



**ORGANIZATION OF
AFRICAN UNITY**

Secretariat
P. O. Box 3243

منظمة الوحدة الافريقية

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**ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE
AFRICAIN**

Secretariat
B. P. 3243

Addis Ababa * ادیس ابابا

CM/473

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Nineteenth Ordinary Session

5 - 12 June 1972 - Rabat, Morocco

RAPPORTEUR'S REPORT



INTRODUCTION

1. The out-going Chairman of the Council of Ministers, H.E. Dr. Manassie Haile, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia, called the meeting to order at 6.35 p.m. on 5 June 1972, at the Rabat Hilton, Rabat, Morocco. There were Representatives from 40 Member States, Malawi being unrepresented. Also present were observers from the following Liberation Movements: FRELIMO, MPLA, PAIGC, ANC, ZAPU, ZANU, and from the following International Organizations:- ADB, ULO, UNESCO, Groundnuts Council, UNHCR. A list of participants has been published separately. This session, as is traditional is charged with preparing the work of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, which is due to meet in Rabat from 12 June 1972.

FORMAL OPENING

2. His Majesty Hassan II, King of Morocco, performed the solemn formal opening of the Nineteenth Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers. In his address, His Majesty, the King urged the Council of Ministers to consider and improve on those items on which OAU Member States agree and to leave areas of divergent views to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government to deal with, since it had been established that Heads of State, settle problems more quickly than the Council of Ministers. He stated that in his opinion the problem of the Liberation of African territories still under foreign domination should have top priority during our deliberations since without freedom there could be neither progress nor prosperity. His Majesty also stated, among other things

that this Conference in Rabat could be classified as a conference of true reconciliation between those Member States that might have differences between them. He then stated that he would have wished to have His Excellency the President of Libya to be present here at the OAU Conference, so that whatever differences that might be separating them could be discussed and settled in the spirit of Maghreb and African Unity. Finally, he stated that five years ago the territory of an OAU Member State was occupied and usurped, and he expressed the hope that this OAU Conference would take some concrete decisions about the problem.

3. The Foreign Ministers of Chad, Liberia and Sudan expressed the appreciation and gratitude of the Council of Ministers to His Majesty King Hassan II for the inspiring address that he had given to the participants at the current session.

A Minute's silence in memory of the late Kwame Nkrumah

4. The Chairman requested the Council to observe a minute's silence, in memory of the late Kwame Nkrumah, the former President of Ghana. Among other things, he praised Nkrumah's dedication to African dignity, freedom and unity. The Council, and all the others present, observed the minute's silence in memory of that illustrious son of Africa. The Commissioner for Foreign Affairs of Ghana, H.E. Major General M.A. Aferi replied on behalf of Ghana, and thanked the Council for its moving symbolic action in memory of a great African, who had been dedicated to the service of Ghana, of Africa and of Afro-Asian solidarity. The Foreign Minister of Guinea also paid a special tribute to the memory of the late Dr. Kwame Nkrumah.

REVIEW OF PAST EVENTS

5. The out-going Chairman reviewed the major events that had taken place during and after the Eighteenth Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers. He referred to the decision to increase OAU funds to the liberation struggle in Africa, as a reflection of the positive

efforts of the OAU towards the early liberation of the remaining pockets of colonialism and racial discrimination in Africa. He indicated that the report of the Pearce Commission on the acceptability of the British/Rhodesian proposals on Zimbabwe confirmed that these proposals were absolutely unacceptable to the Africans in Zimbabwe and to the African National Congress who now desired a constitutional conference for all Zimbabwe people to agree democratically on a plan for their future together. He re-emphasized the need to increase economic and social co-operation among OAU Member States, so as to assist in the process of providing increasing standards of living to the peoples of Africa.

ELECTIONS

6. The delegation of Guinea proposed and the delegation of Zambia seconded the following Ministers to the offices of the Nineteenth Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers.

Chairman:	H.E. Mr. A.T. Benhima, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Morocco.
1st Vice-Chairman:	H.E. Hon. J.S. Malecela, M.P. Minister of Foreign Affairs of Tanzania.
2nd Vice-Chairman:	H.E. Mr. J. Potolot, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Central African Republic.
3rd Vice-Chairman:	H.E. Mr. M. Mamoudou, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Niger.
Rapporteur:	H.E. Mr. Wanume Kibedi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Uganda.

The Council elected these Ministers to the posts indicated by acclamation. On behalf of the in-coming Bureau, the new Chairman thanked the Council for the confidence and trust it had placed in them in entrusting to them the leadership of the Nineteenth Ordinary Session of the Council.

AGGRESSION ON SENEGAL BY PORTUGAL

7. The Foreign Minister of Senegal H.E. Dr. A. Karim Gaye informed the Council of the latest aggression on a Senegalese village by Portugal on 30 May 1972. He said the Senegalese Army had had to be sent to the area and they took the necessary measures to re-assert the sovereignty of Senegal and to clear the Portuguese aggressors from Senegalese soil. At the suggestion of H.E. Mr. H.O. Mouknass the Foreign Minister of Mauritania, the Council expressed its indignation over the Portuguese aggression, and also sent the following message of solidarity with the Senegalese people to the President of Senegal:

TO: HIS EXCELLENCY LEOPOLD SEDAR SENGHOR,
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL,
D A K A R

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING IN ITS NINETEENTH ORDINARY SESSION TODAY 5 JUNE IN RABAT HEARD A STATEMENT FROM THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HIS EXCELLENCY KARIM GAYE ON PORTUGAL'S RECENT AGGRESSION AGAINST SENEGALESE TERRITORY CAUSING THE DEATH OF SEVERAL SENEGALESE SOLDIERS AND SERIOUS MATERIAL DAMAGE STOP THE COUNCIL DESIRES TO EXPRESS TO YOUR EXCELLENCY AND TO THE PEOPLE OF SENEGAL ITS FEELINGS OF COMPLETE SOLIDARITY AND ITS DETERMINATION TO USE EVERY POSSIBLE MEANS TO COMBAT PORTUGUESE COLONIALISM TOGETHER WITH ATTACKS DIRECTED AGAINST THE INDEPENDENT AFRICAN STATES STOP HIGHEST CONSIDERATION

T. BENHIMA,
PRESIDENT
FOR THE COUNCIL

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANISATION OF WORK

8. With the 1st Vice-Chairman, H.E. Mr. Malecela in the Chair, the Council discussed items for inclusion in the Session's agenda. The Administrative Secretary-General indicated that, apart from the items included in the Provisional Agenda in document CM/436, the following items should be considered for inclusion in the agenda:-

1. The Law of the Sea: proposed by Senegal.
2. Social rehabilitation in South Sudan: proposed by Tanzania.
3. Use of freight - containers: proposed by the Secretariat.
4. Report and recommendations of the OAU Symposium on desert and semi-desert lands of Africa (Secretariat).
5. Agreement of co-operation between the OAU and the African Development Bank (Secretariat).
6. Assistance by the OAU to the Pan-African Cinema Festival in Ouagadougou, Upper Volta: proposed by Upper Volta.

The Council adopted the agenda after considering the various items one by one, and these are contained in Appendix I attached.

9. The Council agreed on the following working hours:

Mornings 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

Afternoons 4.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

Nights sessions may be held if required by the Council.

10. Following on the suggestions by the Secretariat, the Commissioner for Foreign Affairs of Nigeria, and the Foreign Minister of Somalia, the Council agreed to allocate the agenda items as follows:

Plenary: Items 1,2,4,8,12,16,38,39,40.

Committee A on political and decolonization matters

Items: 6,7,9,10,11,42

Committee B on administration, finance and legal matters - Items: 3,5,13,14,15,26,27,28,41,45,46

Committee C on Inter-Africa Co-operation in economic and social matters - including education, science, culture and health:

Items 17,18,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,29,30,31,32,33,34, 35, 36, 37, 43, 44.

It was further agreed that item 42 on "social rehabilitation in South Sudan" would first be discussed in a closed meeting of Heads of delegations.

REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY-GENERAL

11. The Report of the Administrative Secretary-General for the period February to June 1972 was contained in Document CM/437 (Part II). The Administrative Secretary-General gave a written introduction in Document CM/437 (Part I) to his report. At the suggestion of Nigeria, and after the secondment by Ghana, the Council took note of the Secretary-General's report, and directed that any matters arising therefrom, should be taken up in the various working committees.

12. The delegation of Equatorial Guinea gave a general statement to the Council, on its policies and views on some of the major cases confronting OAU Member States. The Chairman, on behalf of the Council, thanked them for that Statement. Thereafter, the Council split into its three working Committees.

Aggression against Congo by the Portuguese

13. When the Plenary resumed at 10.40 a.m. on 8th June 1972, under the Chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Benhima, the Foreign Minister of Congo read a statement to the Council relating to the latest aggression on parts of Congo by Portugal. He informed the Council that a helicopter type Alouette 3 had been shot down and its crew captured on that occasion. At the suggestion of Algeria, the Council condemned the Portuguese aggression against the Congo and called for concrete measures to prevent similar violations in future. The Council also agreed unanimously to send the following message to H.E. the President of Congo; expressing solidarity with the people of Congo:

H.E. PRESIDENT NGOUABI
BRAZZAVILLE (CONGO)

ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF OAU WE HAVE THE HONOUR TO EXPRESS TO YOUR EXCELLENCY OUR PROFOUND INDIGNATION FOLLOWING THE COWARDLY ACT OF AGGRESSION WHICH HAS JUST BEEN COMMITTED ONCE MORE AGAINST YOUR COUNTRY BY THE PORTUGUESE COLONIALISTS STOP YOUR MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS H.E. H. LOPEZ TOLD US OF THESE EVENTS AND THE COURAGEOUS ACTION OF YOUR ARMED FORCES WHICH SHOT DOWN A PORTUGUESE HELICOPTER AND CAPTURED THE PORTUGUESE SOLDIERS ON BOARD STOP THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS WISHES TO REAFFIRM ITS COMPLETE SOLIDARITY WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THE CONGO AND ITS DETERMINATION TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO PUT AN END TO PORTUGUESE COLONIALISM WHICH IS THE DEEP UNDERLYING CAUSE OF ITS REPEATED ACTS OF AGGRESSION AGAINST INDEPENDENT AFRICAN COUNTRIES STOP THE COUNCIL PAYS TRIBUTE TO THE VIGILANCE AND EFFICIENCY OF YOUR PEOPLES NATIONAL ARMY STOP HIGH FRATERNAL CONSIDERATION

FOR THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
THE CHAIRMAN
BENHIMA

The Adu Commission report - on the OAU structure and salary levels:

14. The Administrative Secretary General gave a resumé of the background that led to the appointment of an expert on the OAU structure and salary levels, and also summarized the recommendations in the Adu commission report in document CM/423. He indicated that recommendations relating to staff emoluments had already been dealt with.

15. Most of the delegations that spoke stated, among other things that the number of Assistant Secretaries General should remain four, and not be reduced to two as recommended by the Expert. It was noted that the political and other considerations that led to the Assembly into deciding in 1964 to

have four Assistant Secretaries-General still held ~~good today~~, and these included the need to ensure an equitable regional and linguistic distribution of these elected post. The Council of Ministers therefore decided to maintain the number of Assistant Secretaries General at four until a contrary decision is taken.

16. Apart from that agreement, the consensus among the delegations was that further consideration of the recommendations of the Experts on the OAU structure, should be postponed to the next Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers, to allow for the required job evaluation to be carried out by the Expert to be appointed, and also to give time to the newly-to-be elected Administrative Secretary General to submit his comments and suggestions on those recommendations. It was agreed that the views and suggestions of the Administrative Secretary General would be submitted to the Council through the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters. Several delegations pointed out that there were some recommendations which were straight-forward, and whose implementations would improve the operation of the Secretariat. The Council therefore agreed that such recommendations, which include staff recruitment, staff training, staff promotions and a code for staff discipline, should be implemented immediately by the Administrative Secretary General. In the recruitment of staff to the Secretariat, the Council emphasized the need to base this on adequate qualifications and while taking into account equitable regional and country representation.

17. Practically all the delegations that spoke, congratulated Mr. Adu for the excellent work he had done, and expressed the appreciation and gratitude of the OAU for that work. The Council directed that these sentiments and feelings should be conveyed to Mr. Adu by the Administrative Secretary General. Thereafter the Council decided to take note of the report in document CM/423.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF SEVEN ON THE MANDATE
COMPOSITION AND STRUCTURE OF THE CO-ORDINATING
COMMITTEE FOR THE LIBERATION OF AFRICA.

18. The above report was contained in document CM/442, and was presented to the Council by the delegation of Sierra Leone, which was the Committee's Rapporteur. The Rapporteur said that the task of the Committee had been a difficult one due to the complex political trends among Member States on the subject-matter. He then summarised the main recommendations made by the Committee of Seven on the mandate, composition and structure of the liberation Committee, as contained in the report. The central African Republic, which had missed the last meeting of that committee, associated itself with the committee's recommendations.

19. No changes were proposed in the mandate of the Liberation Committee which thus remain as at present.

20. There was a wide ranging debate on the Committee's proposals, during which various delegations expressed the views, and their country's positions on these. Generally speaking, the delegations who spoke, agreed to the enlargement of the membership of the Liberation Committee, so as among other things, to associate more Member States and especially those close to the theatres of the liberation struggle, with the work of that Committee. The enlargement however was not to impair the effectiveness and efficiency of the Committee and was to be based on the criteria already established. Many delegations did not support the idea of having permanent and non-permanent Member of the committee, arguing among other things that all OAU Member States are equal, and that devoted service and regular payment of contributions are among the relevant attributes required. The Council therefore decided to maintain the criteria for electing Member States to the Liberation Committee, and to increase the Committee's membership from eleven to fifteen. Subsequently, due mainly to the need to have equitable regional representation between North, West, East and Central, the Council increased the Committee

Membership to seventeen. The following Member States were appointed to the new seats: Cameroun, Congo, Ghana, Libya, Mauritania and Morocco.

21. The Committee of Seven had also recommended that the Executive Secretary and Assistant Executive Secretaries should be elected by the OAU at the Assembly of Heads of State and Government. The consensus was that the present arrangements of appointing the Executive Secretary should continue mainly due to security considerations for the host country. The same would apply for the Assistants. These arrangements are that the President of Tanzania appoints the Executive Secretary of the Liberation Committee, and notifies the OAU of the fact. As at present the Assistant Executive Secretaries would continue to be appointed by the Liberation Committee.

22. The Council accepted the recommendations of the Committee of Seven relating to three Standing Committee i.e. Committee of General Policy and Information; Committee of Defence and Committee of Administration and Finance in paragraph c.2 i to x. Similarly, other recommendations relating to the Representation of Liberation Movements; Special Fund; Control of funds; Special Committee of 17 Military Experts; Recruitment of Military Instructors and Military supplies, were accepted by the Council of Ministers. The recommendations on Combat posts were considered unnecessary at present.

23. Apart from the changes accepted above, the status quo would be maintained on matters of or appertaining to the co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa.

80TH BIRTHDAY OF H.I.M. HAILE SELASSIE I, THE EMPEROR OF ETHIOPIA

24. The Council was informed by the Secretary of State of Liberia, that on the 23rd July 1972, H.I.M. Haile Selassie I, the Emperor of Ethiopia would be celebrating his 80th birthday. The important contribution that the Emperor of Ethiopia had made to African independence, freedom, dignity and unity, was re-emphasised. He suggested that the OAU should consider marking that occasion suitably. This proposal was supported by the delegations of Ghana and Mauritania. The Council

accepted this proposal, and authorised the Chairman to appoint a Committee of three states to examine and make proposals on the matter. The delegation of Ethiopia thanked the proposer and the Council in this regard. The Chairman appointed Liberia, Ghana and Mauritania to constitute the Committee.

25. The Council accepted the following proposals of that Committee:

- a. A plaque commemorating the 80th anniversary of His Imperial Majesty would be placed in a conspicuous place in Africa Hall on the 23rd July 1972 after consulting the government of Ethiopia;
- b. Those Member States which so wish may issue commemorative stamps for that occasion; and
- c. In future, those African Heads of State who attain the age of 80 years and who would have given distinguished services to the OAU and to Africa, will be similarly honoured. The Council may however, examine on its own merit any request to honour a given Head of State.

Fourth Ordinary Session of the Defence Commission:-

26. The proposals of the Fourth Ordinary Session of the Defence Commission were contained in Document DEF/Res.4(Iv). Some of the delegations that spoke mentioned the difficulties that could be raised vis-a-vis the proposals on a regional defence system by the different military systems obtaining within Member States. It was therefore felt that the individual regions should be given more time to study and consult on these proposals.

In order to be prepared to go to the aid of a country that is the victim of external aggression, the Council considered that Member States should designate certain units within their armed forces, for such duties. The Council adopted a Resolution CM/Res 271(XIX) which included this point.

27. The Council further agreed to postpone to a later date a decision on the proposal to set-up an OAU office of the Defence Adviser as further studies and consultations on regional military co-operation were needed. It however agreed that a military committee of fifteen should be established to examine and make recommendations on the following:

- a. co-ordination of regional defence,
- b. standardization of equipment and training,
- c. a clear policy Africa should adopt vis-a-vis dependent countries,
- d. the role of the OAU Military Adviser.

The Committee would submit its proposals on these matters to the next Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers. The following countries were appointed to serve on the Committee by a vote of 34 for 0 against and 0 abstention:- Algeria, Central Africa Republic, Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Mauritania, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia, Tanzania, Zaire and Zambia.

SOCIAL REHABILITATION IN SOUTHERN SUDAN:

28. The delegation of Tanzania introduced this topic. These delegation that spoke, congratulated the President, Government and people of Sudan for having successfully ended the conflict in Southern Sudan. Now that the Sudan was faced with immense problems of reconciliation, of resettlement of some of its population and of reconstruction, it was felt that the OAU Member States and the OAU itself could assist in these matters. The conscience of the international community required arousing for contributing to the same end. After a brief debate the Council accepted:

- a. to send a message of congratulations to the President of Sudan.
- b. to give a direct grant of US\$100,000 as proposed by the delegation of Nigeria, from the OAU working capital Fund.

- c. to urge Member States to make voluntary contributions to the Sudan for these purposes.
- d. to appeal to international organizations to contribute in the resettlement of refugees.

As for 28a. above, the following message was sent to the President of Sudan :

H.E. PRESIDENT GAAFAR EL NIMEIRY
KHARTOUM (SUDAN)

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY MEETING IN RABAT IN ITS 19TH ORDINARY SESSION HAS DIRECTED ME TO CONGRATULATE YOU AND YOUR GOVERNMENT FOR THE HAPPY SETTLEMENT IN THE SOUTHERN REGION STOP THE COUNCIL WAS HIGHLY IMPRESSED BY YOUR MAGNANIMITY AND YOUR WISDOM IN THE WAY YOU SETTLED THIS PROBLEM PEACEFULLY STOP THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS REGARDS THE SUCCESS ACHIEVED IN SUDAN AS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF ITS PEOPLES AND A GREAT SUCCESS FOR AFRICA AS A WHOLE STOP HIGHEST CONSIDERATION

JOHN MALECELA

FIRST VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE 19TH
SESSION

CELEBRATION OF THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE OAU

29. In decision AHG/Dec. 61(VIII) the OAU had established a committee comprising: Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana and Senegal, to make proposals relating to the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the founding of the OAU, which falls due in 1973. The Committee's proposals were contained in document CM/449/Rev.1, and were introduced by the delegation of Cameroon. Several of the delegations that spoke supported the suggestion of Nigeria that the Committee should be expanded and that the enlarged committee should re-examine the case and submit proposals, including their financial implications to the Council of Ministers. Because of the announced intention of Somalia to invite the Assembly to held its next session

in Somalia, it was felt that the celebration of the 10th Anniversary and the regular Summit meetings should be separate.

30. The Council thereafter agreed that :

- (a) the membership of the Committee on the celebration of the 10th anniversary should be increased from five to ten by the addition of the following : Botswana, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone and Tunisia.
- (b) the enlarged Committee should re-examine the case, together with the financial implications, and report in good time to the next ordinary session of the Council, through the Advisory Committee on Financial Matters.
- (c) The Council invited any other Member States that has ideas on the matter, to submit them to that Committee for consideration.
- (d) The 10th anniversary celebration should be separate from the regular annual summit meeting.
- (e) Non-African Heads of State would not be invited to the 10th Anniversary celebrations.

Committee A on Political and Decolonization Matters

31. Committee A's report on political and decolonization matters was contained in document CM/Rpt/Cttee.A(XIX), and was presented by the Rapporteur, the delegation of Zaire. As this Committee was attended by most Ministers of Foreign Affairs and other Heads of Delegations, it was decided that its discussions and recommendations would be treated as if they had been handled in Plenary. During the discussion on matters and resolutions relating to various Liberation Movements, representatives of the relevant Liberation Movement were allowed to participate in the Council's deliberations. During the debate on Namibia, (South-West Africa) the Council also listened to a statement by representatives of the United Nations Council on Namibia. After discussing and amending some of the draft resolutions submitted, the Council adopted unanimously resolutions on political and decolonization matters and also adopted unanimously the report and other decisions of Committee A in document CM/Rpt/Cttee A(XIX) which is attached hereon as appendix II. The delegation of Somalia expressed reservations on the use of the phrase "So-called French Somaliland (Djibouti) in the resolution on decolonization CM/Res./272

Committee B on Administrative Financial and Legal Matters

32. Ethiopia, which was the Rapporteur of Committee B on administrative, financial and legal matter, presented its report and recommendations in document CM/Rpt/Cttee.B(XIX). Some amendments and corrections were inserted in the report. One major amendment was proposed by Nigeria, relating to item 5 on the Draft Convention on Extradition. It was proposed, and the Council agreed by 29 for 6 against and 3 absentions, that the entry in the report on this item should be replaced by the following: "The draft Convention on Extradition in the Annex I to the report which had been amended by the Council together with the observation made in Committee B, should be referred back to the Group of Experts which drew-up the original draft, with the request that it should be re-examined, re-drafted, and submitted to the Council of Ministers for consideration". The resolution appertaining to this item was amended to reflect this agreement. The delegations of Guinea and Libya opposed this reference back to the Group of Experts, and called for the adoption of the Convention. Prior to their move, the delegations of Libya, Dahomey and Cameroon had reserved their countries positions on one or other aspects relating to that draft Convention.

Thereafter the report, resolutions and decisions of Committee B contained in document CM/Rpt/Cttee.B(XIX) were adopted as amended.

Committee C on Inter-African Co-operation in Economic, Social, Educational, Scientific, Cultural, Health and in related fields.

33. The report, decisions and resolutions of Committee C which handled the above mentioned areas, were contained in document CM/Rpt/Cttee.C/(XIX), and was introduced by the delegation of Ethiopia, which was the Rapporteur to the Committee. Some corrections were made to the report. After a short discussion, the report, decisions, the twelve resolutions and the declaration on UNCTAD, as contained in document CM/Rpt/Cttee.C(XIX) were adopted. The delegation of Sierra Leone reserved its position on the resolution relating to the adoption of the report and recommendations of the Second Ordinary Session of the Educational, Scientific, Cultural and Health Commission.^{1/} At the suggestion of Algeria, the Council agreed to cable to the African Group attending the UN Conference on Human Environment in Stockholm, the entire text of the operative paragraphs of the resolution just adopted on that subject.

Provisional Agenda of the Ninth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government.

34. The initial items for the Provisional agenda for the Assembly, were contained in document AHG/56, and these were presented by the Administrative Secretary General. The Council, by a previous decision, decided to delete the item relating to the draft Convention on Extraditions and amended the title of the item on the continuing aggression on Egypt. It then added on two new items, i.e. "Report of the meeting of the conciliation of the Liberation Movements in Angola" (proposed by Congo) and "The social rehabilitation of Southern Sudan". Thereafter, the items for inclusion on the Provisional Agenda of the Ninth Ordinary Session of the Assembly, were adopted.

Date and Venue of the Next Ordinary Session.

35. The Council decided to meet as is customary, sometime in February 1973. If there is no invitation to host that meeting, it will be held at the OAU Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The actual dates will be announced later.

^{1/} where it refers to resolution ESCHC/Res.23(II)

Any Other BusinessConference of the Non-aligned countries.

36. The Chairman launched an appeal submitted by Guyana's High Commissioner in London on behalf of the Guyana Government, for African Ministers of Foreign Affairs to attend the forthcoming meeting of Foreign Ministers of non-aligned countries which is to be held in Guyana in August 1972,

Statement by Burundi.

37. The Head of the Burundi delegation, H.E. Mr. Terence Msanze, read a statement on behalf of his country, relating to the tragic events that had recently taken place. The statement was circulated. It stated among other things that, due to a combination of factors, including foreign aggression on Burundi, the country had suffered extensive damage to human life and to property from the night of 29/30 April 1972. There were about 5000 aggressors, and the country had lost between 50,000 to 100,000 people of all sexes and ages. With the help of the armed forces, the situation had improved. As a result of these events, Burundi was revising its agreement of co-operation with Belgium. He thanked those African and non-African countries, and especially Zaire and Tanzania, for the aid they rendered, or for the messages of sympathy that they had sent.

38. At the suggestion of Algeria, the Council agreed to take note of the statement and to express its support for the efforts of the President, Government and people of Burundi towards peace, reconciliation, unity and progress. In this connection the council agreed to send the following message to the President of Burundi.

"H.E. MICHEL MICOMBERO
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAS HEARD A DECLARATION FROM YOUR DELEGATION ON THE LATEST EVENTS WHICH HAVE OCCURRED IN YOUR COUNTRY AND MAKES A POINT OF EXPRESSING ITS UNDERSTANDING TO YOUR EXCELLENCY STOP THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS IS CONVINCED THAT PEACE AND FRATERNITY WILL SPEEDILY BE RESTORED TO BURUNDI THUS STRENGTHENING NATIONAL UNITY STOP AND END
VERY HIGH CONSIDERATION

PRESIDENT A.T. BENHIMA
FOR THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

The delegation of Burundi, thanked the Council for its sentiments towards the people of Burundi.

All-African Women Conference.

39. The Secretary General of the All-African Women Conference, Madame J.M. Cisse, accompanied by Madame K. Taher (Treasurer) and Madame S.B. Mahdi (co-ordinator) of the All-African Women Conference, addressed the Council on the achievements and programme of their conference. The Conference had received two grants from the OAU, to assist it in its tasks. She called for continued support, by African countries in general and African women in particular, for the activities of the Conference, and expressed the hope that the forthcoming meeting in Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanzania would be well-supported and attended.

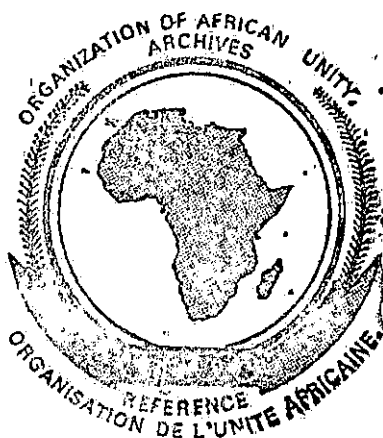
At the request of Somalia, the Council thanked the team from the All-African Women Conference, and wished the Conference every success.

With the end of this item of Any Other Business, the Council ended the business on its agenda.

Formal Closing.

40. With H.E. Mr. Benhima in the Chair, the formal closing of the Nineteenth Ordinary Session took place on the 12th June 1972. The Chairman expressed pride in the amount of work accomplished by this session of the Council. Among other things, the Council had enlarged the Liberation Committee so as to ensure more service to Liberation Movement, and had adopted resolutions that would lead to the strengthening of the co-operation and unity among OAU Member States. This would among other things, ensure the achievement of the objectives of the OAU Charter towards peace, progress and fraternity among OAU States, and the provision of increasing standards of living of the African peoples. The Foreign Minister of Algeria, H.E. Mr. A. Boteflika proposed a vote of thanks to His Majesty the King, the Government and the people of Morocco. This was supported

by Tanzania, Cameroon and Burundi. The Council adopted the motion of thanks by acclamation. The Chairman, on behalf of Morocco, thanked the Council for these sentiments, and indicated that Morocco, was happy to be associated with the success that had been achieved by this Nineteenth Ordinary Session of the OAU Council of Ministers. With this, the Nineteenth Session was formally closed at 12.55 p.m. on 12 June 1972.



1972-06

Council of Ministers Nineteenth Ordinary Session: rapporteur's report, 5-12 June 1972, Rabat , Morocco

Organization of African Unity

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