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GRGANISATION DB L'UNITE AFRICAINE

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ADDIS ABABA

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COUNCIL OF MINISTERS Twelfth Ordinary Session Addis Ababa - February, 1969

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THE TERM OF OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF EXTERNAL AUDITORS



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THE TERM OF OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF EXTERNAL AUDITORS

Delegates may wish to recall that at the Eleventh Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers held in Algiers, when the term of office of the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters was discussed, the General Secretariat, in its explanations, mentioned the case of the Board of External Auditors as well. The General Secretariat on that occasion was unable to make any positive recommendation to the Council concerning the term of office of the Board of External Auditors because the case was not as clear to the General Secretariat as that of the Advisory Committee.

The difficulties involved in the case of the term of office of the Board of External Auditors is that there is no part of the records of the Council of Ministers meetings or of our Financial Rules and Regulations which indicates the exact duration of their term of office. This is extremely surprising because the elections for the Board of Auditors were conducted at the same meeting as the elections for the Advisory Committee. The term of office of the Advisory Committee was known to be three years, but that of the Board of Auditors was not stated. The countries elected in Acora in 1965 were Ghana, Algeria, Ethiopia, Cameroun and Central African Republic.

The General Secretariat, having considered the problem, is of the opinion that perhaps it was the intention of the Council to institute the same limitation on the Board of External Aulitors as was done on the Advisory Committee. It is also the opinion of the General Secretariat that the absence of a limitation on the tenure of office of the Board of External Auditors was an inadvertent omission which if brought to the attention of the Council might be rectified. In this document, therefore, the General Secretariat does not necessarily request the Council of Ministers to conduct fresh elections to replace the present members of the Board of External Auditors but has merely

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brought the problem to the attention of the Council so that the Council may make a decision on the matter, if it is found necessary.

In considering this question, the Council may wish to refer to the recommendation of the Advisory Committee concerning the Board of Auditors. This is contained in their report and is to the effect that the membership of the Board of External Auditors be increased to six.

In the light of the above explanations of the problem, the Council may wish

- (a) to rectify what appears to be an omission in the 1965 decision establishing the Board of External Auditors;
- (b) to consider whether in the light of any such rectification new elections are to be held; and



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