



ADDIS ABABA

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Seventeenth ordinary session

Addis Ababa - June 1971

CM/379

REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ON THE AMENDMENT OF RULE 6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF
THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS



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REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE
AMENDMENT OF RULE 6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

The implementation of the recent decision AHG/Dec.49(VII) of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government calls for modifications in the Rules of Procedure of the Council of Ministers.

In conformity with this decision, the ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government will be held henceforth in June of each year instead of September.

Under Article XII of the Charter, the Council of Ministers shall meet twice a year as stipulated in Rule 6 of the Rules of Procedure of the said Council which reads:

"As approved by Article XII(2) of the Charter, the Council of Ministers shall meet at least twice a year, in February and in August."

The second paragraph of the same Rule provides that the February Session shall be mainly for the consideration of the budget and the OAU programme. As the fiscal year of the Organization is from 1 June to 31 May of the following year, the budget therefore became effective three months after its adoption.

In addition to voting the budget of the Organization, the Council of Ministers, in accordance with Article XIII of the OAU Charter, is also entrusted with the preparation of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government.

Paragraph 1 of Article XIII of the Charter stipulates:

"1. The Council of Ministers shall be responsible to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government. It shall be entrusted with the responsibility of preparing conferences of the Assembly."

In order to discharge this duty properly and prior to decision AHG/Dec.49(VII), the Council of Ministers devoted its ordinary session of August to the preparation of the ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government.

The above-mentioned decision of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government makes it impossible to retain this practice. The ordinary session of the Council which used to be held in August shall henceforth take place in June before the Assembly of Heads of State and Government. Consequently, the other ordinary session of the Council could be held in January.

These are the reasons why the General Secretariat suggests that the budget session of the Council of Ministers should no longer be held in February but in January. The session of the Council for the preparation of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government should meet in June following decision AHG/Dec.49(VII).



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Report of the Administrative Secretary-General on the amendment of Rule 6 of the Rules of Procedure of the Council of Ministers

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