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**ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE AND  
GOVERNMENT**  
Twenty-eighth Ordinary Session  
29 June – 1 July 1992

**AHD/Decl. 1 (XXVIII)**

**AHD/Decl. 1 - 2(XXVIII)**

**AHG/Res. 206 - 217 (XXVIII)**

**DECISIONS AND RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE 28<sup>TH</sup>  
ORDINARY SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE  
AND GOVERNMENT**

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**DECLARATION ON AIDS EPIDEMIC IN AFRICA**

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting at the Twenty-eighth Ordinary Session of our Assembly in Dakar, Senegal, from 29 June to 1 July, 1992,

**BEARING IN MIND**

- That AIDS is one other disease among the myriad health problems of the African Continent.
- That unlike many of almost all other diseases, AIDS has no drugs or vaccines to prevent or cure it and those supportive drugs that are presently available pose a particular challenge to our health budgets.
- That by the year 2000, it is estimated 20 million Africans will be HIV positive causing approximately 1 million deaths annually.
- That with the emergence of AIDS, some diseases that were almost under control notably, tuberculosis, are becoming public health problems once again.
- That with the emergence of AIDS, millions of children will be orphaned over the coming decade.
- That the positive gains in health status of children and women brought about by successful Primary Health Care programmes of Immunization in most African States are being threatened and will actually be reversed by AIDS.
- That HIV, the AIDS virus, spreads through the basic human drive for love, intimacy, physical closeness and the reproduction of the species and that controlling and channeling this drive is the only way to ensure our species' survival.

- That AIDS leads to frustration and despair, kills young and middle-aged adults, who are the mainstay of the family, the backbone of the workforce, and the key to development.
- That AIDS is a major health problem affecting socio-economic situation of our continent.

**DECLARE that:**

1. Prevention is the key to slowing the spread of AIDS in Africa and containing its ultimate impact. This is a national responsibility and an international challenge.
2. Community and home-based care, integrating AIDS activities into primary health care, improving management capabilities, undertaking sentinel surveillance, improving nursing care and counseling skills, ensuring the safety of blood and supporting special activities targeted at youth and women are among the rational strategies to be followed by all our Member States.

**COMMIT ourselves to this AGENDA FOR ACTION**

1. By giving our fullest political commitment to mobilizing society as a whole for the fight against AIDS,

We must emphasize the gravity and urgency of the epidemic, and announce to our people that the country's stability and survival are at stake. We must overcome any sensitivities and speak our frankly about how to prevent AIDS; no taboo should be allowed to interfere with the saving of millions of lives. We must find imaginative ways of accommodating clear prevention messages within the context of our country's social, cultural and religious norms, and exercise moral leadership to bring about life saving changes in individual and collective behavior. We must encourage traditional and religious leaders to do the same and thereby protect their own communities from AIDS. We must see to it that all existing communication channels, both traditional and non-traditional, are used to explain how HIV is transmitted and how it is not transmitted, so that all people understand they run no risk from social contact with HIV infected individuals. We must counter the impression that AIDS is a disease that only attacks

certain groups or populations, and show by our personal example that people with HIV or AIDS are to be treated with respect and compassion, in keeping with Africa's age-old tradition of tolerance.

**Target:** By the end of 1992, each one of us will be publicly recognized as the leader of the fight against AIDS in one's own country.

**2. By stepping up action to prevent the sexual transmission of HIV.**

While the tragedy of Africa is that AIDS spread so far before scientists recognized how HIV was transmitted, the hope of Africa is its younger generation, who still have a chance to escape infection. We must seize this opportunity and ensure that today's girls and boys, who will be the mothers and fathers of tomorrow's children – are safe from HIV. We must see to it that all young people are given frank information about how the virus spreads;

Educated in life-saving skills – including the strength to say no to sex and the skill to negotiate safer sex, and given access to condoms, family planning services and appropriate management of STDs, which greatly increase the risk of HIV transmission if left untreated. At the same time, the older generation must accept their responsibility to protect the young from exposure to HIV. Women are another vulnerable group, We must take decisive action including legislation to improve their education, economic prospects and social status so that women gain better control over their sexual life and that of their partners. AIDS menaces not only women themselves but Africa's newborn, since one in three babies born to an HIV-infected women is itself infected.

**Target:** By mid 1993, all of us will have ensured that 100% of our country's adults, including young adults, know how HIV is transmitted and how they can protect themselves and others from infections.

**3. By planning for the care of people with HIV infection and AIDS and the support of their families and survivors.**

In just eight years, Africa will have had a cumulative total of 18 million HIV infections. Already, hospitals are overwhelmed by the needs of HIV-infected people, and their families are disrupted by illness and death in their most productive members.

We must see to it that a rational care plan is drawn up, with funding from national and external resources. We must ensure that our national essential drugs programme make provision for the millions of infected Africans who will need, at minimum pain relief and treatment for the common HIV-related illness, such as sexually transmitted diseases, diarrhoea, fungal infections, pneumonia and tuberculosis. We must ensure that linkage and collaboration between the formal health sector and community structures, including religious, charitable and other non-governmental organizations, so that patients can be cared for primarily at home or on an outpatient basis. We must at the same time anticipate the family and community disruption from AIDS deaths, and plan now for ways of caring for and supporting the survivors including the projected 10 million AIDS orphans of the 1990s – again, in close collaboration with community-based organizations. Special attention must be paid to the education and care of mobile populations.

**Target:** By mid 1993, we will have adopted a rational AIDS care plan, including essential drugs for HIV-related illness, and a rational plan for the family or community-based care and support of AIDS survivors, including orphans.

**4. By supporting appropriate and relevant AIDS research.**

Research is a necessary component for the development of knowledge towards understanding of the problem of AIDS in Africa and control of HIV infection. While collaboration between scientists from developed countries and those from Africa should continue to be promoted and supported, it is important to strengthen and promote research capacity in Africa. AIDS research should be directed towards the specificity of the AIDS problems in Africa.

There should be a mechanism in place to ensure coordination of AIDS research between countries and that an ethical code is in place.

Efforts should also be aimed at researching into normal herbs since some have been shown to carry potency.

**Target:** By the end of 1993, we will have endorsed a National Plan of Action for the promotion and Coordination of AIDS Research in our countries including an operational ethical code in AIDS research.

5. By using our leadership position to ensure that all sectors of society work together to tackle the AIDS epidemic.

We must see to it that each and every sector, private and governmental, understands what it stands to lose because of AIDS and its socio-economic repercussions, and consequently how it can benefit from and contribute to effective AIDS prevention and control. We must direct Ministers from each sector to develop and implement the relevant plans and provide the necessary resources. To take but a few examples, the Ministry responsible for Health must play a key role in developing appropriate strategies for behavior change and in preventing the spread of HIV through infected blood or unsterilized needles and skin-piercing equipment, as well as in patient care and in surveillance of the epidemic: sustainability must be ensured through strengthening of all health infrastructures and the integration of all health programmes . The Ministry responsible for Labour must undertake studies of the impact of AIDS on labour availability and plan of AIDS education at the workplace; the Ministry responsible for Education must develop school curricula for age and culture-specific AIDS education; the Ministry responsible for Social Affairs must design appropriate educational and condom supply programmes for clients and workers in the commercial sex trade. Finally, we must reach out to community based and other non-governmental organizations, which have been a mainstay of AIDS prevention and care since the start of the epidemic, and ensure that NGOs are part of the national AIDS programme.

Target: By the end of 1993, we will have ensured that every sector has worked out a plan, and allocated funds to it, that takes into account the sectoral implications and consequences of AIDS, and will have established an effective high-level mechanism for the multi-sectoral coordination of the planned activities.

6. We must make AIDS a top priority for external resource allocation so that our continent benefits from maximum international cooperation and solidarity in overcoming the epidemic and its impact.

Financial requirements for AIDS prevention, care and control will place a heavy burden on countries around the world, developed and developing, but the gap between

the resources needed and those available will be especially wide in Africa, against the background of the continent's heavy foreign debt, famine and other diseases. The AIDS epidemic is certain to place a drain on Africa's health care resources, decimate its workforce, reduce industrial and agricultural production, and result in loss of educated professionals, consumers and purchasing power. A Plan of Action for Africa must be developed, costed and presented to the private sector, NGOs, philanthropic foundations and trusts, development assistance agencies of wealthier nations and international organizations such as WHO, the World Bank, UNDP, UNICEF and others. At the same time, we must help ensure solidarity in the sharing of knowledge. We must see to it that local public opinion understands how important it is for Africa to participate on an equal footing with the industrialized countries in the global research effort to find effective drugs and vaccines against AIDS. Active participation in the process of research and development will help ensure that the products of research are both appropriate for and accessible to Africa.

**Target:** By the end of 1994, we will have collaborated in and produced a consolidated Plan of Action for Africa to attract the financing needed for controlling AIDS and containing the epidemic's consequences, and will begin to promote this Plan of Action at all international and donor fora.

**DECISION ON A MECHANISM FOR CONFLICT  
PREVENTION, MANAGEMENT AND RESOLUTION**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Twenty-eight Ordinary Session in Dakar, Senegal from 29 June to 1 July 1992:

**Gravely concerned** with the proliferation of conflicts in Africa and the immense suffering which they have brought to the people of Africa, as well as their adverse implications for the security and stability of Africa and the socio-economic development of the continent;

**Recalling** that it was in the light of this concern that the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, in its Declaration on the Political and Socio-Economic Situation in African and the Fundamental Changes Taking Place in the World, adopted in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in July 1990, expressed the need to renew their determination to work together towards the peaceful and speedy resolution of all the conflicts on the continent;

**Convinced**, therefore of the need to take appropriate measures aimed at conflict prevention, management and resolution within the OAU in accordance with the principles and objectives of the Charter;

**Having considered** the report of the Council of Ministers on its deliberations on the report of the Secretary General on conflicts and his proposal for a mechanism for conflict prevention, management and resolution;

**DECIDES:**

1. TO ADOPT, in principle, the establishment, within the framework of the OAU and in keeping with the objectives and principles of the Charter, a Mechanism for Preventing, Managing and Resolving Conflicts in Africa.
2. TO REQUEST the Secretary General, under the authority of the Bureau of the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, to

**undertake an in-depth study on all aspects relating to such a mechanism including institutional and operational details as well as its financing.**

- 3. TO INVITE all Member States to submit to the Secretary-General as soon as possible, their views, comments and proposals on the proposed mechanism.**
  
- 4. TO REQUEST the Council of Ministers in the light of the study to be undertaken by the Secretary-General and of the views, comments and proposals of Member States, to elaborate concrete recommendations on the proposed mechanism, and submit them for the consideration and decision of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government at its Twenty-ninth Ordinary Session.**

**DECISION ON THE SECOND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT**  
**DECADE FOR AFRICA (IDDA)**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Twenty-eight Ordinary Session in Dakar, Senegal from 29 June to 1 July 1992:

**Having considered** the report of the Council of Ministers in its 56<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session on the subject of industrial development for Africa:

**DECIDES TO:**

- a **ENDORSE** the Programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa;
- b **SUPPORT** the decision of the ECA Conference of Ministers of April 1992, calling on the United Nations General Assembly to endorse the Programme for the Second IDDA;
- c **FURTHER SUPPORT** the decision taken by the Fourth General Conference of UNIDO in November 1991, on the Programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa;
- d **REQUESTS** the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures in cooperation with the Executive Secretary of ECA and the Director-General of UNIDO, to support the effort of African countries and organizations, to implement the Programme for the Second IDDA and to submit periodic reports to the Council on the matter.

**RESOLUTION ON THE AFRICAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Twenty-eight Ordinary Session in Dakar, Senegal from 29 June to 1 July 1992:

**Recalling** the signing of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community in Abuja, Nigeria, on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1991,

**Reaffirming its commitment** to the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of African Unity, the Lagos Plan of Action, its Final Act and those of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community,

**Recalling further** its earlier Resolutions on the African Economic Community, namely Resolution AHG/Res. 161 (XXIII), AHG/Res. 179 (XXV), AHG/Res. 190 (XXVI) and AHG/Res. 205 (XXVII),

**Bearing in mind** the statement made by the Secretary-General of the OAU and particularly the call made to all Member States which have not yet ratified the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community, to do so as soon as possible,

**Noting with satisfaction** the report of the Secretary-General of the OAU on the progress made in the implementation of the Treaty and the preparation of protocols to be annexed to the Treaty,

**Reaffirming further** the urgent need to rationalize the existing inter-governmental organizations dealing with economic integration and cooperation in Africa, in a manner that is consistent with the provisions of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community,

**Also welcoming** Decision No., A/Doc.12.7/91 of the 14<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS of July, 1991 which designated ECOWAS as the sole Economic Community in West Africa for the achievement of regional economic integration,

**Welcoming Resolution No. PTA/AUTH./X/4 Annex 1, of the 10<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Authority of Member States of the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern Africa (PTA) January 1992 to transform the PTA into a Common Market for Eastern and Southern African by merging PTA and SADCC,**

**Mindful of the need for other regions which have not yet adopted similar decisions as mentioned above, to do so in order to avoid wasteful duplication of efforts in economic integration processes,**

**Recalling earlier calls on the Secretary-General of the OAU, the Executive Secretary of the ECA and the President of the ADB to further strengthen their cooperation by formulation concrete joint programmes for the implementation of the Treaty Establishment the African Economic Community,**

**Aware that there are other international organizations which are carrying out economic integration and cooperation programmes and other related activities in Africa, and that these should render support to the OAU General Secretariat in the implementation of the Treaty and in the preparation of its protocols within the framework of the work-programme of the Joint OAU/ECA/ADB Secretariat:**

- 1. CONGRATULATES the Member States which have already ratified the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community and CALLS UPON those which have not yet done so, to expedite the ratification of the Treaty in order to accelerate and consolidate African economic integration and cooperation;**
- 2. CALLS ON all Member States to undertake the popularization of the Treaty at national level and to increase the awareness of the importance of regional economic integration and cooperation of Africa;**
- 3. REQUESTS the Secretary-General of the OAU, the Executive Secretary of the ECA and the President of the ADB to draw up a joint work programme for the implementation of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community and the preparation of relevant protocols, and to submit periodic**

**reports thereof to OAU Summits through the Permanent Steering committee and the OAU Council of Ministers accordingly;**

- 4. EXPRESS OUR APPRECIATION to the UNDP for its support to the OAU in relation to the establishment of the African Economic Community during the Fourth Programme Cycle, and REQUESTS the latter to continue to do so for the implementation to the Treaty and its Protocols by providing adequate financial and human resources in a coordinated manner within the framework of programmes agreed upon by the Joint OAU/ECA/ADB Secretariat;**
- 5. APPEALS to international organizations, funding agencies and particularly the UNDP and other agencies of the United Nations System and NGOs to support Africa's economic co-operation and integration programmes within the framework of priorities set by the regional economic communities themselves;**
- 6. FURTHER REQUESTS the Secretary-General of the OAU in collaboration with the Executive Secretary of the ECA and the President of the ADB to work closely with OAU Member States, the Executive Heads of the Regional Economic Communities in order to rationalize African inter-governmental organizations (IGOs) in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty and to submit periodic joint reports thereof to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU;**
- 7. EXPRESS ITS APPRECIATION to the Current Chairman of the existing Regional Economic Communities in Africa and REQUESTS them to further enhance the rationalization of African IGOs, in their respective regions in order to ensure optimal utilization of resources, avoid duplication and put the Regional Economic Communities on a sound foundation on which the African Economic Community shall stand;**
- 8. PAYS TRIBUTE to the Out-going Chairman of the OAU, H.E. General Ibrahim Badamasi Babaginda, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, for the tremendous efforts he made during his Chairmanship in promoting**

**the objectives of the African Economic Community on the continent and in international fora;**

- 9. MANDATES the Current Chairman of the OAU, H.E. President Abdou Diouf, in consultation with his colleagues, to provide the political impetus towards the implementation of the Treaty and this resolution;**
  
- 10. REQUESTS the Secretary-General of the OAU to make urgent measures to accelerate the preparation of the additional draft protocols to the Treaty particularly those whose importance had been stressed by the Permanent Steering Committee;**
  
- 11. REQUESTS the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity to follow up the implementation of this resolution and report thereof to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government periodically.**

**RESOLUTION ON THE AFRICAN COMMISSION**  
**ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Twenty-eight Ordinary Session in Dakar, Senegal from 29 June to 1 July 1992:

**Considering** the annual activity report of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, submitted by the Chairman Dr. Ibrahim A. BADAWI EL SHEIKH in conformity with Article 54 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights,

**Recalling** that the Charter of the Organization of African Unity declares that freedom, equality, justice and dignity are essential objectives for the achievement of the legitimate aspirations by the African peoples,

**Recalling** also the entry into force of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on 26 October 1986 and the Declaration on the Political and Socio-economic Situation in Africa and the On-going Changes in the world, adopted by the Twenty-sixth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government in July 1990,

**Convinced** of the ability of the African Commission on Human Peoples' Rights in Africa and hence the importance of providing it with all possible human and material resources it needs to carry out its work,

**Considering** that pursuant to Article I of this Charter, the Member States of the Organization of African Unity, parties to the present Charter, shall recognize the rights, duties and freedoms enshrined in this Charter and shall undertake to adopt legislative or other measures to give effect to them:

**A. FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION**

1. **UNDERLINES THE IMPORTANCE** of ensuring respect for human and peoples' rights with the view of enhancing peace, stability and development in Africa;
2. **REAFFIRMS** the necessity of promoting popular participation in the process of government and development in the context of a political atmosphere which guarantees human rights and the observance of the Rule of Law;
3. **COMMENDS** the co-operation of the African States with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights in the implementation of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights;
4. **REQUESTS** the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity to consider, in collaboration with the Advisory Committee on Administrative, Budgetary and Financial matters, possible ways and means to respond to the requirements of the African Commission to implement its programme of activities;
5. **TAKES NOTE WITH APPRECIATION** the Fifth Annual Report on the Activities of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and authorizes its publication.

**B. OVERDUE REPORTS**

1. **EXPRESSES ITS DEEP APPRECIATION** to the States parties which have submitted their initial periodic reports, Egypt, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Zimbabwe, Senegal, Cape Verde and The Gambia;
2. **URGES** the States parties to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights which have not yet submitted their initial reports to submit them as soon as possible;

3. **REQUESTS** that the States should report not only on legislative measures but also on other measures taken to give effect to each of the rights and freedoms recognized and guaranteed by the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and on the problems encountered in giving effect to these rights and freedoms;
4. **ENCOURAGES** States parties which encounter difficulties in preparing and submitting their periodic reports to seek help as soon as possible from the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights which will arrange for assistance in this task throughout its own or other resources.

**C. PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES**

1. **URGES** all States Parties to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights to reflect the rights and freedoms recognized and guaranteed by the African Charter in their law and practice;
2. **REQUESTS** that all States parties should implement Article 26 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights by establishing national institutions with responsibility for promoting and protecting human and peoples' rights where they do not exist and strengthening all such institutions;
3. **FURTHER REQUESTS** that all Member States should implement Article 25 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights by ensuring, inter-alia that human rights is included in the curriculum at all levels of public and private education and in the training of all law enforcement officials,
4. **INVITES** States parties to ensure that the rights of individuals to receive information and to freedom of expression recognized and guaranteed by Article 9 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights is fully respected;
5. **CALLS UPON** all States parties to report on these questions in their periodic reports to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights;

6. **REQUESTS** the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights to report on the implementation of this resolution.

**D. RATIFICATION OF THE AFRICAN CHARTER**

**NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** that many Member States of the OAU have ratified the Charter and **CALLS ON** those which have not yet acceded to it to do so as soon as possible.

**RESOLUTION ON THE SUMMIT ON THE ECONOMIC  
PROMOTION OF RURAL WOMEN  
PRESENTED BY SENEGAL**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Twenty-eight Ordinary Session in Dakar, Senegal from 29 June to 1 July 1992:

**Recalling** UN General Assembly Resolution 44/78 on “Improving the Situation of Women in Rural Areas” and Resolution 46/99 on the “Implementation of the Nairobi Forward Looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women”.

**Recalling further** ECOSOC Resolution 1991/64 on the summit on the Economic Advancement of Rural Women,

**Recognizing** the critical role of rural women as food producers and architects of household food security,

**Noting however with deep concern** the continuing rise in the number of rural women in poverty,

**Reiterating** in this context its commitment to working to create conditions in which rural women can develop their full potential and thus foster more equitable, balanced and viable development:

1. WELCOMES the high level participation in the Summit on the Economic Advancement of Rural Women held from 25 to 26 February, 1992 in Geneva;
2. EXPRESSES ITS DEEP APPRECIATION to the Queen of Belgium and to the First Ladies of Colombia, Egypt, Malaysia, Nigeria, Senegal and Turkey who together launched this initiative;
3. COMMENDS IFAD and other international institutions which organized and/or provided technical support for the Summit;

4. **ENDORSES** the Geneva Declaration for Rural Women adopted by the Summit;
5. **UNDERLINES** the importance of ensuring effective follow-up to the Summit recommendations with the minimum aim of halting further increase in the number of women in absolute poverty;
6. **TO THIS END CALLS ON** the international community, the United Nations System of Organizations and other regional and sub-regional organizations to take necessary measure to implement the recommendations of the Geneva Declaration.

**RESOLUTION ON THE GOREE ALMADIES MEMORIAL**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Twenty-eight Ordinary Session in Dakar, Senegal from 29 June to 1 July 1992:

**Recalling** that between the XVI and XVII Centuries, the Island of Goree was a symbol of the slave trade, the site of affliction, and denial of the most fundamental human rights;

**Recognizing** the Goree has become a real center for pilgrimage by Blacks in the diaspora,

**Considering** the cultural, historic and ethnic dimension of Goree and the determination of the Senegal Government to make it a symbol of tolerance, remembrance and particularly of dialogue between different civilizations and cultures.

**Recalling** that the World Heritage Committee approved during its Second Session held in September 1978 the inclusion of the Island of Goree on UNESCO's list of World Heritage and that an international campaign to safeguard the Island was launched by UNESCO on 22 December, 1980,

**Considering** that the Government of Senegal decided to erect the continent's farthest point into the Atlantic, a monument, the Goree-Almadies Memorial, to remind humanity of the greatest genocide in History the slave trade, and to bring together communities involved in this undertaking of sad memories to reflect in a spirit of solidarity and international brotherhood.

**Encouraged** by the support given by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) for the Memorial project during the Assembly of Heads of State and Government held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 27 and 28 July 1986,

**Bearing in mind the appeal of the Twenty-sixth Session of the UNESCO Conference held in Paris, from 15 October to 7 November 1991 aimed at mobilizing the international community for the Goree-Almadies Memorial Project.**

**Considering that the Goree Almadies Project will host a socio-cultural center dedicated to the youth, and international museum for human rights and remembrance and an international center for research and information on slave trade, the history of the Atlantic from the XIth to the XIXth century and its consequences on dialogue the quest for peace and the interpretation of cultures:**

- 1. NOTES WITH SATISFACTION Senegal's initiative to erect the Goree-Almadies Memorial and commends the Senegalese Government for initiating a project of such a symbolic and Pan-African dimension;**
- 2. FULLY SUPPORTS this project which now belongs to all African States as a symbolic project celebrating the continent's regained dignity;**
- 3. EXPRESSED THANKS to UNESCO and its Director-General for their contribution towards the implementation of the project and requests them to pursue their action to give the Goree-Alamadies Project International renown;**
- 4. APPEALS to all States , North and South, Black Communities wherever they may be and international finance, cooperation, scientific and intellectual institutions to give active and concrete support to the Goree-Almadies Memorial Project;**
- 5. REQUESTS the OAU Secretary-General in collaboration with the UNESCO Director-General to monitor the project and report to the Council periodically.**

**RESOLUTION ON THE HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY**  
**UNESCO PEACE PRIZE**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Twenty-eight Ordinary Session in Dakar, Senegal from 29 June to 1 July 1992:

**Considering** the role of UNESCO plays in the promotion of education, culture, science and communication in Africa,

**Considering** the priority which the 25<sup>th</sup> UNESCO General Conference (October – November 1989) accorded the implementation of programmes in favour of the African Continent,

**Considering** the decision of the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of the UNESCO General Conference establishing in accordance with the UNESCO Constitution, the Felix HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY Prize for the search for peace by the international community,

**Considering** that UNESCO remains the privileged partner of African States in matters pertaining to education, science, culture and technology development strategies in Africa:

1. **EXHORTS** the UNESCO Director-General to pursue his action aimed at the strengthening and enhancing the influence of the Organization;
2. **COMMENDS** the UNESCO Director-General for the initiative taken by UNESCO to establish the Felix HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY Peace Prize of which the first two laureates, Messrs Nelson MANDELA, President of the ANC and Frederik W. de Klerk, President of the Republic of South Africa, were, during the presentation of the award, jointly honoured by the international community in the presence of President Abdou DIOUF at the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris in February, 1992;

- 3. UNDERSCORES the importance of the international community of work for the strengthening of the universality of UNESCO through the participation of all States in the activities of the Organization and, in this regard, APPEALS to States which are not yet members of UNESCO to join the Organization, and to the governments of the United States of America, the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland and Singapore to resume their membership of UNESCO within the context of the principle of universality that should govern this Specialized Agency of the United Nations System.**

**RESOLUTION RECOMMENDED BY THE CONTACT**  
**GROUP ON AFRICA'S EXTERNAL DEBT CRISIS**  
**AND THE FUNCTIONING OF THE FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Twenty-eight Ordinary Session in Dakar, Senegal from 29 June to 1 July 1992:

**Recalling** the African Common Position on Africa's External Debt Crisis adopted by the Third Extra-Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU, meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 3 November to 1 December 1987,

**Recalling** Resolution AHG/Res. 134(XX), 150(XXII), 175(XXIV), 181(XXV), Dec. 2(XXVI) and Resolutions CM/Res. 614(XXX), 760 (XXXIII), 1110(XLVI), 1195(XLIX) on Africa's External Debt Crisis,

**Recalling further** the persistent African debt crisis despite the different economic programmes initiated by Member States often not without considerable social, economic and political difficulties,

**Noting that** although re-scheduling agreements offer the necessary conditions for improved productive investment climate, they are inadequate in terms of solving Africa's debt crisis,

**Recognizing** the need for an effective coordination, consultations and exchange of information among African countries, in cooperation with the creditors, in order to find fair and equitable solutions to the African debt crisis,

**Gravely concerned** over the increased Africa's external indebtedness, debt servicing burden and persistent deterioration of the socio-economic situation in Africa,

**Reaffirming** its commitment to the African Common Position on the External Debt Crisis and its conviction of the opportunities of an International Conference to resolve among others Africa's external indebtedness:

- 1. CONGRATULATES H.E. General Ibrahim Badamasi Babanginda, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and Out-going Chairman of the OAU for his relentless efforts in sensitizing the international community on Africa's external debt crisis;**
- 2. MANDATES the Current Chairman of the OAU to monitor and intensify the sensitization of Africa's creditors, including multilateral institutions and major creditors with the view to persuading them to participate actively in the search for lasting solutions to Africa's external debt crisis and, to this end REQUESTS the Contact Group to continue to assist and advise the Current Chairman on the execution of his mandate;**
- 3. ENDORSES the recommendations made by the Eleventh Ministerial Meeting of the Contact Group contained in Report No. CM/1724 (LVI) on the structural reform of the Contact Group;**
- 4. REQUESTS African States to transmit to the OAU Secretary-General information relating to measures taken within the context of the African Common Position on Africa's External Debt Crisis and to strengthen cooperation in the fields of the exchange of information and experiences with regard to debt management and international negotiations;**
- 5. RECOMMENDS that the Joint Secretariat composed of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the African Development Bank (ADB) and the African Center for Monetary Studies (ACMS) be strengthened in order to effectively help the OAU Contact Group in the exercise of its mandate;**
- 6. REQUESTS the Secretary-General to take every necessary measure to implement this resolution and to submit a report thereon to the Twenty-ninth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU.**

**RESOLUTION ON THE LEGAL STATUS OF**  
**THE PAN-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY (PANA)**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Twenty-eight Ordinary Session in Dakar, Senegal from 29 June to 1 July 1992:

**Recalling** the Declaration IM/Dec. 1 (I) establishing the Pan-African News Agency, and approved by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government in 1978 (AHG 89(XV)),

**Having considered** the recommendation made by the Sixth ordinary Session of the conference of African Ministers of Information held in Abuja (Nigeria) 24 – 25 April, 1992 to restructure the Pan-African News Agency (PANA) on the basis of the Recovery Plan presented by UNESCO, as contained in Resolution (CIM/Res. 1 (VI) by the said Conference,

**Desirous** to transform PANA into a viable and competitive continental news agency without prejudice to the overall continental objectives that initiated its creation:

1. **ENDORSES** the recommendation adopted by the conference of African Ministers of Information to restructure the Pan-African News Agency (PANA) and **authorizes** the Conference of African Ministers of Information to review the legal status of PANA accordingly;
2. **CALLS ON** all Member States to financially, morally and politically support the continental agency during the three-year transitional period.

**RESOLUTION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF COOPERATION**

**AND COORDINATION AMONG AFRICAN STATES**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Twenty-eight Ordinary Session in Dakar, Senegal from 29 June to 1 July 1992:

**Aware** of the external and internal challenges that can hinder the harmonious, serene and sustainable development of the continental and the building of a free and democratic civilian society in conformity with the legitimate aspirations of African peoples,

**Recalling** the previous resolutions stressing the need to strengthen solidarity coordination and consultation among the Member States on the basis of mutual respect, non-interference and the internal affairs and the support for the causes of freedom, justice and peace,

**Reaffirming its attachment** to the purposes and principles stated in the Charter of the OAU and the provisions of Article II sub-paragraphs (I) Article III sub-paragraphs 2, 3, and 5 and Article VI relating to the strengthening of solidarity and the non-interference in the internal affairs of Member States:

**DECIDES:**

- 1. TO CALL UPON** the Member States to respect the principle of good neighbourliness and prohibit the use of their territories by individuals or groups which try to harm other OAU Member States;
- 2. NOT TO ALLOW** any movement using religion, ethnic or other social or cultural differences to indulge in hostile activities against Member States as well as to refrain from lending any support to any group that could disrupt the stability and the territorial integrity of member States by violent means, and to strengthen cooperation and coordination among the African countries in order to circumvent the phenomenon of extremism and terrorism;

- 3. TO ENHANCE consultations so as to make the values of tolerance, moderation and solidarity prevail in inter-African relations and avert any discord.**

**RESOLUTION ON AFRICAN CANDIDATURE TO THE  
POST OF DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FAO**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Twenty-eighth Ordinary Session in Dakar, Senegal from 29 June to 1 July 1992:

**Considering** that the term of office of the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) will expire at the end of 1993,

**Considering** the vital importance of agriculture at world level and its leading role in the economies of African countries,

**Considering** the negative impact of the down trend in agricultural production per capita on the economic and social development of Africa as well as the potential of FAO for improving the situation of this sector,

**Noting** that the candidate presented by Senegal to the post of Director-General of FAO has a high level training in Agronomy and Agriculture economics and has also a large experience of economic and international diplomatic issues:

1. **DECIDES** to endorse the candidacy of Doctor Jacques DIOUF (Senegal) to the post of Director-General of FAO to be filled in November 1993;
2. **REQUESTS** the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Agriculture to take the appropriate actions for the success of this unique candidacy of Africa;
3. **INVITES** the Member States of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to support the candidate of Africa;
4. **GIVES** mandate to the Secretary-General of the OAU to make the useful contact with the Member States for the effective implementation of this resolution;

- 5. FURTHER REQUESTS the Secretary-General to submit a report on this issue to the 29<sup>th</sup> Session of the Summit of Heads of State and Government of the OAU.**

**RESOLUTION ON STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF AFRICAN  
HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND UNIVERSITIES  
IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF AFRICA**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Twenty-eighth Ordinary Session in Dakar, Senegal from 29 June to 1 July 1992:

**Noting** the keen interest shown by Member States in the development of Centers of Excellence, Training and Research since the Council of Ministers held in July, 1968 (Resolution CM/Res.166 (IX)),

**Bearing in mind** the efforts made by Member States at the regional and sub-regional levels, to promote such a development through African Higher Institutions,

**Considering** the role and place of Higher Educational Institutions and Universities in the promotion of freedom, dignity and democracy on the one hand and of economic, social and cultural development on the other,

**Aware** of the progress made in this direction but also of the constraints identified,

**Taking to account** the recommendations and conclusions of numerous meetings and consultations on the future of African Higher Institutions and Universities;

**Reaffirming** that the task of African Higher Education Institutions and Universities consists in contributing to social, economic, cultural, scientific and human development, in general, on the Continent, through the training of high-level specialists and the intensification of research in the service of the community at local, national and regional levels:

**1. REQUESTS Member States:**

- a) to continue their reconsideration of the policies, objectives, functions and practices of African Higher Educational Institutions and Universities

bearing in mind the need to revitalize these institutions and render them more efficient and better adapted to the requirements of African societies;

- b) to find ways and means of assisting African Higher Educational Institutions in accomplishing their task and in discharging their duties, through the use of more adapted structures and the application of management methods which will facilitate the introduction of efficient innovations;
  - c) to support the development of training and management in African Higher Educational Institutions and Universities and leave them open to various sectors of the society, particularly through the establishment of close links between them and industry, agriculture and generally the productive sectors;
  - d) promote the strengthening of cooperation among African Higher Educational Institutions and Universities at sub-regional and regional levels;
2. **HAILS** the efforts being made by UNESCO to strengthen cooperation among African Higher Educational Institutions and Universities and to ensure their effectiveness in close cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Association of African Universities (AAU) notably under UNESCO's Special "African Priority" Programme adopted at the Twenty-fifth Session of UNESCO General Conference held in 1989, and taking into account, the concerns expressed in the PNPAERD and the Lagos Plan of Action;
3. **APPEALS** to the UNESCO Director-General to associate the OAU Secretary-General with his initiatives in this area and the execution of the measures expected.

**RESOLUTION ON AIDS AND AFRICA:**  
**AN AGENDA FOR ACTION**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Twenty-eighth Ordinary Session in Dakar, Senegal from 29 June to 1 July 1992:

**Considering** document ECAMH/I (II) on AIDS and Africa: An Agenda for Action;

**Recalling** Declaration AHG/DECL.3 – (XXVII) on the current African Health Crisis adopted in Abuja,

**Recalling further** resolutions CM/Res. 1165 (XLVIII), CM/Res. 1302 (LII) of the Council of Ministers of 1988 and 1990 respectively and recalling resolutions CAMH/Res. 11 (II), CAMH/Res. 6 (III) and CAMG/Res. 6 (IV) Rev. 1 of the Conference of African Ministers of Health on AIDS in Africa,

**Recognizing** the seriousness and deterioration of the AIDS situation due to an increasing number of people being infected with the AIDS virus in Africa,

**Realizing** that primary prevention of infection is based on effective education with subsequent behavioral changes towards safer sexual practices which are effective strategies requiring vigorous, concerted community-based sustained action,

**Realizing** that a significant increase in orphans and urban and rural poor is emerging in Africa as a result of this epidemic,

**Concerned** that there is presently no cure for AIDS and the available drugs which only prolong the lives of AIDS patients are financially beyond the reach of our Member States:

**1. RECOMMENDS TO ALL HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT:**

- i. that no effort be spared to combat this invariably fatal disease;

- ii. to declare full political commitment to making AIDS prevention a matter of highest priority and to mobilizing all national, local, traditional and religious leaders for the fight against AIDS through individual and collective behavior change and through the adequate allocation of both internal and external resources;
- iii. to fight against all forms of discriminatory practices and stigmatization against people with AIDS and actively protect vulnerable groups including women and children;
- iv. to establish mechanisms that will facilitate and ensure inter-sectoral and intercountry collaboration and coordination as well as integration with other relevant health related programmes for the long-term control of AIDS;

**2. DIRECTS**

- i. all African Ministers of Health, in collaboration with other appropriate sectors of government, to develop a comprehensive plan of action which can be implemented for the prevention and control of AIDS;
- ii. all sectors of African Governments, to engage without delay in research activities related to the understanding, prevention and control of AIDS in Africa;

**3. REQUESTS:**

- i. the International community and all international agencies to increase their financial support and strengthen their inputs to OAU Member States in order to alleviate the overwhelming health, social and economic consequences of AIDS;
- ii. the International Research Institutions of Donor Community and International Agencies in collaboration with African scientists to intensify

**and accelerate their basic and clinical research efforts in the production of effective and accessible vaccines and drugs against AIDS;**

- iii. support OAU Member States to strengthen and develop their health services, particularly in the area of infrastructures, equipment, training and retention of health personnel for the long-term sustainability of the AIDS effort;**
- iv. the National Institutions with support from International agencies to carry out research activities in accordance with the highest ethical standards in all areas relating to AIDS.**

**4. CALLS UPON:**

**All multilateral and bilateral agencies, as well as non-governmental organizations to work with African governments for the timely implementation of this resolution.**

**5. REQUETS:**

- i. the Secretary-General of the OAU, in collaboration with WHO, to encourage the implementation of the proposed agenda for action adopted by the 28<sup>th</sup> OAU Summit;**
- ii. the Secretary-General of the OAU, in collaboration with all Member States and with the support of WHO, and other international agencies to monitor the implementation of this resolution and report to the Twenty-ninth Summit of Heads of State and Government.**

**VOTE OF THANKS**

We, Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, Meeting in our 28<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session in Dakar, Senegal. from 29 June to 1 July 1992,

**Having heard** the comprehensive activity report presented by H.E. President Ibrahim Babamasi Babangida, Chairman of the 27<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of our Assembly,

**Having followed with keen interest** the tireless efforts he had made in ensuring the implementation and consolidation of the principles as well as the attainment of the objectives of African Unity,

**Noting with satisfaction** his realistic visions of African problems, his dedication and the unflinching support He continues to give to the cause of African Unity, dignity and the welfare of the peoples of Africa,

**Noting with profound satisfaction** the efficient and foresighted as well as the methodic manner in which H.E. President Abdoul Diouf has conducted the deliberations of the 28<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of our Assembly,

**Particularly appreciative** of the warm welcome and fraternal hospitality accorded to us by the Government and people of Senegal,

**Considering** the major role being played by the Republic of Senegal, towards the strengthening of African Unity, promotion of peace and development in Africa, as well as the well being of the peoples of Africa,

**Considering** the good quality of work accomplished by the Secretary-General of our organization, Dr. Salim a. Salim:

1. **COMMEND and SINCERELY THANK** H.E. President Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida, Chairman of the 27<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of our Assembly, for his excellent and highly enriching report;

2. **EXPRESS OUR PROFOUND GRATITUDE AND ADMIRATION to President Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida for his exceptional devotion in the accomplishment of his mandate;**
3. **EQUALLY EXPRESS OUR FULL SATISFACTION to His Excellency President Abdou Diouf for the competence, effectiveness, clairvoyance and methodic spirit with which he conducted the 28<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session;**
4. **FURTHER EXPRESS OUR PROFOUND GRATITUDE to His Excellency President Douf, the Government and people of Senegal for the warm welcome, consistent with the traditional and fraternal Senegalese Teranga, and the special attention which they accorded to us throughout our stay in Senegal;**
5. **LASTLY, EXPRESS OUR SINCERE THANKS AND SATISFACTION to the Secretary-General and the staff of our Organization for the quality of work done.**

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