Constitutive Act of the African Union,

10. **DECIDE** to present the consolidated Plan for African Revival and Development to the UN General Assembly in its Session of September 2001 for endorsement and **CALL UPON**. We call upon the international community and particularly our development partners and the United Nations system to support this Plan and to assist Africa in its implementation;
11. **DECIDE** to convene in Dakar from 15 to 17 November 2001 a Summit of Heads of State and Government with the participation of international economic and financial institutions as well as the private sector on the theme: **Financing the New Common Initiative**;
12. **DECIDE** to set up a Follow-up Committee comprising five (5) Heads of State, promoters of the New Common Initiative and of ten (10) other Heads of State to ensure a continuous follow-up on this Initiative, particularly the establishment of management institutions for the New African Initiative;
13. **DECIDE** to enlarge the African delegation to the G8 with the inclusion of the President Abdoulaye Wade

DECLARATION ON THE RESOLUTION OF THE LAND
QUESTION IN ZIMBABWE

1. The Summit recalled Declaration AHG/ST/1 (XXXVI) adopted by the 36th Assembly of Heads of State and Government held in Lome, Togo, in July 2000.
2. REAFFIRMED that the resolution of the land issue is central to ensuring durable peace, stability and economic development in Zimbabwe.
3. TOOK NOTE of the tireless efforts being coordinated by His Excellency President Olusegun Obasanjo of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to mediate between Zimbabwe and Britain in respect of resolving the land issue in Zimbabwe.
4. REITERATED its demand for Britain to honour its colonial obligation to fund the land resettlement programme in Zimbabwe in accordance with the Lancaster House Agreement.
5. CALLED UPON Britain to cooperate fully and enter into dialogue with the Government of Zimbabwe with the purpose of finding a final solution to this colonial legacy.

2001

Decisions And Declarations : Assembly of Heads of State and Government Thirty-seventh Ordinary Session/ Fifth Ordinary Session of the AEC 9 – 11 July, 2001 Lusaka, Zambia AHG

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