

RESOLUTION ON SUPPORT TO UNIDO AND UNCTAD

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Thirty-First Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 26 to 28 June, 1995,

Considering the Activities Report of the Secretary-General of the OAU, which *inter-alia*, emphasizes the importance of UNIDO and UNCTAD and the request of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry, held in Gaborone, Botswana in June 1995 for Africa's support to UNIDO at the highest level,

Concerned with the danger of increased marginalization of the African continent through continuous reduction of development aid and flow of private investment to Africa, as well as the globalization and liberalization of the world economy following the Uruguay Round Agreements,

Bearing in mind the substantial efforts which African countries have made and are continuing to make towards the restructuring of their economies,

Convinced that the industrial sector constitutes a major engine of growth in the restructuring and transformation of African economies and that UNIDO has to play a pivotal role in the process of industrialization of developing countries in general, and African countries, in particular,

Emphasizing the importance of the trade sector in Africa and the crucial role of UNCTAD in assisting African countries in the development and promotion of their trade sector,

Recalling the Yaounde Declaration, adopted at the Fifth Session of the General Conference of UNIDO in Yaounde, Cameroon in December 1993 in which the International Community reaffirmed the role of UNIDO as the central coordinating agency in the United Nations Systems for the industrialization of developing countries and pledged the political, financial and technical support to the Organization,

Recalling further the Programme of Action adopted by the African Ministers of Trade at the International Conference on the Uruguay Round and its implications for African economies, held in Tunis, Tunisia, in October 1994.

Reiterating the Common Position adopted by the Group of 77 in Geneva in March 1995 and by the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned countries in Bandung, Indonesia, in April 1995 emphasizing the greater relevance of UNIDA and UNCTAD:

1. **REAFFIRMS** the fundamental role of industrialization and trade development in the economic and social development of African countries;
2. **REITERATES** the crucial role of UNIDO and UNCTAD in industry, trade and development of the developing countries in general and of African countries in particular;
3. **ENDORSES** the support for UNIDO and UNCTAD contained in the Cairo Agenda of Action on relaunching Africa's economic and social development adopted at seventeenth Extra-Ordinary Session of the OAU Council of Ministers in Cairo, Egypt, in March 1995, as well as the Motion of Support for UNIDO adopted at the twelfth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry in Gaborone, Botswana, in June 1995;
4. **WELCOMES** the efforts made by UNIDO to restructure itself and to implement its priority programmes, especially those in Africa, and **ENCOURAGES** the Director-General to continue intensifying UNIDO's efforts towards the accelerated industrialization of Africa;
5. **DEPLORES** the tendency by certain groups in the international community to marginalize those United Nations bodies which are of particular relevance to the developing countries and to question the continued existence of UNIDO and UNCTAD;

6. **URGES** the developed countries, to support, maintain and strengthen UNIDO and UNCTAD as the main Organizations in the United Nations System responsible for industry, trade and development respectively, and
7. **REAFFIRMS**, therefore, Africa's total support for UNIDO and UNCTAD as very important instruments for the industrialization, trade and development of African countries, and **CALLS** for efforts to strengthen and reinvigorate these two Organizations.

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