

**ORGANIZATION OF
AFRICAN UNITY
SECRETARIAT**

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ADDIS ABABA

**ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE
AFRICAINNE
SECRETARIAT
B. P. 3243**

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Fourteenth Ordinary Session

Addis Ababa - February/March 1970

CM/328

REPORT OF THE RAPPORTEUR - FOURTEENTH ORDINARY
SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

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(Addis Ababa - 27 February to 6 March, 1970)

Formal opening of the Fourteenth Ordinary Session:

1. The outgoing Chairman, H.E. Mr. Simon Nko'o Etoungou - who is the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Cameroun - called the Council of Ministers to order at 4.35, on Friday 27th February, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Present at the session were Ministers and Representatives from all the 41 Member States of the OAU and observers from the liberation movements. The Chairman then invited His Imperial Majesty, Haile Sallassie I, the Emperor of Ethiopia, to perform the formal opening of the Fourteenth Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers.

2. In his address to the Council of Ministers, the Emperor observed that the failure or success of any inter-governmental organization depended on the degree of active co-operation amongst its membership. While noting that the current session was primarily for dealing with the programme and budget of the OAU, he mentioned some of the topics which required attention. These included the struggle to liberate African territories still under foreign minority or racist rule, and in this connection he expressed the hope that Member States will continue to extend meaningful assistance to liberation movements and redouble their efforts to bring to an end any domination of Africans in Africa by foreign oppressors. He expressed his joy at the coming to an end of the civil war in Nigeria, and expressed the hope that Member States would assist the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria in its efforts of reconciliation and rehabilitation, and that the misunderstanding which that civil war had brought between some Member States, would be replaced by the re-establishment of brotherly relations.

H.E. Mr. M. Nkema, the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of Zambia, H.E. Dr. A. K. Gaye, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Senegal, H.E. Mr. S. M. Buesir, the Minister of Unity and Foreign Affairs of Libya and H.E. A. Ickonga, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Congo (Brazzaville), proposed votes of thanks to the Emperor ; in that sequence.

3. H.E. Mr. F. Okunnu, the Commissioner for Works and Housing of Nigeria then addressed the Council of Ministers, and conveyed the gratitude of his Government for the efforts exerted by the OAU to end the recent Nigerian conflict. Particular thanks were expressed to the OAU Consultative Committee on Nigeria and to its Chairman, the Emperor of Ethiopia, for the work that had been done to preserve the national unity and sovereignty of Nigeria.

4. The outgoing Chairman then reported to the Council of Ministers on the main events that had taken place since the previous session at which he had been elected Chairman, and called for still greater efforts by Member States to increase co-operation among Member States for progress and unity, and for the liberation of the dependent territories of Africa.

Election of Officers of the Fourteenth Session:

5. After being proposed by Mauritius and seconded by Ethiopia, the following were unanimously elected to the offices of the Fourteenth Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers:

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| Chairman | H.E. Mr. Malick Zorome, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Upper Volta; |
| 1st Vice-Chairman | - H.E. Mr. A. D. Camara - the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Gambia; |
| 2nd Vice-Chairman | - H.E. Mr. O. Arteh Galib, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of Somalia; |
| 3rd Vice-Chairman | - Mr. S. Gohar, Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Republic; |
| Rapporteur | - Mr. A. Moussa, Ambassador, Chad. |

The new Chairman, on behalf of all the new Officers, thanked the Council of Ministers for electing them, and also called for more co-operation to strengthen the OAU as an instrument of development of the Member States. This closed the public meeting.

Adoption of the Agenda and Organization of work:

6. The provisional agenda had been circulated in several documents the latest of which was document No. CM/293/Rev.3. The Council of Ministers agreed, at the request of Tunisia, that instead of naming all the non-independent countries in the Agenda, the relevant item should simply read as follows: "The report of the Administrative Secretary-General on the development of the situation in the territories under colonial and racist domination." This followed a debate on whether or not the Canary Islands and the Seycheles Islands should be named along with Angola, Mozambique, Spanish Sahara, French Somaliland (Djibouti), etc., etc. The delegation of UAR notified the Council of Ministers that under "Any Other Business" it would deliver a statement on the continuing occupation of parts of UAR by forces of a foreign country. With other minor amendments, the agenda was adopted.

7. As is now the established practice, the draft budget was to be considered in plenary. This meant that the Plenary and Committee B on Financial, Administrative and Institutional Matters met together. The division of work between the Plenary and the Committees was as under:

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|---------------------------|--|
| Plenary (and Committee B) | The budget and other financial, administrative and institutional matters - items Nos. 1 to 14 inclusive, 16, 17, 24, and 32 to 37 inclusive. |
| Committee A | On political Matters Items Nos. 15, 18, 19, 20 to 23 inclusive, 26, 27 and 31. |
| Committee C | On Inter-African Co-operation Items Nos. 25, 28 to 30 inclusive. |

Future February Sessions:

8. After the allocation of work, the Administrative Secretary-General reiterated a point which several delegations had already observed, that is that the agenda was too long, and that it would improve preparations for February Sessions in future if these were restricted to the consideration of the budget and programme of work of the OAU. This would not exclude any urgent matters which the Council of Ministers might accept to deal with on such occasions. The Council of Ministers decided that in future, this should be as indicated above.

Report of the Administrative Secretary-General:

9. The report of the Administrative Secretary-General, covering the period since September 1969, to February 1970, was presented in document CM/294 (Part II). The presentation report of that document was contained in document CM/294 (Part I) and was read by the Administrative Secretary-General himself. In the report, the Administrative Secretary-General not only covered most of the events that had taken place in the administrative, political, economic, educational and other related fields, but also, he dealt with some of the matters that were to be placed before the Fourteenth Ordinary Session of the Council for consideration. At the request of Morocco, it was agreed that the part of the report mentioning Spanish Sahara, should reproduce the whole of resolution No.2501 which the United Nations had adopted on that country. Since the minority racist regime in Zimbabwe had announced that it would become a republic on 2nd March, 1970, several delegations wanted a review of the decisions on the liberation struggle which Heads of State and Government had taken during the more recent regional meetings, such as the East and Central African States, OCAM, etc., so as to better prepare for the next confrontation with minority regimes in Africa. Such a review would also include what possible actions could be taken to prevent the construction of the Cabora Bossa Dam in Mozambique. The Council of Ministers took note of the report, and directed that matters raised in it and in the debate following the presentation, should be taken up by the appropriate Working Committee.

10.

Statement by UAR Delegation on the Middle East Crisis:

10. The Head of delegation of UAR was permitted to give at this juncture, a statement on the Middle East Crisis, which the Council had accepted to hear under "Any other Business". Among other matters, the statement indicated that parts of UAR were still occupied by Israel forces inspite of the requests to the contrary by the Security Council resolution No.242 of 22 November 1967 and by previous resolutions of the OAU. It was further reported that armed clashes in the area were on the increase. Most of the speakers who intervned called for the re-statement of the OAU solidarity and sympathy with the UAR on this matter, and further that Israel should be asked to remove its forces from parts of the UAR territory. After a lengthy debate, the Council of Ministers decided:-

- (a) to take note of the statement by UAR;
- (b) to make the whole text of the statement an official document of the Council of Ministers, and
- (c) to send the following message to the President of the UAR:-

"THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE OAU MEETING IN ITS FOURTEENTH ORDINARY SESSION IN ADDIS ABABA ON 28 FEBRUARY 1970,

HAVING HEARD A STATEMENT BY THE HEAD OF THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC ON THE VERY GRAVE SITUATION WHICH PREVAILS IN THAT COUNTRY SINCE THE OCCUPATION BY FOREIGN FORCES OF A PART OF THE NATIONAL TERRITORY OF THAT FOUNDING MEMBER'S STATE OF OAU,

EXPRESSES ITS UNRESERVED SYMPATHY AND SOLIDARITY TO THE PRESIDENT, GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC."

The following countries, for various reasons, entered their reservations on the action to send the above message to the UAR: Gabon, Malawi, Lesotho, Swaziland, Rwanda, Dahomey and Sierra Leone. After disposing of this item, the two Working Committees on Political matters and on Inter-African Co-operation left the Plenary, which then took up financial, institutional and administrative matters.

11. The items taken up by the Plenary are contained in Document CM/293/Rev.4/Add.1, as follows but starting from item 3 since items 1 and 2 had been disposed of:

1. (a) Election of Officers
(~~b~~) Adoption of the Agenda
(c) Organization of Work of the Session
2. Report of the Administrative Secretary-General
3. Report of the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters
4. Consideration of the Financial Report for the Financial Year 1968/69
5. Consideration of the Report of the Board of Auditors, and the comments of the General Secretariat on that Report
6. Consideration of the Revised Version of the Report on the Structure and Salary Levels of the General Secretariat
7. Consideration of the Request to build a residence for the Administrative Secretary-General
8. Progress Report of the Committee of Seven set up to study the Mandate, the Structure and the Composition of the Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa (see Resolution CM/Res.205 (XIII))
9. Consideration of the Draft Budget for the Financial Year 1970/71
10. Consideration of the Draft Budget 1970/71 on the Special Fund of the Liberation Committee
11. The Proposed Plan to establish a sub-regional office of the Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa in Lusaka
12. Proposed plan to establish an OPD Clinic at the Headquarters of the General Secretariat for staff members.
13. Recommendation regarding the appointment of members of the Board of Auditors by name
14. Consideration of the review of the Staff Rules and Regulations pertaining to annual leave of staff members

15. Stamp Agency for OAU
16. Settlement of outstanding contributions of Member States:
 - (a) Ordinary Budget of OAU;
 - (b) Budget of the Commission of Mediation, Conciliation and Arbitration;
 - (c) Budget of the South West Africa case (Namibia)
17. Request for authorization to implement Decision CM/Dec.70 (XIII) on the OAU Pension Fund
18. OAU Assistance to Equatorial Guinea
19. Request for subvention by the Supreme Council for Sports in Africa (proposed by Cameroun)
20. Request for subvention by the All-African Women's Congress
21. Request for subvention for African Cinema Festival in Ouagadougou (proposed by Upper Volta)
22. Amendment of Rule 14 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council of Ministers - proposed by Tunisia (cf. Annex 2)
23. Amendment of the Financial Rules and Regulations, Document CM/40.
 - 1st - paragraph 2 of Article 4
 - 2nd - sub-paragraph (1) of paragraph 3 of Article 5 proposed by Tunisia (cf. Annex 3)
24. Date and Venue of the next session
25. Any other business:
 - Statement by the U.A.R. on the situation in the Middle East.

12. The Council started its debate on Administrative and Financial Matters at 6 p.m. on Saturday 28th February, 1970. It would have been appropriate for the Council to consider item No.3 first, that is the Rapporteur's Report of the 9th Ordinary Session of the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters, since this Report contained the recommendations of the Advisory Committee to the Council of Ministers on most of the items in the Agenda. But because the Report was not ready, the Secretary-General suggested and the Council

agreed, that items which were not related to the Rapporteur's Report could be treated first. The Plenary Session, therefore, agreed to consider items not in the serial order as they appeared in the Agenda.

Amendment of Rule 14 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council of Ministers - Item 22 proposed by Tunisia: Document CM/293/Rev.3 Annex 2:

13. The aim of this amendment was to oblige the Secretary-General to send to Member States, at least thirty days before the opening of the Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers, not only the provisional agenda, as requested by Rule 14 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council of Ministers, but also all the Conference documents related to the Agenda. The Secretary General informed the Session that the Government of Tunisia submitted this item only a few days before the meeting of the Council of Ministers and, therefore, the Secretariat had not got enough time to study it and submit to the Council the full implications of the Tunisian proposal. He suggested that the items be deferred till the next session of the Council of Ministers so that he would by then be in a position to submit to the Session a well considered view of the full implications of the Tunisian amendment. When the Council insisted that the matter be discussed, the Secretary-General explained the difficulty of the Secretariat in preparing Conference documents with small staff. He said that in any case since the Secretariat was responsible for only some of the documents, it could not take all the blame in not preparing Conference papers on time. Member States, which often sent documents late, should also share the blame. The Secretary-General suggested that one of the ways by which the situation could be corrected was to restrict the February Session of the Council of Ministers to discussing of budgetary matters except other matters which needed urgent consideration.

14. Many delegates spoke on the Tunisian amendment and there was consensus that it was very necessary for the Secretary-General to ensure that documents reached Member States in good

time to enable delegates read them thoroughly before they came to meetings. There was general criticism that at present documents reach Member States very late, or not at all, before OAU Conferences. Many delegations argued that this situation made it difficult for them to study their papers before hand and discuss them intelligently. There were a number of suggestions on how the situation could be corrected but only two formal proposals were put to the Council namely the Tunisian amendment supported by Congo (Kinshasa) and one by the Foreign Minister of Camerouns. The Foreign Minister of Camerouns proposed that the Secretary-General should take note of the criticisms and suggestions made by various delegations on the fact that quite often conference documents were not sent to Member States on time and that he should find ways to correct this situation. The proposal of Tunisia, as supported by Congo (Kinshasa) and that of the Cameroun were put to vote. The Tunisian proposal obtained 20 votes in favour, 3 against and 12 abstentions. The Cameroun proposal obtained 27 votes in favour, 0 against and 5 abstentions. Therefore, the Tunisian proposal, which got less than 21, that is the simple majority of the 41 Member States, was rejected and the Cameroun proposal which got more than the simple majority was adopted. The Council, therefore, DECIDED that the Secretary-General should endeavour to dispatch to Member States conference documents together with the provisional agenda to reach them in time.

Proposed Plan to establish an OPD Clinic at the Headquarters of the General Secretariat for Staff Members: Item 12 Document CM/301:

15. The Secretariat introduced the document and explained that the idea behind the proposal was for the Secretariat to provide simple medical facilities for its staff and members of African Embassies in Addis Ababa who wished to avail themselves of the facilities. The Council was told that the Director of the Health Bureau of the OAU would run the clinic, on part time basis, with the assistance of two other doctors

who would soon be recruited by the Secretariat. They would provide the service without any extra pay. It was pointed out that some medical cases outside the scope of the Clinic would continue to be referred to physicians in town. In this way there would be much savings for the Secretariat. Many members wanted some clarifications on a number of points and the Director of the Health Bureau was able to satisfy them. For example there was a question of the proper nomenclature of the Clinic and the Director explained that what really mattered was the facilities which the Clinic would provide. It was explained that the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters had already accepted to recommend the proposal to the Council of Ministers. The Council APPROVED the proposal that the Secretariat should operate a clinic for its staff members and members of African Embassies who cared to avail themselves of the scheme.

Stamp Agency for OAU: Item 15: Document CM/316 (Part 9):

16. The Secretary-General introduced this item and said that the basic aim of the Secretariat in submitting the proposal was to find sources of money for the Organization other than members' contributions. He said that all that the Secretariat asked from the Council at this stage was to be given the greenlight to undertake a study of the matter and submit concrete proposals to the Council at its next session. Many members raised a number of questions on the matter among which was whether the Secretariat needed money for the study. The Secretary-General said originally the idea was to send an official of the OAU to the U.N. in New York to learn its scheme of issuing U.N. stamps at appropriate occasions and in this case it would be necessary to find money to pay for all the expenses for the official's trip. The Secretary-General explained that the Secretariat was able to obtain some documents on the matter and it now felt that it would not be necessary to send an OAU official to the U.N. and consequently the Secretariat did not need any money for the scheme. With this assurance from the

Secretary-General, the Council APPROVED that the Secretary-General should undertake the study of Stamp Agency for OAU and submit a report to the 15th Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers.

OAU Assistance to Equatorial Guinea: Item 18: Document CM/318:

17. The Secretary-General introduced the item which was his report on the OAU assistance to Equatorial Guinea. He said that after the Assembly of Heads of State and Government at its 6th Session at Addis Ababa held in September, 1969, passed a Resolution AHG/Res.55/Rev.1(VI), instructing the Secretary-General to co-ordinate the aid given by the OAU to Equatorial Guinea he wasted no time in carrying out the instructions. He gave a quick resume of all the activities of the Secretariat in this regard and he summarized all the assistance which the Member States gave to Equatorial Guinea. The leader of the delegation of Equatorial Guinea thanked the OAU for all the assistance given to his country. He gave a brief outline of the chaotic situation in which his country found itself when the Spaniards suddenly withdrew from the country. He said that the OAU assistance helped his country to recover from the chaos. The Council of Ministers took note of the report of the Secretary-General and DIRECTED him to continue to carry out the instructions of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government. The Council expressed its deep appreciation to all the State Members who were kind enough to provide aid to Equatorial Guinea, the youngest member of the OAU.

Statement by the Foreign Minister of Cameroun:

18. The Foreign Minister of Cameroun, the leader of his country's delegation to the 14th Session of the Council of Ministers, took the permission of the Chairman to read out a telegram which he had received from his President, the current Chairman of the 6th Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, concerning Rhodesia. The telegram was necessitated by the announcement made by the rebels in Rhodesia that that country would become a republic on Monday 2nd March, 1970.

The telegram condemned the illegal action taken by the white minority rebel regime as further challenge to the conscience of mankind. It called the U.N. to intensify its economic sanction and if necessary have recourse to force in order to topple the white minority regime. The Council debated the telegram and DECIDED that:

- (i) the Council session should send an appropriate reply, to be signed by the Foreign Minister of Upper Volta, the current Chairman of the Council of Ministers, to President Ahidjo expressing appreciation for his message;
- (ii) the telegram should be adopted as an official document of the 14th session of the Council of Ministers;
- (iii) The telegram should be given wide publicity.

Report of the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters: Item 3, Document CM/295/Rev.1:

19. The Rapporteur of the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters, the Nigerian Ambassador, H.E. Mr. Olu Sanu, introduced his report. He said that the report included a number of items the most important of which was the Budget proposals. He pointed out that the Council would observe, when it came to discuss the Budgetary proposals, that the proposed Budget for 1970/71 Financial Year increased by about 6% over the current Budget for 1969/70. The increase was brought about, among other things, by the suggestions submitted by the Secretariat, and as accepted by the Advisory Committee, for general salary increases for staff and upgradings of certain posts. The Ambassador said he was satisfied that there was a case for salary increases, due to the increase in cost of living since the present salary scales were fixed. But he doubted whether at the same time it would be proper to consider the upgradings of certain posts. The Rapporteur submitted the following suggestions to the Council of Ministers, which if accepted, would reduce expenditure for the OAU:

- (i) The February meeting of the Council of Ministers should be restricted as much as possible to the consideration of the budget. In this way, the length of the February meeting would be curtailed to 3 or 4 days, thus allowing for some savings.
- (ii) The Council of Ministers should take into sufficient consideration the financial implications of some of the decisions and directives given to the Secretary-General. In future the Secretary-General should circulate a statement indicating quite clearly the financial implications of the recommendations of the Council before final resolutions are adopted. In this way, the cost involved, if a decision is formally taken, will be known to all members.
- (iii) Although there is a provision for a bi-annual meeting of the Commissions, provision should be made in the budget only when the Council of Ministers direct that the meeting of a particular Commission should take place. If no directive is given then no provision should be made in the estimate. This is particularly necessary because in the past two years most of the Commissions have not been able to meet.
- (iv) The travels of staff of the Secretariat should be rationalised. Since members of the OAU are also members of the International Organizations, it is sometimes not necessary to have an OAU presence in all international meetings.
- (v) The OAU should not duplicate the activities of the ECA and other International Agencies since it has not got sufficient resources to set up a separate machinery for the work being done by these bodies.

After the Rapporteur had read out the introduction to his report, the Council took note of the Rapporteur's Report, Document CM/295/Rev.1, and DECIDED to consider the various items on the Agenda, one by one, and where necessary, referred to the relevant part of the Rapporteur's Report dealing with these items.

20. Before discussing the next item on the Agenda, the Chairman, the Foreign Minister of Upper Volta, on behalf of the Council of Ministers, congratulated the Ethiopian people, through the Ethiopian delegation, on the 74th Anniversary of the Victory of Adwa, when the Ethiopian forces vanquished the invading Italians. The Foreign Minister of Ethiopia, on behalf of the Ethiopian Government, expressed his appreciation for the Chairman's congratulations.

21. The Counsellor at the U.A.R. Embassy in Addis Ababa, who was a member of the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters, said that the statement made by the Nigerian Ambassador, His Excellency Mr. Olu Sanu, when he introduced his report as the Rapporteur of the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters, did not reflect the views of the Committee. He told the Council that the report of the Advisory Committee, which all the members endorsed, was aimed, among other things, at giving the OAU Secretariat enough tools to operate the Organization. The Nigerian Ambassador agreed that the views expressed in his introductory statement were purely his own, and many delegates spoke generally expressing the opinion that even if those views were solely those of the Nigerian Ambassador, the Council had the right to discuss them on their merits.

Consideration of the Revised Version of the Report on the Structure and Salary Levels of the General Secretariat: Item 6: Document CM/298/Rev.1:

22. The Council of Ministers decided to take up the above matter before discussing the Budget. The argument offered for this procedure was that the Council wanted to know the final structure of the Organization before deciding the total expenditure to support it. Discussions were started on Part II, paragraph 15 (a) of the Document CM/298/Rev.1, that is the recommendation made by the Sub-Committee of Experts, and accepted by the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters, that the number of the Assistant Secretaries-General be reduced

from 4 to 2. The Ambassador of Ghana in Addis Ababa, speaking on behalf of the delegation of Ghana, formally moved that the Council consider a proposal that the number of Assistant Secretaries-General be reduced from 4 to 2. A roll call vote was taken and the result was 20 were in favour of the motion, 14 were against and 7 abstained. Since the motion obtained less than 21 votes, that is a simple majority of 41 Member States, it was lost. Therefore the status quo as regards the number of Assistant Secretaries-General remained.

23. The Council discussed the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters, as stated in paragraph 15 (b) of Document CM/298/Rev.1, to maintain the present number of Assistant Executive-Secretaries as 3. The Council ACCEPTED this recommendation but Liberia and Ivory Coast made reservations about this acceptance.

24. The Council of Ministers debated the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters to:

- (i) Transfer the STRC sub-regional offices in Bangui and Niamey to Yaounde (paragraph 15 (c) of Document CM/298/Rev.1)
- (ii) Allow the Education and Health Sections of the Scientific and Cultural Department to remain in Addis Ababa.

The Council DECIDED not to consider (i) because consultations between the countries affected by the changes were still going on and ACCEPTED the recommendation (ii).

25. When the Council of Ministers came to discuss paragraph 16 of Document CM/298/Rev.1 on the question of creation, upgrading, downgrading and suppression of some posts at the OAU Secretariat, Liberian delegation formally moved that the Council should suspend indefinitely consideration of all recommendations contained in Document CM/298/Rev.1 in view of the fact that it had decided to maintain the status quo with

regard to the number of the Assistant Secretaries-General. Tunisia supported the motion. U.A.R. moved an amendment that the Council should suspend discussion only of paragraph 16 but could discuss other matters contained in the Document. The motion for amendment was seconded. When it was put to vote, the result was 19 in favour, 20 against and 2 abstentions. The amended motion, was therefore, lost since it obtained less than 21, that is the simple majority of 41 Member States. The original motion of Liberia was put to a roll call vote and the result was 21 in favour, 17 against and 3 abstentions. The motion was, therefore, carried and so the Council POSTPONED indefinitely discussions of proposals contained in Document CM/298/Rev.1 other than the one it took concerning maintaining the present number of Assistant Secretaries-General as four.

26. The Council of Ministers agreed to hold consultations at the level of Heads of delegations so that they could decide on how to tackle the budget proposals contained in Document CM/302/Rev.1, with all the annexes and the supplementary proposals, as accepted by the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters at its 9th Session. The Heads of Delegations took the following decisions which was later put to the Plenary Session of the Council of Ministers by the Minister of State in the Foreign Ministry of Ethiopia:

- (i) All OAU staff, except the Secretary-General, the four Assistant Secretaries-General, the President and the two Vice-Presidents of the Commission of Mediation, Conciliation and Arbitration were to be given 5% increase on their basic salaries, with effect from 1st June, 1970.
- (ii) The Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters was to study again all cases of up-gradings submitted by the Secretariat to the Council of Ministers, apparent discrepancies in salary levels among officers performing comparable duties and the alleged irregularities in the Secretariat's

fixing of salaries of some staff, and to submit a report on all these matters to the next meeting of the Council of Ministers on Monday 24th August, 1970.

- (iii) The Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters was to make a fresh study of the report, Document CM/298/Rev.1, submitted by the Secretariat, on the structure and salary levels of the OAU, and submit concrete proposals on this matter to the meeting of the Council of Ministers beginning 24th August, 1970.

27. The Council decided that it would consider only normal increments in the Budget proposals, Document CM/302/Rev.1, and reduced by US.\$ 25,000.00 the amount of US.\$ 70,000.00 which the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters had accepted for official missions of the OAU officials. The amount the Council approved was therefore US.\$ 45,000.00.

28. The Council reduced US.\$ 25,000.00 from US.\$ 125,015.00 (Part X of the Budget proposals) which the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters had accepted for implementation of resolutions. The amount it approved was, therefore, US.\$ 100,015.00.

29. The Council accepted by roll call vote (24 in favour, 0 against, 16 abstentions and 1 absent) the proposals by the Secretariat contained in Item D.4 of Budget proposals to establish Linguistic Bureau in Kampala. The amount approved for the Bureau in 1970/71 financial year was US.\$ 35,140.00.

30. At this juncture, a draft resolution on the declaration of a Republic by the white minority regime in Zimbabwe was put before the Council of Ministers. The resolution condemned the action of the white minority in Zimbabwe in declaring an illegal republic and invited the British Government, as the colonial power in charge of Zimbabwe, to take action, including the use of force, to establish majority rule in Zimbabwe. The draft resolution was passed in a roll call vote as follows: 31 in favour, 30 against, 8 abstentions and 2 absent.

31. The leader of the Sudanese delegation read out a message which his Government had issued in connection with the declaration of a republic in Zimbabwe. The message condemned the declaration and regarded it as another challenge by the minority regime in Rhodesia to the world public opinion.

32. The Council of Ministers listened to the representatives of ZAPU and ZANU who addressed the Council on the struggle of the people of Zimbabwe for their freedom. The two speakers thanked the Council for all the assistance which the OAU had been giving to the freedom fighters and requested the Council to give more financial support to enable the freedom fighters carry on the struggle. The Council of Ministers URGED the two nationalist movements, ZAPU and ZANU, in Zimbabwe to close their ranks and unite so that they could present a common front against the enemies.

Consideration of the Request to Build an Official Residence for the Administrative Secretary-General: Item 7, Document CM/299/Rev.1

33. The Council of Ministers accepted the proposals by the Secretariat as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters (paragraph 107 of the report of the Advisory Committee - Document CM/295/Rev.1) to set aside US.\$77,000.00 out of savings in 1968/69 OAU budget, to build official residence for the Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU.

Progress Report of the Committee of Seven set up to study the mandate, the structure and the Composition of the Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa (Resolution CM/Res.205(XIII))
Item 8:

34. The Council of Ministers accepted the proposal of the Secretariat, as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters, (paragraph 43 of the Rapporteur's report of the Advisory Committee, Document CM/295/Rev.1) that US.\$5,500.00, out of 1969/70 OAU budget, be paid to Committee of Seven to enable that Committee carry out its assignment.

Request by the Scientific Council of Africa (C.S.A.)

35. The Council of Ministers approved a request of US.\$35,000.00 for the Scientific Council for Africa (CSA) which is contained in paragraph 32 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters (Document CM/295/Rev.1). The money will be put in the OAU budget for the financial year 1970/71.

Proposals by the Secretariat to establish an OAU Office in Santa Isabelle, Equatorial Guinea:

36. When the Council of Ministers was discussing this matter, there was long debate as to whether the Secretariat should recruit officers for this office or second to it some of its existing staff at the Headquarters. Some delegations also wanted to know for how long the office would function and they emphasized that it should be temporary. The Secretary-General explained that he had no officers to spare for the proposed office in Santa Isabelle for a long period without impairing the work at the Secretariat. On the question of the duration of the office, the Secretary-General said that the intention was to operate it for one year in the first instance and later as long as the Heads of State and Government of the OAU wanted him to continue his co-ordinating role there. The leader of the Equatorial Guinea delegation said his country welcomed the establishment of OAU office in Santa Isabelle and would not mind if the head of the office was seconded from among the senior officials of the Secretariat. The Council of Ministers DECIDED that the head of the OAU office in Santa Isabelle should be seconded from the Secretariat and APPROVED a budget of US.\$31,804,00 for the office.

Request for Subvention by Upper Volta for African Cinema Festival in Ouagadougou:

37. The Republic of Upper Volta requested for the inclusion of the above item in the Agenda. A spokesman of the Upper Volta delegation asked the Council to postpone discussions on this request till next session. He said that in the meantime, his Government would send all the necessary documents to the Advisory Committee for Budgetary and Financial Matters to study them and submit necessary recommendations to the Council of Ministers at its 15th Ordinary Session beginning on 24th August, 1970.

Request for Subvention by the Supreme Council for Sports in Africa:

38. The Council debated this matter and examined the pros and cons of giving further subventions to the Supreme Council for Sports in Africa. Two representatives of the Council had appeared before the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters and explained in very great detail their activities. The Committee was impressed by these activities which, among other things, helped to unite the youths in Africa in an indirect way. The Advisory Committee agreed in principle that the Supreme Council for Sports should be given financial assistance and left the amount to be decided by the Council of Ministers. The Council APPROVED that a subvention of US.\$90,000.00 for the Supreme Council for Spports in Africa and that the amount be put in the OAU 1970/71 budget.

39. A lady spokesman of the All-African Women Congress, who was among the delegation of the Republic of Guinea, explained to the Council of Ministers the activities of the Congress. She said that they included training of women to overcome their backwardness and to play a useful role in the progress of the continent. The Council of Ministers APPROVED a subvention of US.\$35,000.00 to the All-African Women Congress and that this amount be put in OAU 1970/71 budget.

40. The Foreign Minister of Ethiopia, on behalf of his delegation, introduced a special resolution condemning hijacking of aircraft and other forms of interference with civil aviation. He said the evil of this action was clear to all since all the delegates travelled in aircraft belonging to many nations, both Africa and foreign. The case of the Foreign Minister of Gabon who was on his way to Addis Ababa to attend the 14th Session of the Council of Ministers in Ethiopian aircraft and who had to stop his journey in Rome, because a bomb was discovered in the aircraft, was cited. Many delegates spoke on the danger which interference in civilian aircraft constituted to passengers. The Ethiopian resolution was put to vote and the Council adopted it by acclamation. The following delegations expressed reservations on the resolution: UAR, Sudan, Morocco, Mauritania, Somalia, Libya and Algeria. Most of them explained their reservations saying, among other things, that the resolution should have made exception between imperialist aircraft, which carried weapons to be used against the African freedom fighters, and African aircraft.

41. The Council considered paragraph 39 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters (Document CM/295/Rev.1) and APPROVED that the following be included in 1970/71 budget:-

- (i) An appointment of a Spanish Secretary/Translator at the Secretariat on P.1 Step 1, that is starting on a salary of US.\$4,800.00; per annum;
- (ii) An allocation to the Secretariat of US.\$5,000.00 for translators and Secretaries on short-term appointment;
- (iii) An allocation of US.\$1,000.00 for unforeseen expenses to be spent with the permission of the resident members of the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters:

- (iv) An extra allocation of US.\$950.00 for dependency allowance for the Commission of Mediation, Conciliation and Arbitration.

42. The leader of the delegation of Gabon drew the attention of the Council of Ministers on the fact that cost of education was very high in New York and wanted the OAU to pay 80% of the education fees of the Executive Secretary in charge of OAU office in New York. The Rapporteur suggested that this question should not be treated in isolation since the Council had decided to postpone discussion of matters of this nature which were linked with the Structure. The Secretary-General explained that the Secretariat had concrete proposals on the question of education allowance and it was included in the Document on the Structure which the Council had decided not to discuss at the present session. The Council DECIDED that the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters studied this matter, while it was looking again into the question of Structure, and submit concrete proposal to the next session of the Council of Ministers.

43. At this juncture, the leader of the Algerian delegation suggested to the Council of Ministers that a message be sent to H.E. President Milton Obote of Uganda for his escape from an attempt on his life. The message was slightly amended to recall a previous one sent to Dr. Obote by the current Chairman of the 6th Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, President Ahmadou Ahidjo of the Cameroun. The text of the Algerian message as adopted by the Council of Ministers is:

"ETATPRIORITY

H.E. PRESIDENT MILTON OBOTE

KAMPALA (UGANDA)

"THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE OAU MEETING IN ITS FOURTEENTH ORDINARY SESSION IN ADDISABABA ON FOURTH MARCH 1970 RECALLING THE BRUTAL ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE OF HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT OBOTE ON THE 19TH DECEMBER 1969 STOP

RECALLING THE MESSAGE OF SYMPATHY CONVEYED TO PRESIDENT OBOTE BY THE CURRENT CHAIRMAN OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE OAU STOP CONVINCED THAT THIS WAS ANOTHER DESPERATE ATTEMPT BY THE IMPERIALIST AND REACTIONARY FORCES TO SABOTAGE THE PROGRESSIVE POLICIES OF UGANDA AND AFRICA AT LARGE STOP VIGOROUSLY CONDEMNNS THIS TREACHEROUS AND COWARDLY ACT OF NEOCOLONIALISTS AND THEIR AGENTS STOP EXPRESSES ITS UNQUALIFIED SYMPATHY AND SOLIDARITY TO THE PRESIDENT GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA STOP CONGRATULATES THE PRESIDENT ON HIS ESCAPE AND WISHES HIM QUICKEST RECOVERY TO CONTINUE HIS ROUTE IN THE PROGRESS OF UGANDA AND THE UNITY OF AFRICA STOP HIGHEST CONSIDERATION

MALICK ZOROME
CHAIRMAN OF THE OAU
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS"

44. At the request of the leader of the Cameroun delegation a message of sympathy was also sent to the Foreign Minister of Gabon who escaped from an attempt to blow up an Ethiopian aircraft on which he was travelling to Addis Ababa to attend the meeting of the Council of Ministers. The text of the message is as follows:-

"PRIORITY
HIS EXCELLENCY JEAN REMY AYOUNE
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
LIBREVILLE (GABON)
"COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING IN ITS FOURTEENTH ORDINARY SESSION IN ADDIS ABABA ON FOUR MARCH 1970 HAVING NOTED THE STATEMENT BY THE HEAD OF THE GABONESE DELEGATION ON THE SABOTAGE ATTEMPT ON AN ETHIOPIAN AIRLINES PLANE ON WHICH HIS EXCELLENCY JEAN REMY AYOUNE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF GABON WAS TRAVELLING CONGRATULATES HIM MOST WARMLY

ON HAVING ESCAPED THIS OUTRAGE STOP VIGOROUSLY
CONDEMNNS ALL ATTEMPTS AT SABOTAGE AND HIJACKING OF
ANY COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT STOP HIGHEST CONSIDERATION

MALICK ZOROME
CHAIRMAN OF OAU FOURTEENTH
ORDINARY SESSION"

Draft Budget of the Special Funds for the Committee for the
Liberation of Africa (Document CM/310)

45. Some delegation explained that for reasons which their Governments had made clear, they would reserve their position about the budget of the Liberation Committee. Some would like to await the report of the Committee of 7 before they could clarify their position. At the end of the debate the Council approved a budget of 933,360 pounds sterling for the Liberation Committee for 1970/71 financial year.

46. The Council DECIDED that the question of the upgrading of Chiefs of Section in the Political Department from P2 to P3 should be considered by the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters together with all similar cases which it would study and submit report to the 15th Session of the Council of Ministers.

Consideration of the Financial Report for the Financial Year
1968/69: Item 4:

47. The Rapporteur of the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters, His Excellency Ambassador Olu Sanu recommended that the Council should take note of the report and request the Secretariat that in future it should indicate real savings and not theoretical ones based on the assumption that all contributions had been paid. The Council DECIDED to accept the recommendations of the Rapporteur.

Consideration of the Report of the Board of Auditors and the
Comments of the General Secretariat:

48. The Council also took note of the report and the action taken by the Secretary-General. The Council agreed that the current members of the Board of External Auditors should remain for the period of their three year term.

Consideration of the Review of the Staff Rules and Regulations on the Annual Leave of Staff Members:

49. The Council of Ministers accepted the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters as contained in paragraph 13 of the report of the Committee (Document CM/295/Rev.1) pertaining to the annual leave of the statutory and permanent staff of the OAU. That is each statutory and permanent staff member is entitled to 28 WORKING days of leave in a year.

The Proposed Plan to establish a sub-Regional Office of the Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa in Lusaka:

50. After a short debate, the Council APPROVED the proposal contained in paragraph 12 of the report of the Advisory Committee (Document CM/295/Rev.1) to establish a sub-office of the Liberation Committee in Lusaka. The financial provision was US.\$35,140.00. But the Council DECIDED that the establishment of the office should await the report of the Committee of Seven which was established by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government at its 6th Session to study the mandate, the structure and the composition of the Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa.

51. The OAU 1970/71 budget as it stands after the Council of Ministers' conclusion of its debate on all budgetary proposals is as follows:

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-------------------|
| Original Draft Budget presented to the Council of Ministers by the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters is | ... | ... | ... | US.\$2,419,642.80 |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-------------------|

Less Deductions:

| | | |
|---|----------------|------------------|
| New posts and upgradings and incremental awards | US.\$22,164.00 | |
| Error on page 131 .. | " 25,500.00 | |
| Page 221 (vote).. | " 25,000.00 | |
| Page 157 (Implementation of resolutions) | " 25,000.00 | |
| | | <u>97,664.00</u> |
| | | 2,321,978.80 |

| | | |
|---|--------|--------------|
| Hospitality for OAU Day (New York Office) | US. \$ | 3,500.00 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | 2,325,478.80 |
| Linguistic Office in Uganda | | 35,140.00 |
| C.S.A. Meetings | | 35,000.00 |
| Co-ordinating Office in Equatorial Guinea | | 31,804.00 |
| Supreme Council of Sports in Africa | | 90,000.00 |
| All-African Women's Congress | | 35,000.00 |
| Spanish Secretary/Translator | | 4,800.00 |
| Translators and Secretaries on short-term appointment during OAU Conferences | | 5,000.00 |
| Unforeseen expenses | | 1,000.00 |
| Mediation Commission (Dependency allowance) | | 950.00 |
| Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa (Lusaka) | | 35,140.00 |
| 5% general increase on basic salary for all staff (excluding Secretary-General, 4 Assistant Secretaries-General, President and two Vice-Presidents of the Mediation Commission) | | 56,033.70 |
| | | <hr/> |
| Total Approved Budget for 1970/71 | US. \$ | 2,655,346.50 |
| Deduct 1968/69 anticipated Revenue (as directed by the Advisory Committee) | | 60,000.00 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | US. \$ | 2,595,346.50 |
| Contribution to Kenya Government for Trade Fair | | 71,400.00 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | US. \$ | 2,666,746.50 |

Increase of US. \$265,537.50 or 9.84% over 1969/70 Budget.

Request for Authorization to Implement Decision CM/Dec.70 (XIII) on the OAU Pension Fund:

52. The Council approved the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters contained in paragraph 36 of the Report of the Committee (Document CM/295/Rev.1) that the pension of staff of the OAU up to 31st May, 1971 be taken from the Working Capital Fund.

Settlement of Outstanding Contributions of Member States
(Document CM/307):

- (a) Ordinary Budget of the OAU
- (b) Budget of the Commission of Mediation, Conciliation and Arbitration
- (c) Budget of the South West Africa Case (Namibia)

53. The above item was discussed at the level of Heads of delegations. The Foreign Minister of Gambia said that his country had settled all its arrears on the basis of the new formula of assessment and so any arrears which were shown against Gambia were calculated on the basis of the old formula. The Minister argued that since the Gambia did, and still does, not accept the old formula it deemed itself as having settled all its arrears. The Minister, therefore, wanted the Council of Ministers to regard the Gambia as having paid all its arrears. Many members of the Council felt that the Gambia was bound by the old formula, though it did not agree with it, as long as it was in operation. They argued that it was impossible to get a formula of assessment acceptable to all the Member States but once it was accepted by the Council of Ministers it was binding on all the Member States. The Council APPEALED to the Gambia to reconsider its stand and settle ALL the amounts it owed to the OAU.

54. The Council discussed at length the problem of settlement of outstanding contributions by Member States and the Chairman of the Council of Ministers appealed to all those who were owing the Organization to settle their debts without further delay.

55. The Foreign Minister of Tunisia argued that his country paid its contribution on the basis of actual expenditure of the OAU during any particular financial year. Many members of the Council of Ministers felt that the argument of the Foreign Minister of Tunisia raised a fundamental problem and they wanted the Council of Ministers to take a decision on whether the Member States should pay their contributions on the basis

of the Budget estimates as approved by the Council or actual expenditure during the financial year as argued by the Foreign Minister of Tunisia. The Council REQUESTED the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters to examine the problem in all its ramifications and submit necessary report to the next Session of the Council beginning 24th August, 1970.

Report and Recommendations of the Committee C - Inter-African Co-operation in Economic, Social, Educational, Scientific, Health and related matters:

56. At about 12.05 a.m. on 6th March, 1970, the Chairman invited the Rapporteur of Committee C on Inter-African Co-operation, to present the report of the Committee. The Ivory Coast delegation, which was the Rapporteur, presented the report and recommendations of Committee C, which were contained in document CM/Cttee.C/Rpt.(XIII). The following main amendments were approved by the Council of Ministers under the headings shown:

- (a) Co-operation between OAU, ECA and ADB
Add a new "c" to paragraph 4 reading as under:
"(c) A meeting of the African Ministers of Finance should meet and study the situation of ADB."

- (b) Report on the Annual Meeting of the Washington Financial Institutions - IBRD/IMF

Add the following at the end of paragraph 11:
"Moreover, it was pointed out that it was not merely a question of a complete change in the monetary system of IBRD, but a change in its policy as such, so that the latter would be in line with a policy of development which would correspond to the aspirations of all the developing countries."

(c) Special Trust Fund for African Development
(Paragraph 16)

The last sentence should be amended to read as follows:

"After a lengthy discussion, the Committee agreed that the question of a Special United Nations Trust Fund for African Development should be postponed till a full report on the matter has been submitted to Member States to enable them to take a decision."

With a few other minor amendments, the Council of Ministers ADOPTED the report of Committee C.

57. Turning to the resolutions/recommendations of Committee C, due to an insufficient majority vote of 19 for, 0 against, and 18 abstaining, the resolution No. CM/Cttee.C/Res.1(XIV) on "Relations between the Organization of African Unity and the African Development Bank" was not adopted. Resolution No. CM/Cttee.C/Res.22(XIV) on "All-African Trade Union Unity", generated considerable discussions. Some of the discussions concerned ways of establishing a popular and united trade union movement for the continent, while some of the speakers dealt with ways of eliminating undesirable foreign influences on the movement. In the first series of voting on each individual operative paragraphs, operative paragraphs 1, 2 and 4 were adopted while 3 was rejected by a vote of 4 for, 9 against and 14 abstentions. The resolution, as amended, was then approved by 26 for, none against and 8 abstentions. Many delegations however, pointed out that operative paragraph 4 was closely dependent on operative paragraph 3, which had been voted out; on its own, or in conjunction with the rest of the resolution, it had no or little meaning. By a general consensus, operative paragraph 4, was eliminated from the resolution - thus leaving only two out of four of the initial operative paragraphs.

58. After some discussions, the Council of Ministers adopted unanimously resolution CM/Cttee.C/Res.3 (XIV) on "The All-African Trade Fair". It also decided that of the US.\$142,800.00 which the OAU had thus accepted in operative paragraph 2, to contribute "towards the administration costs of the Fair" a half should be included in the 1970/71 budget and the other half should be included in the 1971/72 budget. The remaining resolutions (CM/Cttee.C/Res. 4 to 8 (XIV) inclusive) were adopted unanimously without any amendments.

Report of Committee A on Political and Declonization Matters:

59. When the Chairman opened discussions on the report and resolutions/recommendations of Committee A, which were in document CM/Cttee.A/Rpt.(XIV), a long list of speakers was taken down. It was then suggested, and the Council of Ministers accepted, that since the document had been exhaustively discussed at the Committee stage, it would save time if those with reservations on any part of it were to submit their reservations in writing to the Secretariat. Thereafter by a vote of 32 for, none against and 4 abstentions, the REPORT WITH ITS RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED with the following variations being accepted by the Council of Ministers:

- (a) All requests for support on candidatures for African seats on International Organizations should be communicated to the African Group at the U.N. in New York, which will allocate the seats as appropriate.
- (b) "Lesotho and Swaziland" should be inserted at the beginning of paragraph 9, which would then read: "Before the Committee could take note of the statement made by the representatives of Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland, the representatives ... etc".

(c) The following countries submitted written reservations
Senegal - on operative paragraph 2 of resolution
CM/Cttee.A/Draft Res.2/Rev.3 (XIV) on "Decolonization
and Apartheid" and on sub-paragraph 9 of paragraph 5
of the report of Committee A.

Malawi - on the report, resolutions and declaration
of the Committee A.

Verbal reservations were expressed by -

Rwanda - which repeated the reservations that had
already been recorded during the work of Committee A.

Ivory Coast - on operative paragraph 6 of resolution
No.CM/Cttee.A/Draft Res.3 (XIV) on "The Co-ordinating
Committee for the Liberation of Africa", and on the
Declaration of the Cabora Bassa dam.

Swaziland - abstained on the report and the two
resolutions on "Decolonization and Apartheid" and on
"The Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of
Africa", and on the Declaration on the Cabora Bassa dam.

Liberia - reserved her position on paragraph 33 of the
Committee A's report relating to the Commission of
Mediation, Conciliation and Arbitration.

Botswana - reserved her position on the two resolutions
and the Declaration adopted by the Committee A, and
also abstained in the vote on the report of Committee A.

Lesotho - entered reservations on all the resolutions
adopted against South Africa, and also abstained in
the vote on the report of Committee A.

Gabon - reserved her position on preambular paragraph 6
and operative paragraph 2 of the resolution on
Decolonization and Apartheid, and on operative
paragraph 1 of the resolution on the Liberation
Committee as the study on that Committee was not yet
completed.

Later on, by a Note No.710/70 dated 10th March, 1970, Tunisia reserved its position on the preambular paragraphs 4 and 5 and operative paragraph 3 of the resolution on the decolonization and apartheid.

60. With the permission of the Council of Ministers, the Head of delegation of Lesotho read a statement, outlining his country's position regarding refugees from South Africa. The Council of Ministers took note of the statement. With the completion of this business, the Council of Ministers came to the end of its agenda, and ended the closed session at 4.30 a.m.

61. The Council of Ministers was advised that the total budget approved for 1970/71 financial year was US.\$2,666,746.50 which was 9.84% increase over the 1969/70 budget. It was also announced that the next ordinary session of the Council of Ministers will be held on the 24 August 1970, to be followed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government on 1st September, 1970 - all in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

62. In the public session that followed, the Chairman gave a resumé of the work accomplished by the Fourteenth Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers, after approving motions of thanks to H.I.M. the Emperor, the Government and Peoples of Ethiopia, the Council of Ministers closed at 5.30 a.m. on 6 March, 1970.

63. Date and Venue of the Next Session: Item 24

63. The Council of Ministers DECIDED that:

- (i) The 15th Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers, that is the next session, would be held on Monday 24th August, 1970;
- (ii) The Seventh Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government would be held on Tuesday 1st September, 1970.

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