

AFRICAN UNION

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**DECISIONS, DECLARATIONS AND RESOLUTION**

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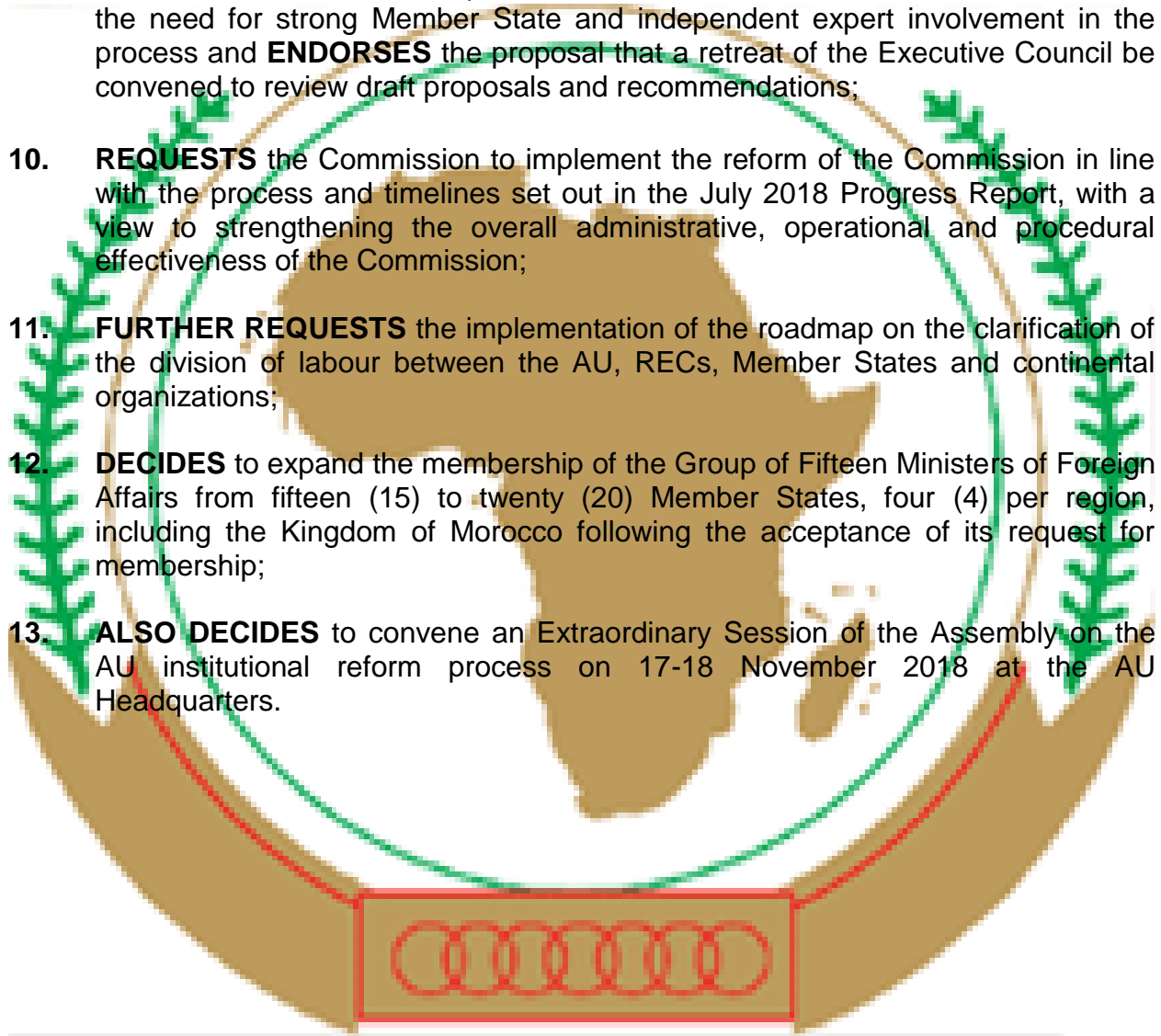
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**DECISION ON THE PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF  
THE INSTITUTIONAL REFORM OF THE AFRICAN UNION  
Doc. Assembly/AU/2(XXXI)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **RECALLS** Article 9 (1) (a) of the Constitutive Act of the African Union on the powers and functions of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Union to determine the common policies of the African Union;
2. **ALSO RECALLS** decision Assembly/AU/Dec.635(XXVIII) of January 2017 on the Outcome of the Retreat of the Assembly of the African Union on the Institutional Reform of the African Union and decision Assembly/AU/Dec.687(XXX) of January 2018 on the progress report on the implementation of institutional reform of the Union;
3. **WELCOMES** the July 2018 Progress Report on the Implementation of the Institutional Reform of the African Union;
4. **COMMENDS** H.E. Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda and Leader on the Institutional Reform of the African Union, and the Bureau of the Assembly for their leadership in the supervision of the AU reform process, as well as the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat, for the progress made in operationalizing the institutional reform;
5. **WELCOMES** the progress made in deepening the consultation process in line with decision Assembly/AU/Dec.687(XXX) January 2018 ; and **COMMENDS** the Group of fifteen (15) Ministers of Foreign Affairs, the Chief Executives of the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), and the Heads of AU Organs and institutions for their active participation in the consultations;
6. **ALSO WELCOMES** the progress made in implementing the budgetary and financial reforms and **COMMENDS** the Committee of Fifteen Ministers of Finance (F15) and its experts, and the Sub-Committee of the Permanent Representatives' Committee on General Supervision and Coordination on Budgetary, Financial and Administrative Matters for the excellent work on the 2019 budget;
7. **ALSO COMMENDS** Professor Pierre Moukoko Mbonjo, Head of the Institutional Reform Implementation Unit, for the excellent work undertaken in coordinating the reform implementation process and Dr Donald Kaberuka, AU High Representative for Financing the Union for the excellent progress made on financing of the Union and Peace Fund agenda;

8. **REQUESTS** the Commission to finalize proposals and recommendations based on the initial findings on the Pan-African Parliament, the Peace & Security Council, the African Court of Human and Peoples' Rights, the African Commission of Human and People's Rights, the African Peer Review Mechanism and the Advisory Board on Corruption;
9. **REITERATES** the crucial importance of the reform of the Commission as well as the need for strong Member State and independent expert involvement in the process and **ENDORSES** the proposal that a retreat of the Executive Council be convened to review draft proposals and recommendations;
10. **REQUESTS** the Commission to implement the reform of the Commission in line with the process and timelines set out in the July 2018 Progress Report, with a view to strengthening the overall administrative, operational and procedural effectiveness of the Commission;
11. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the implementation of the roadmap on the clarification of the division of labour between the AU, RECs, Member States and continental organizations;
12. **DECIDES** to expand the membership of the Group of Fifteen Ministers of Foreign Affairs from fifteen (15) to twenty (20) Member States, four (4) per region, including the Kingdom of Morocco following the acceptance of its request for membership;
13. **ALSO DECIDES** to convene an Extraordinary Session of the Assembly on the AU institutional reform process on 17-18 November 2018 at the AU Headquarters.



**DECISION ON THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE NEPAD PLANNING  
AND COORDINATING AGENCY (NPCA) INTO  
THE AFRICAN UNION DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (AUDA)  
Doc.Assembly/AU/2 (XXXI)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **RECALLS** decision Assembly/AU/Dec.635(XXVIII) on the Institutional Reform of the African Union of January 2017, which proposes the transformation of the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) into an African Union Development Agency (AUDA);
2. **ALSO RECALLS** decision Assembly/AU/Dec.685(XXX) of January 2018 on the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), which reasserts the essential role played by the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC) in the provision of political leadership and strategic direction to the NEPAD programme;
3. **WELCOMES** favourably the reform process implemented and **REINFORCES** that the principle of ownership is crucial in attaining the desired goals;
4. **DECIDES** as follows:
  - (i) **On the statute of AUDA:**

**APPROVES** the establishment of the African Union Development Agency (AUDA) as the technical body of the African Union with its own legal personality defined by its statute. In this regard, **REQUESTS** the Commission, in consultation with NPCA, to develop a statute for AUDA and submit it for adoption at the February 2019 Summit;
  - (ii) **On the mandate of AUDA:**

**NOTES** that the mandate of AUDA shall be finalized after consultation with the African Union Commission due to its own ongoing reform, and NPCA for adoption by the Assembly of the Union in February 2019;
  - (iii) **On the Governance Structures of AUDA:**

**EMPHASIZES** the importance of the Governance structures of AUDA and the need to render them more inclusive;
5. **FURTHER DECIDES** that the structures of AUDA comprise:

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- (i) A Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC) that provides political leadership and strategic guidance on the AUDA and reports to the Assembly. It will be constituted as follows:
    - a) to ensure inclusivity, the HSGOC shall be expanded from twenty (20) to thirty-three (33) Member States as follows: eight (8) Member States chairing the Regional Economic Communities and five (5) Member States per region;
    - b) the Principle of rotation shall be applied to the membership after a term of two (2) years;
    - c) the rotation of the Chairperson of the HSGOC after a single term of two (2) years, shall alternate between initiating members and non-initiating members;
    - d) the Steering Committee is established as an intermediary body to interface between the HSGOC and the AUDA. It consists of the personal representatives of the Heads of State and Government, members of the HSGOC. The Steering Committee shall be co-chaired by the Member State chairing the HSGOC and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission.
  - (ii) The Chairperson of the African Union Commission exercises supervisory authority over the AUDA.
6. **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission and the Chief Executive Officer of the NPCA to take all necessary measures for the implementation of this Decision and to present at the February 2019 Summit the revised Rules of Procedure of the AUDA Governance Structures;
  7. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission, in coordination with the Permanent Representatives' Committee, to undertake the necessary consultations to elect the new Member States of the HSGOC as well as the Chairperson of that Orientation Committee;
  8. **COMMENDS** the leadership of President Macky SALL that reinforced the credibility of NEPAD, that has been acknowledged within the international community, most particularly the African Union partners including the G20 and the G7;
  9. **CONGRATULATES** President Macky SALL and extends its gratitude for his commitment and the efficiency that he demonstrated during the four years of his tenure.

**DECISION ON THE AFRICAN CONTINENTAL  
FREE TRADE AREA (AfCFTA)  
Doc. Assembly/AU/3(XXXI)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE WITH APPRECIATION** of the Report of H.E. Issoufou Mahamadou, President of the Republic of Niger, Leader of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), and the recommendations thereof on the progress achieved on the establishment of the AfCFTA;
2. **RECALLS** Decision Ext/Assembly/AU/Dec.1(X) adopted in Kigali, Rwanda, in March 2018, which requested the African Union Ministers of Trade to submit the Annexes to the Protocol on Trade in Goods, Annexes to the Protocol on the Rules and Procedures on the Settlement of Disputes, and the List of Priority Sectors on Trade in Services to the July 2018 Session of the Assembly for adoption;
3. **ADOPTS** the five (5) services priority sectors: transport, communication, tourism, financial and business services;
4. **ENDORSES** the recommendations of African Union Ministers of Trade to undertake national and regional consultations on the lists of sensitive products and exclusion and **REQUESTS** them to come up with a conclusive recommendation on this matter for consideration by the February 2019 Summit;
5. **COMMENDS** the African Union Ministers of Trade (AMOT), Specialized Technical Committee (STC) on Justice and Legal Affairs and the Commission for their efforts to conclude Annexes to the Protocol on Trade in Goods and Annexes to the Protocol on the Rules and Procedures on the Settlement of Disputes;
6. **WELCOMES** the signatures and ratifications of the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area and its Protocols and **STRONGLY URGES** all other Member States who have not done so to sign and ratify the Agreement establishing the AfCFTA before its first anniversary;
7. **DECIDES** to celebrate the entry into force of the AfCFTA during the 1<sup>st</sup> Mid-Year Coordination Meeting of the Bureau of the Assembly and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to be held in Niamey, Niger in June/July 2019;
8. **COMMITTS** to undertake broad-based national awareness campaigns so that all stakeholders such as ordinary citizens and business people across Africa embrace the AfCFTA;



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9. **FURTHER COMMITS** to engage external partners as one block speaking with one voice and **URGES** Member States to abstain from entering into bilateral trading arrangements until the entry into force of the Agreement establishing the AfCFTA;
10. **MANDATES** the Commission to organize a Civil Society Forum and a Private Sector Forum preceding the June/July 2019 Mid-Year Coordination Meeting in Niamey, Niger in order to enhance stakeholder engagement on the implementation of the AfCFTA;
11. **FURTHER COMMITS** to establish National Committees on AfCFTA to ensure meaningful participation of all stakeholders and come up with national AfCFTA and Boosting Intra-African trade strategies;
12. **REQUESTS** the Commission to:
- (i) develop a template on the operation of national AfCFTA committees by January 2019;
  - (ii) develop regulatory cooperation in all services sectors in collaboration with national and regional regulators and building on continental and global experiences.
13. **REITERATES ITS DIRECTIVE** to the AU Ministers responsible for Trade to:
- (i) submit the Schedules of Tariff Concessions, and Schedules of Specific Commitments on Trade in Services in line with agreed modalities to the February 2019 Assembly for adoption;
  - (ii) conclude the negotiations on Competition Policy, Investment and Intellectual Property Rights, and submit the draft legal texts to the January 2020 Session of the Assembly for adoption through the Specialised Technical Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.
14. **REQUESTS** the AfCFTA Leader, H.E. Issoufou Mahamadou, President of the Republic of Niger to submit a progress report on the AfCFTA to the February 2019 Summit.

**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF  
THE COMMISSION OF THE AFRICAN UNION ON  
THE ISSUE OF WESTERN SAHARA  
Doc. Assembly/AU/4(XXXI)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the issue of Western Sahara;
2. **COMMENDS** the Chairperson of the Commission for the steps he has taken in pursuance of the mandate entrusted to him by the Assembly of the Union in paragraph 6 of decision Assembly/AU/Dec.653(XXIX) adopted at its 29<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 3 to 4 July 2018, including consultations with the Moroccan and Sahrawi authorities, as well as with other stakeholders, including the neighbouring countries and the United Nations (UN), and **EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION** to the Chairperson of the Union, President Paul Kagame, for the consultations he undertook on the issue of Western Sahara;
3. **REITERATES ITS DEEP CONCERN** at the continued stalemate in the conflict in Western Sahara and the resulting consequences on the ground and in the region, as well as its impact on the functioning of the AU and the implementation of its priorities;
4. **STRESSES THE NEED** for renewed efforts to overcome the current impasse in the negotiation process and to find a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara, in line with the relevant AU decisions and UN Security Council resolutions. In this respect, the Assembly **APPEALS** to the parties to the conflict to urgently resume negotiations without pre-conditions and in good faith, under the auspices of the Secretary General of the United Nations, whose Security Council is seized of the matter;
5. **AGREES ON THE NEED** for the AU to actively contribute to the search for a solution, through renewed support to the efforts led by the UN Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy. In this respect, the Assembly:
  - a) **DECIDES** to establish an African mechanism comprising the AU Troika, namely the outgoing, the current and the incoming Chairpersons, as well as the Chairperson of the Commission, to extend effective support to the UN-led efforts, by encouraging the parties to demonstrate flexibility, mobilizing as large support as possible for the United Nations led-efforts, and reflecting, in close consultation with the UN, on the substance of the desired compromise. This mechanism shall report regularly on the implementation of its mandate to the Assembly of the Union and, as necessary, to the Peace and Security Council at the level of the Heads of State and

Government. The Assembly **DECIDES** that the issue of Western Sahara will only be raised within this framework and at this level;

- b) **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to initiate the required consultations for the reactivation of the AU Office in Laayoune to the UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara, in order to facilitate operational coordination with the UN;
- c) **APPEALS** to all AU Member States, in particular the neighbouring countries, to support the UN-led efforts.

- 6. **EXPRESSES ITS DETERMINATION**, while efforts are underway to find a solution to the conflict, to ensure that the implementation of the AU agenda, in particular the integration process and related partnerships is not hampered in any way by the prevailing state of affairs with respect to Western Sahara;
- 7. **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to transmit this decision to the parties, as well as to the UN and other stakeholders;
- 8. **DECIDES** to remain seized of the matter.



**DECISION ON A NEW AGREEMENT ON POST-COTONOU  
COOPERATION WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION  
Doc. Assembly/AU/5(XXXI)**

The Assembly,

1. **RECALLS** decision Ext/EX.CL/Dec.2(XVIII) on the African Common Position for the Negotiation of a New Post-2020 Cooperation Agreement with the European Union (EU), adopted at the Extraordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Kigali, Rwanda, on 19 March, 2018, as a single framework of Continent-to-Continent cooperation between the African Union (AU) and the EU. The Assembly **ALSO RECALLS** the Declaration issued by the AU/EU Summit held in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, in November 2017, emphasizing the AU and EU common interest in moving towards a paradigm shift to an even stronger, mutually beneficial partnership, and expressing support for regional unity and integration;
2. **AFFIRMS** the importance of speaking with one voice and acting as one to effectively promote Africa's interests on the global stage and, in particular, ensure that Africa's partnership with the EU fully supports and facilitates the process of regional and continental integration and development;
3. **REAFFIRMS** the need to move forward on an AU – EU post-Cotonou agreement that treats Africa as a united continent that speaks with one voice, while preserving the common interests, specificities, diversities and acquis of each African region and country, as well as their existing legal frameworks and financial and political instruments with Europe;
4. **RECOGNIZES** the need for further consultations in order to consolidate Africa's Common Position on its Post-Cotonou relations with the EU. The Assembly, acknowledging the existence of ongoing processes to launch negotiations with the EU, **CALLS** for the postponement of the commencement of these negotiations until after the conclusion of the consultations referred to above to consolidate the African Common Position. To this end, the Assembly **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to communicate this call to the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP), as well as to the EU and other stakeholders, and **URGES** AU Member States to support the postponement of the commencement of these negotiations;
5. **DECIDES** to hold, by September 2018, a meeting of the Executive Council enlarged to include Ministers in charge of ACP and/or Ministers in charge of the negotiations with the EU, on the Post- Cotonou 2020 agreement, in order to consolidate consensus on the African Common Position, negotiating strategy and agreement elements;
6. **WELCOMES** the appointment by the Chairperson of the Commission of Mr. Carlos Lopes, former Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission

for Africa, as his High Representative to support Member States in the negotiation of a new agreement with the EU Post-2020.



**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY  
COUNCIL ON ITS ACTIVITIES AND THE STATE OF  
PEACE AND SECURITY IN AFRICA  
Doc. Assembly/AU/7(XXXI)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the report on the Activities of the Peace and Security Council and the State of Peace and Security in Africa;
2. **URGES** the parties in Madagascar, under the auspices of the AU and in collaboration with the SADC, the UN and EU, to pursue their efforts towards a negotiated and consensual solution to the current political crisis in their country with a view to creating conditions conducive for the holding of peaceful, credible and transparent elections. The Assembly **COMMENDS** the High Representative of the Chairperson of the Commission for Silencing the Guns Ambassador Ramtane Lamamra, for building consensus between the Malagasy parties that resulted in the designation of the Prime Minister and the formation of Government of national consensus. Furthermore, the Assembly **APPEALS** to the bilateral and multilateral partners of Madagascar to provide effective support to the electoral process in that country;
3. **RECALLS** the peaceful environment enjoyed by the Comorian people following the adoption of the Fomboni Agreement of February 2001 and the Comorian Constitution thereafter and **STRONGLY UNDERLINES** the necessity of their continued respect. The Assembly **URGES** the stakeholders to engage in dialogue, without delay, and an inclusive consultation on constitutional reforms, under the auspices of the AU. In this context, the Assembly **REQUESTS** the Peace and Security Council to continue following closely the situation in the Comoros;
4. **COMMENDS** the efforts of IGAD to revitalize the process of implementation of the Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (ARCSS) with a view to assisting the parties to further reconciliation and achieve durable peace. The Assembly **URGES** the parties to abide by their commitments, accept in good faith the bridging proposal. The Assembly **COMMENDS** the work done by the Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (JMEC) and the Ceasefire and Transitional Security Arrangement Monitoring Mechanism (CTSAMM) to ensure compliance with the signed Agreements. In this respect, the Assembly **CALLS ON** the Government of South Sudan and the armed movements to fully cooperate with CTSAMM in the discharge of its mandate and **UNDERSCORES** that any obstruction of the work of CTSAMM shall be deemed

as a violation of the ARCSS, and in this regard, punitive measures shall be taken accordingly;

5. **UNDERScores THE IMPORTANCE** of continued close coordination among the AU, IGAD and UN, and **CALLS** for consultations between the AU Ad Hoc Committee and IGAD in order to further enhance the support to IGAD efforts. The Assembly **TAKES NOTE** of the communique of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Extra Ordinary Summit of IGAD held on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2018, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Assembly **ENDORSES** the communique of the Peace and Security Council meeting, held on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018, at the level of Heads of State and Government, and **ENCOURAGES** the AU High-Level ad hoc Committee on South Sudan, through the AU High Representative for South Sudan, Alpha Oumar Konare, as well as the Chair of the JMEC, Mr. Festus Mogae, to continue their efforts in support to IGAD towards the early ending of the bloody conflict ravaging South Sudan. The Assembly **WELCOMES** the face-to-face talks held on 20 June 2018 between President Salva Kiir Mayardit and Dr. Riek Machar Teny under the auspices of the IGAD Chairperson, H.E Dr Abiy Ahmed Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia;
6. **WELCOMES** the communiqué of the 32<sup>nd</sup> extraordinary session of the IGAD Assembly of Heads of State and Government on South Sudan held on 21 June 2018, in Addis Ababa, which, among other aspects, decided that the face-to-face meetings should continue in Khartoum and Nairobi. The Assembly also **WELCOMES** the subsequent meeting held under the auspices of President Hassan Al Basher of Republic of Sudan and attended by President Yoweri Museveni of the Republic of Uganda, which culminated with the Khartoum Declaration Agreement on 27 June 2018. Furthermore, the Assembly **WELCOMES** the continued efforts of Presidents Yoweri Museveni of Uganda and Abdel Fattah El-Sisi of Egypt to support the process of SPLM reunification;
7. **COMMENDS** the Government of Sudan and UNAMID for their collaborative efforts to address the Darfur crisis and **UNDERScores THE NEED** for a gradual draw down process, to be informed by the recommendations of the Special Report of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission and the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the Strategic Review of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) and PSC communique [PSC/PR/COMM.(DCCLXXVIII)] adopted at its 778<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 11 June 2018. The Assembly **URGES** the Government to continue, through the residual committees of the Darfur Regional Authority (DRA), to intensify efforts towards addressing land issues, return of internally displaced persons, reconciliation, peace building and addressing the root causes of the conflict in Darfur, in the framework of Post Conflict Reconstruction and Development. The Assembly **CALLS ON** the armed groups that are still out of the DDP, to

immediately enter into genuine dialogue with the Government in order to expedite the implementation of this peace agreement;

8. **URGES** the Governments of Sudan and South Sudan to implement their commitments as outlined in the 2012 Cooperation Agreement and the subsequent decisions of the Joint Political and Security Mechanism and **REQUESTS** the AU Commission, through the African Union High Level Implementation Panel for Sudan and South Sudan, to continue its engagements with the two Governments, to assist them in building two viable states living side by side in peace;
9. **COMMENDS** the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia for its recent expression of commitment to the implementation of the Algiers Peace Agreement signed with Eritrea, on 12 December 2000, and to fully accept the decision of the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission (EEBC). The Assembly also **COMMENDS** the State of Eritrea for positively responding to this offer and the step taken towards opening a new chapter of cooperation, including the dispatch of its delegation to Addis Ababa, in the spirit of upholding good neighbourliness. The Assembly **REAFFIRMS ITS COMMITMENT** to accompany the two Governments in their efforts to normalize relations for the good their people, who share a common history and destiny;
10. **EMPHASIZES** the need for all countries in the Horn of Africa to engage towards maximizing possibilities for achieving lasting peace in the entire region and **CALLS FOR** continued efforts to facilitate the normalization of the relations between Djibouti and Eritrea in line with Assembly Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.583(XXV) adopted by the 25<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union held in Johannesburg, South Africa, on 14 and 15 June 2015;
11. **WELCOMES** the Somalia Transition Plan, as a sound basis for the country to realize durable peace. The Assembly **RE-AFFIRMS** the AU's support to the FGS in its transition implementation activities. The Assembly **COMMENDS** the joint efforts by the Chairperson of the Commission and the UN Secretary-General in exploring options for predictable and sustainable funding for AMISOM, through the respective Special Envoys, namely Ramtane Lamamra and Jean-Marie Guéhenno. The Assembly **REQUESTS** the UN Security Council to endorse the recommendations of the report of the AU-UN Envoys for predictable and sustainable funding for AMISOM and Somali Security Forces during the Transition period and **REITERATES ITS CALL** on the UN for AMISOM and Somali Security Forces to be funded predictably and sustainably from the UN assessed contributions;



12. **WELCOMES** the efforts by the authorities in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), as well as by the National Independent Elections Commission (CENI), with the support of the AU Commission, the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and other AU Member States, and the United Nations in the preparations, organization and holding of the upcoming general elections scheduled for December 2018. In this regard, the Assembly **REITERATES** its call for the mobilisation of the necessary support from AU Member States for the successful organization of the presidential, legislative and provincial elections. Furthermore, the Assembly **ENCOURAGES** the Congolese political and social actors to make the necessary compromises, with a view to preserving continuous dialogue and spirit of consensus, as the only way to the conduct of peaceful elections. In this regard, the Assembly **URGES** the CENI to take all necessary measures to enlist the services of the team of Electoral Experts dispatched by the AU and international partners, in order for the team to provide the assistance and the assurances required regarding the use of the voting machine. The Assembly **FURTHER URGES** the Congolese authorities to continue fully cooperating with the United Nations Stabilization Mission in the DRC (MONUSCO) and of its Intervention Brigade with regard to operations aimed at neutralizing armed groups in Eastern DRC. The Assembly **EXPRESSES SOLIDARITY** with the Congolese people in the face of the Ebola Virus Disease outbreak and **COMMENDS** the efforts deployed by the AU Commission and the DRC that resulted in the containment of the epidemic;
13. **REITERATES ITS FULL SUPPORT** to the Central African authorities in their efforts to restore order and authority throughout the territory, including in the overall reconstruction of the country. The Assembly **ALSO REITERATES ITS CALL** to the armed groups to put a definitive end to the use of violence, respect the elected and decentralised authorities and unconditionally join the political process for the resolution of the current crisis, under the African Initiative for Peace and Reconciliation in the CAR. The Assembly **COMMENDS** the efforts of the Member States of the Facilitation Panel and **ENCOURAGES** other AU Member States to support the implementation of the African Initiative. The Assembly **ALSO COMMENDS** the efforts of the international partners of the CAR, including the EU, and **ENCOURAGES** them to pursue their efforts. The Assembly **FURTHER COMMENDS** the United Nations Integrated Multidimensional Stabilization Mission in CAR (MINUSCA), and **UNDERSCORES THE NEED** to strengthen the Mission as announced in November 2017. The Assembly **CALLS ON** the countries of the region to continue assisting the CAR in its efforts towards stabilization and socio-economic recovery;

14. **TAKES NOTE** of the statement made by H.E President Pierre Nkurunziza of Burundi not to stand for the presidential elections in 2020, and **CALLS UPON** the Government and all other political actors to work together in pursuance of an all-inclusive and consensual dialogue to enhance cohesion and peace in the country. The Assembly **COMMENDS** H.E. Yoweri Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda and Mediator of the East African Community, as well as H.E. Benjamin Mkapa, the Facilitator, for their leadership of the Inter-Burundian Dialogue process. The Assembly **REQUESTS** the Commission to accompany Burundi during this phase and contribute, together with the East African Community, to its efforts towards an all-inclusive dialogue and the strengthening of democracy and respect for human rights in the country. The Assembly **FURTHER CALLS** for the lifting of sanctions imposed by the European Union on Burundi in order to create the opportunity for socio-economic recovery in the country;
15. **WELCOMES** the progress achieved thus far in Guinea Bissau and **COMMENDS** the stakeholders for adhering to and implementing the 2016 Conakry Agreement, demonstrating commitment to, and respect for the country's Constitution, in enabling the functioning of the country's institutions. The Assembly **UNDERSCORES THE IMPERATIVE** for the Bissau-Guinean stakeholders to consolidate the gains made thus far by acting in unity for the good of the country. In this context, the Assembly **REITERATES ITS APPRECIATION** for the efforts deployed by the AU, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP), the EU and the UN in addressing the situation in Guinea-Bissau and finding a lasting solution to the crisis in that country. The Assembly **LOOKS FORWARD** to the consolidation of measures that will allow the holding of free and fair elections following the calendar announced by the Government and endorsed by the People's National Assembly;
16. **WELCOMES** the gains made in the implementation of the Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in Mali and **URGES** for speedy progress, as the only way to durable peace and security in the country. The Assembly **LOOKS FORWARD** to the holding of peaceful, free and fair elections at the end of July 2018, that will consolidate peace and stability in Mali. The Assembly **EXPRESSES ITS CONCERN, ONCE AGAIN**, at the deterioration of the security situation in Mali, with its spillover effect to the central regions of the country and the neighbouring Burkina Faso and Niger. The Assembly **WELCOMES** the progress made in operationalizing the G5 Sahel Joint Force and **UNDERSCORES** the commitment of the AU to assist in articulating a regionally-coordinated response within the framework of the Nouakchott Process, as well as other Regional Economic Communities (RECs) on the Enhancement of Security Cooperation in the

Sahelo-Saharan region. The Assembly **REITERATES ITS APPEAL** to the international community, in particular, the United Nations Security Council, to take appropriate steps in order to ensure sustainable and predictable funding for the Joint Force and enhance its capacities in the fight against terrorism and violent extremism. In the same context, the Assembly **CALLS UPON** the international partners to honour the pledges they made during the Brussels Conference and **ONCE AGAIN, UNDERLINES THE IMPORTANCE** of a holistic approach in order to more effectively address the security, governance and development challenges facing the region;

17. **WELCOMES** the progress being made in the fight against the Boko Haram terrorist group and in this regard, **COMMENDS** the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) for the relentless fight against the Boko Haram terrorist group. The Assembly **ALSO COMMENDS** the AU Partners for their continued support and **APPEALS** for additional support for the MNJTF, in order to fill its capability gaps, particularly with respect to Amphibious Equipment and Counter-Improvised Explosive Devices (C-IED) equipment, as well as resources for stabilization efforts;
18. **EXPRESSES, ONCE AGAIN,** its deep concern over the persistent security situation in Libya, which continues to prolong the suffering of the Libyan people. The Assembly **TAKES NOTE** of the efforts being deployed at the regional, continental and international levels to find a lasting solution to the situation with a view to promoting national reconciliation and successfully completing the ongoing transition in Libya. In this regard, the Assembly **WELCOMES** the organisation of meetings on Libya by neighbouring countries, the Quartet, the United Nations (UN) and other partners. The Assembly **ENDORSES** the Conclusions of the Ministerial Meeting, held in Addis Ababa, on 17 April 2018 and **WELCOMES** the outcomes of the International Conference on Libya that was convened under the auspices of the United Nations, on 29 May 2018 in Paris. The Assembly **TAKES NOTES** of the commitment of the Libyan leaders to the establishment of a constitutional basis, the adoption of electoral laws, the organisation of legislative and presidential elections, as well as to an all-inclusive Political Conference. The Assembly **CALLS** for the organisation of an inclusive Inter-Libyan National Reconciliation Forum, under the auspices of the UN and AU, in August 2018, with a view to establishing conducive conditions for the successful organisation of credible and peaceful elections. The Assembly **EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION** to H.E Denis SASSOU N'GUESSO, President of the Republic of the Congo and Chairman of the AU High Level Committee on Libya for his relentless efforts towards the restoration of lasting peace in Libya;
19. **TAKES NOTE** of the efforts being deployed towards the full operationalization of the African Standby Force (ASF). In this regard, the Assembly **REQUESTS** the

Commission to provide quarterly briefings to the PSC on the harmonization of ACIRC within the framework of ASF. The Assembly **CALLS** for the holding of regular exchanges between the PSC and the relevant organs of the RECs/RMs, on the enhancement of the ASF and its Rapid Deployment Capability and implementation of other joint initiatives, most notably, the MNJTF, RCI-LRA, G5 Sahel Joint Force, in support of the realization of the full operationalization of the ASF. The Assembly **DIRECTS** that, in line with the implementation of Assembly/AU/Dec.679 (XXX) and PSC/PR/COMM.(DCCLXVII), quarterly briefings by RECs/RMs be made to the PSC on conflict and crisis situations in their regions, in line with Article 16 of the Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the PSC of the AU so as to ensure joint AU-RECs/RMs strategic and political agreement, decision making and engagement on key issues in managing and resolving conflicts;

20. **COMMENDS** the Commission for scaling up the implementation of Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) in post-conflict countries. In this context, the Assembly **RE-AFFIRMS ITS SUPPORT** to the ongoing reforms in The Gambia and **COMMENDS** the efforts of the AU Commission and the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) to stabilize the areas affected by the Boko Haram terrorist group through the development of a Regional Stabilization, Recovery and Resilience Strategy. The Assembly **CALLS** on AU Member States and international partners to extend the necessary financial and technical assistance to support the implementation of the Strategy. The Assembly **ALSO CALLS** on Member States and RECs/RMs to increase their support to the AU's PCRD efforts to stabilize countries emerging from conflict or undergoing difficult transitions;
21. **UNDERLINES THE NEED, ONCE AGAIN**, for Africa to continue building on the ongoing efforts to revitalize the AU Peace Fund, which is a strategic asset in the continent's efforts to lead and control its peace and security agenda by availing predictable and sustainable funding. In this context, the Assembly, **REITERATES ITS ENCOURAGEMENT** to all Member States to continue deploying efforts towards the revitalization of the AU Peace Fund and **EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION** to those who have already made contributions to the Fund;
22. **UNDERLINES THE IMPORTANCE** of preventing conflicts in Africa and **RE-AFFIRMS** the need to prevent the ideology of hate, Genocide and hate crimes in Africa. The Assembly **ENDORSES** the decision of the PSC of its 761<sup>st</sup> session held on 5 April 2018 in Addis Ababa to designate 7<sup>th</sup> April of each year as the African Union Day of Commemoration of the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsis in Rwanda. The Assembly further **ENDORSES** the decision of the same PSC that corrected the nomenclature of the Genocide Against the Tutsis in Rwanda, to be: "The 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsis in Rwanda";

23. **REITERATES ITS CONCERN** on the migration situation in Africa, and **ENDORSES** the decision of the PSC at its 771<sup>st</sup> meeting held on 11 May 2018, which agreed to the establishment of the African Migration Observatory in Morocco following the proposal of His Majesty Mohammed VI, King of Morocco and AU Champion for Migration;
24. **REAFFIRMS ITS COMMITMENT, ONCE AGAIN**, to promoting greater participation of women in peace efforts in Africa. In this regard, the Assembly **WELCOMES** the adoption on 16 May 2018, by the Peace and Security Council, of the Continental Results Framework for Monitoring and Reporting on Delivery by Member States on commitments and implementation progress on women, peace and security. The Assembly **COMMENDS** the Commission for the efforts to fully operationalize FEMWISE, including the organization of capacity building training programmes with a view to ensuring active participation of women in AU-led peace efforts in the Continent.



**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL (PSC) ON  
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AU MASTER ROADMAP OF PRACTICAL  
STEPS TO SILENCE THE GUNS IN AFRICA BY YEAR 2020  
Doc. Assembly/AU/8(XXXI)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the report of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) on the Implementation of the AU Master Roadmap of Practical Steps to Silence the Guns in Africa by Year 2020;
2. **RECALLS** the Organization of African Unity/ African Union (OAU/AU) 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Solemn Declaration adopted on 25 May 2013, in Addis Ababa, in which the Assembly of the Union pledged not to bequeath the burden of wars to the next generation of Africans and undertook to end all wars in Africa by the year 2020, as well as decision Assembly/AU/Dec.630 (XXVIII) by which the 28<sup>th</sup> ordinary session of the Assembly, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 30 – 31 January 2017, adopted, following submission by the Peace and Security Council (PSC) the AU Master Roadmap of Practical Steps for Silencing the Guns in Africa by the Year 2020;
3. **EXPRESSES DEEP CONCERN** over the persistence of old conflicts and the outbreak of fresh ones, as well as the continued proliferation of threats, especially terrorism and violent extremism, to peace and security in Africa. The Assembly **REITERATES** its readiness to effectively put an end to wars and **REAFFIRMS** its determination to take all necessary measures to uproot the underlying causes of conflicts and crises which continue to undermine the continent's social-economic transformation and development;
4. **COMMENDS** the efforts deployed by the Peace and Security Council (PSC) in championing and steering forward the implementation of the African Union Master Roadmap (AURM) on Practical Steps to Silence the Guns and **ENCOURAGES** all Member States to continue their engagement in this endeavour for a conflict-free Continent. The Assembly **REITERATES ITS CALL** to the Regional Economic Communities/Regional Mechanisms (RECs/RMs), civil society organizations, private sector and the international community as a whole to ensure that, beyond slogans, they collectively contribute in a practical manner towards the realization of a conflict-free Continent;
5. **FURTHER COMMENDS** the Republics of Zambia and Zimbabwe, respectively, for being the first Member States to submit their written reports on their efforts in implementation of the AUMR and **CALLS ON** other Member States to emulate this commendable example;
6. **ENCOURAGES** all Member States to continue demonstrating more political commitment and stronger engagement to ensure the creation of requisite

conditions, particularly in taking actions to address root causes of conflicts for ending wars in Africa. In this respect, the Assembly **EMPHASIZES** that the remaining period to the deadline of 2020 to silence the guns should be put to a maximum effective use by all stakeholders in the implementation of the AUMR;

7. **COMMENDS** the RECs/RMs, particularly the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), Southern African Development Community (SADC), East African Community (EAC) and Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) for submitting their reports and for their sustained efforts in implementation of the AUMR. The Assembly **FURTHER COMMENDS** the Committee of Intelligence and Security Services of Africa (CISSA) and the Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS) for also providing updates on the AUMR implementation. In this regard, the Assembly **APPEALS** to those who have not yet done so, to ensure that they work towards submitting reports for the PSC on the AUMR to the February 2019 AU Summit. The Assembly **REQUESTS** the RECs/RMs to each appoint a Special Envoy on the implementation of the AUMR, with a view to boosting and complement the efforts of the AU High Representative on Silencing the Guns, to accelerate the implementation of the AUMR;
8. **ENDORSES** the efforts of the PSC for initiating the development of the draft resolution on Silencing the Guns in Africa and for the steps that it has taken, particularly those aimed at having it adopted on by the UN Security Council;
9. **STRONGLY APPEALS** to all Member States to start planning for activities to mark the Africa Amnesty Month, during the upcoming September 2018, and ensure that all citizens are made aware of this exercise. In this context, the Assembly **FURTHER APPEALS** to the Member States to widely publicize the observance and execution of the Africa Amnesty Month, with the view to mobilizing civilians/citizens to voluntarily surrender illegally owned weapons and inspire them on the positive effects in the society. The Assembly **COMMENDS** the support provided by the AU Commission to Member States towards the conduct of activities during the observance of the Africa Amnesty Month for collection of illegal owned arms/weapons;
10. **ENDORSES** the proposal of the PSC to include studies relating to peace in Africa with a view to promoting the culture of peace, unity and tolerance in the communities in the Member States national education curricula, within the context of the implementation of the AUMR. In this regard, the Assembly **REQUESTS** all Member States to incorporate studies related to peace in their respective national education curricula;
11. As part of efforts to stem out root causes of conflict, the Assembly **EMPHASIZES THE IMPORTANCE** of Member States undertaking targeted interventions to prevent cross border trafficking, including strengthening inter-state security

cooperation and community policing to combat movement of terrorists, arms trafficking, human and drug trafficking, illicit financial flows, and other contraband goods that contribute to fuelling conflicts in Africa. The Assembly **STRESSES THE NEED** to capitalize on and strengthen existing regional and international police and intelligence cooperation mechanisms, particularly through the services of African Union Mechanism for Police Cooperation (AFRIPOL). In this regard, Assembly **COMMENDS** the Government of Algeria for its support provided, namely training on the use of the African Police Communication System (AFSECOM) and provision of the communication equipment for the operationalization of AFSECOM to all Member States;

12. **COMMENDS** the Commission for its efforts to enhance regional security cooperation and **WELCOMES** the establishment of the Eastern Africa Fusion and Liaison Unit (EA-FLU) in Uganda for strengthening counter-terrorism capability in Eastern Africa, as part of the Djibouti Process. In this regard, the Assembly **CALLS ON** all Member States of the Djibouti Process to expedite the deployment of their officers to the EA-FLU;
13. **UNDERScores THE NEED** for putting in place the measures and capacities required to effectively manage stockpiles of all armed security institutions, including establishing accounting and accountability frameworks, enhancing physical structures, and improving arms procurement and disposal practices to prevent excessive accumulation;
14. **ENCOURAGES** all Member States to promote civilian disarmament by addressing the various factors, particularly poverty, exclusion, marginalization, unemployment and insecurity, which drive the demand for possessing and uses of arms among civilians, in line with the Africa Amnesty Month. In this regard, the Assembly **URGES** all Member States to consider a range of interventions including job creation projects, climate change mitigation, strengthening formal and traditional justice and reconciliation mechanisms, providing economic alternatives to criminal activities, and alter cultural values that condone violence. The Assembly **UNDERLINES THE IMPORTANCE** of pursuing efforts to implement effective and nationally owned disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration (DDR) interventions as part of post-conflict stabilization and development efforts;
15. **EMPHASIZES** the imperative and absolute need for Member States to enhance preventive diplomacy and conflict prevention in the efforts to silence the guns and promote peace and security Continent;
16. **STRESSES** the importance of participation of women and youth in the full cycle of peace processes in the continent with a view to ensuring that the need for women and youth is fully included in the implementation of the AUMR. The Assembly **WELCOMES** the validation of the Continental Results Framework for Monitoring and Reporting on Women Peace and Security Agenda in Africa by



Member States and Regional Economic Communities/Regional Mechanisms (RECs/RMs), that have put already in place national and regional action plans, as a tool to enhance delivery by Member States and other stakeholders on commitments on Women, peace and security in Africa and in addressing issues of impunity;

17. **APPEALS** to all Member States to provide reports to the PSC, through the AU Commission, on the implementation of the AUMR and to pay due attention to all the five key aspects as integrated in the AUMR, namely political, social, economic, environmental and legal aspects, with the view to enabling Africa and its people to see the actual trends in the AUMR implementation process and address timeously gaps whenever and where they appear.



**DECISION ON THE REPORT ON THE HOSTING OF THE AFRICAN  
MINERALS DEVELOPMENT CENTRE (AMDC)  
Doc. Assembly/AU/10(XXXI)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.667(XXX) of January 2018 wherein it was decided that further consultations on the hosting of the African Minerals Development Centre (AMDC) be undertaken and report to the June/July 2018 Assembly Session;
2. **APPRECIATES** the transition of the AMDC from UNECA to the Commission of the African Union and the efforts of the latter to mobilize resources for the sustainability of the AMDC;
3. **COMMENDS** the Commission for mobilizing through cooperating Partners funds amounting to US\$ two million (2) to support the African Mining Vision (AMV) implementation and AMDC Interim Secretariat pending the conclusion of the hosting arrangements and operationalization of the AMDC including setting up the AMDC Governance Structures for a period of two (2) years;
4. **DECIDES** that the AMDC shall be hosted by the Republic of Guinea;
5. **FURTHER DECIDES** that the AMDC Secretariat move to the Commission by end of September 2018 for the interim period of not more than one (1) year to allow the Commission to finalize the Hosting arrangements, setting up of the Governance Structures as well as facilitate the ratification process;
6. **URGES** Member States to expedite the ratification of the AMDC Statute;
7. **DIRECTS** the Commission to present a comprehensive report to the February 2019 Summit on the progress made in the transfer of AMDC to the Commission, operationalization of the AMDC governance structures as well as the status of ratification of the AMDC Statute;
8. **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to commission an independent forensic audit of the scoring of the bids for the Member States to host AMDC with a view to establishing what went wrong and take remedial measures to ensure that this does not recur in the future;
9. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to submit the results of the forensic audit with appropriate recommendations to the February 2019 Summit.

**DECISION ON THE DRAFT LEGAL INSTRUMENTS  
Doc. Assembly/AU/11(XXXI)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Recommendations of the Executive Council on the Draft Annexes to the Protocols on Trade in Goods, and Rules and Procedures on the Settlement of Disputes to the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA);
2. **RECALLS** Decision Ext/Assembly/AU/Dec.1(X) adopted during the 10<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Session of the Assembly held on 21 March 2018 in Kigali, Rwanda that adopted the Agreement establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and called for an Extraordinary Session of the STC on Justice and Legal Affairs to consider the Annexes to the Protocol on Trade in Goods, and the Protocol on the Rules and Procedures on the Settlement of Disputes for submission to the Assembly in July 2018 for adoption;
3. **COMMENDS** the Specialized Technical Committee (STC) on Justice and Legal Affairs and the Commission for their efforts to conclude and finalise the Annexes to the Protocols to the AfCFTA Agreement;
4. **ADOPTS** the following Annexes:
  - a) Protocol on Trade in Goods:
    - (i) Annex 1 : Schedule of Tariff Concessions
    - (ii) Annex 2 : Rules of Origin
    - (iii) Annex 3: Customs Cooperation and Mutual Administrative Assistance
    - (iv) Annex 4: Trade Facilitation
    - (v) Annex 5: Non-Tariff Barriers
    - (vi) Annex 6: Technical Barriers to Trade
    - (vii) Annex 7: Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures
    - (viii) Annex 8: Transit, and
    - (ix) Annex 9: Trade Remedies.
  - b) Protocol on Rules and Procedures on the Settlement of Disputes:
    - (i) Annex 1 : The Working Procedures of the Panel;
    - (ii) Annex 2 : Expert Review Groups; and
    - (iii) Annex 3 : The Code of Conduct for Arbitrators and Panelists.

5. **CONGRATULATES** the Member States who signed and/or ratified the Agreement Establishing the AfCFTA and **STRONGLY URGES** all other Member States to sign and ratify in order to expedite its entry into force.



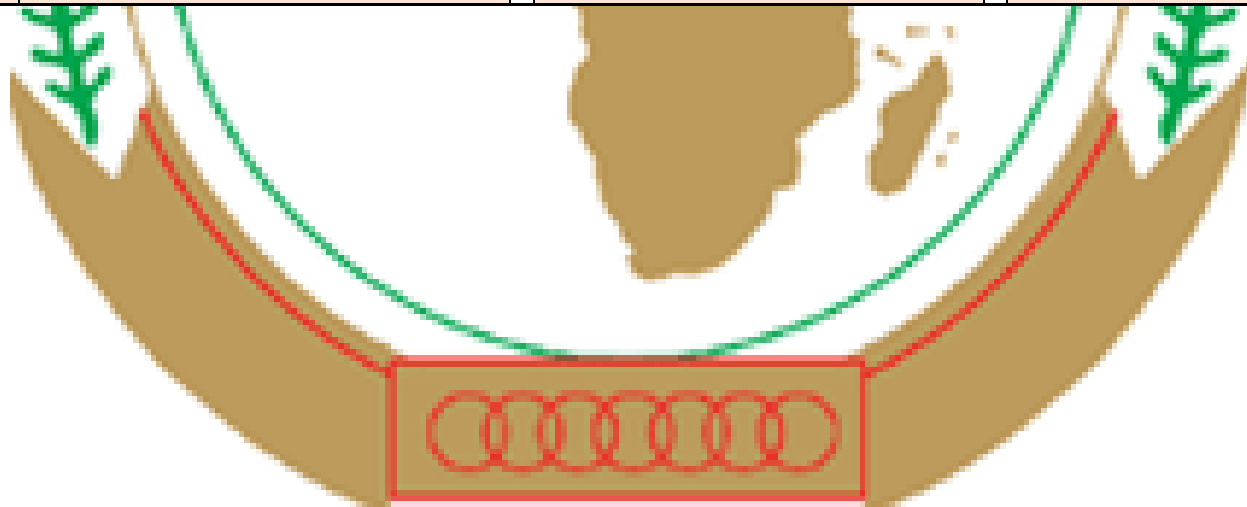
**DECISION ON THE 2019 AFRICAN UNION BUDGET  
AND THE 2018 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the 2019 African Union Budget;
2. **ADOPTS** a supplementary budget of the African Union for the 2018 financial year for a total of **US\$ 5,042,440** as follows:
  - (i) Conference Management and Publications for online translation fee with an amount of **US\$71,280**;
  - (ii) Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC): activities related to Ebola with a total amount of **US\$4,181,160**;
  - (iii) Programming, Budgeting, Finance and Accounting: Consultancy services for assessment of property, plant and equipment of the African Union with an amount of **US\$790,000**
3. **ALSO ADOPTS** a total budget of **US \$ 681 485 337** for the African Union for the 2019 financial year divided as follows:
  - (i) Operating budget: **US\$ 158,459,118** to be financed by Member States;
  - (ii) Programme budget: **US \$ 249,757,079** to be financed as follows:
    - a) US\$ 110,257,890 assessed on Member States
    - b) US\$ 139,499,189 to be solicited from International partners;
  - (iii) Peace Support Operations: **US\$ 273,269,140** to be financed as follows:
    - a) US\$ 11,328,753 assessed on Member States;
    - b) US\$ 261, 940,387, to be solicited from International partners.

Organs	Member States			Partners			Total Budget 2019		
	Operating Budget	Programs	Total Assessment	Operating	Programs	Total	Operating	Programs	Total
AUC	107,611,392	55,137,644	162,749,036		120,043,895	120,043,895	107,611,392	175,181,539	282,792,931
PAP	11,749,132	6,290,983	18,040,115		470,000	470,000	11,749,132	6,760,983	18,510,115
AfCHR (The Court)	7,987,200	5,058,246	13,045,446		947,446	947,446	7,987,200	6,005,691	13,992,891
ACHPR (The Commission)	4,778,973	1,539,000	6,317,973		707,138	707,138	4,778,973	2,246,138	7,025,111
ECOSOCC	2,246,004	1,771,000	4,017,004		-	-	2,246,004	1,771,000	4,017,004
NEPAD	10,633,354	17,590,000	28,223,354		7,310,000	7,310,000	10,633,354	24,900,000	35,533,354
AUCIL	465,149	-	465,149		341,731	341,731	465,149	341,731	806,880
Advisory Board on Corruption	1,627,858	1,433,797	3,061,655		-	-	1,627,858	1,433,797	3,061,655
Peace & Security Council	-	1,421,594	1,421,594		-	-	-	1,421,594	1,421,594
ACERWC	291,821	86,494	378,315		502,787	502,787	291,821	589,281	881,102
<b>SPECIALIZED OFFICES</b>						-		-	-
AFREC	1,275,699	-	1,275,699		-	-	1,275,699	-	1,275,699
IPED	681,891	-	681,891		-	-	681,891	-	681,891
CIEFFA	716,656	-	716,656		-	-	716,656	-	716,656
PAU	2,821,977	12,380,180	15,202,157		1,007,000	1,007,000	2,821,977	13,387,180	16,209,157
AIR	874,978		874,978		1,352,708	1,352,708	874,978	1,352,708	2,227,686
ACDC		6,562,642	6,562,642		6,816,484	6,816,484		13,379,126	13,379,126
AOSTI	916,272	-	916,272		-	-	916,272	-	916,272
AFRIPOL	948,450	-	948,450		-	-	948,450	-	948,450
APRM	1,149,199	986,311	2,135,510		-	-	1,149,199	986,311	2,135,510
SPORT COUNCIL	1,683,113		1,683,113		-	-	1,683,113	-	1,683,113

<b>TOTAL before Peace Support Operations (PSO)</b>	<b>158,459,118</b>	<b>110,257,890</b>	<b>268,717,008</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>139,499,189</b>	<b>139,499,189</b>	<b>158,459,118</b>	<b>249,757,079</b>	<b>408,216,197</b>
<b>EXCLUDING PSO</b>									
<b>Ratio operational &amp; programs</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Funding on total budget</b>	<b>66%</b>			<b>34%</b>			<b>100%</b>		
<b>PEACE OPERATIONS</b>									
AMISOM		9,727,500	9,727,500	243,430,467	4,070,000	247,500,467	243,430,467	13,797,500	257,227,967
MNJTf		716,140	716,140	6,445,260		6,445,260	6,445,260	716,140	7,161,400
LRA			-	73,265		73,265	73,265	-	73,265
HRMOM		885,112.80	885,113	7,921,395		7,921,395	7,921,395	885,113	8,806,508
<b>Total Peace Support</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,328,753</b>	<b>11,328,753</b>	<b>257,870,387</b>	<b>4,070,000</b>	<b>261,940,387</b>	<b>257,870,387</b>	<b>15,398,753</b>	<b>273,269,140</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>158,459,118</b>	<b>121,586,643</b>	<b>280,045,761</b>	<b>257,870,387</b>	<b>143,569,189</b>	<b>401,439,575</b>	<b>416,329,505</b>	<b>265,155,832</b>	<b>681,485,337</b>
<b>INCLUDING PSO</b>									
<b>Ratio operational &amp; programs</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Funding on total budget</b>	<b>42%</b>			<b>58%</b>			<b>100%</b>		



**DECISION ON THE ELECTION OF FOUR (4) JUDGES OF THE  
AFRICAN COURT ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES RIGHTS  
Doc. EX.CL/1100(XXXIII)**

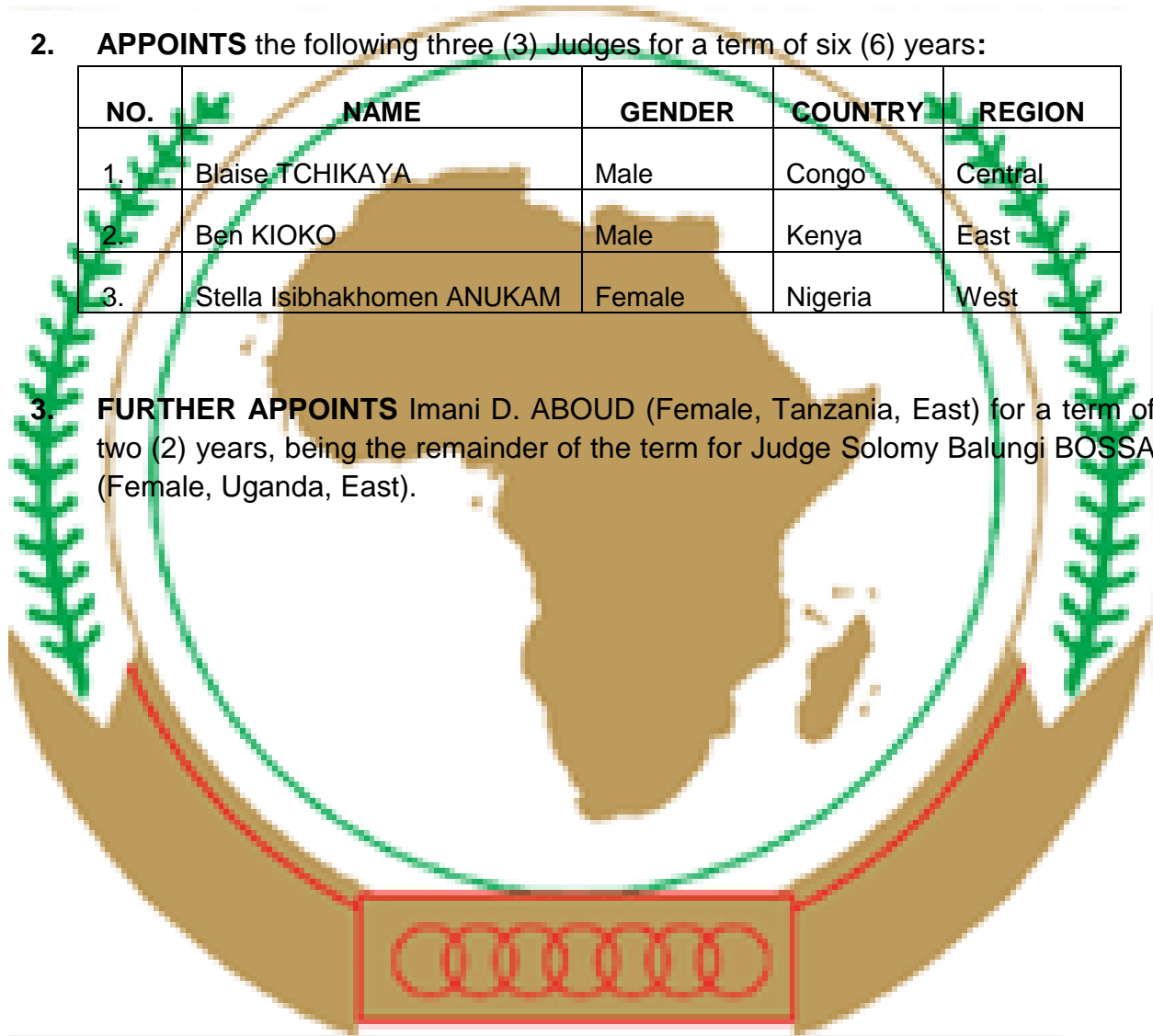
The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the election of Four (4) Judges of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights;

2. **APPOINTS** the following three (3) Judges for a term of six (6) years:

NO.	NAME	GENDER	COUNTRY	REGION
1.	Blaise TCHIKAYA	Male	Congo	Central
2.	Ben KIOKO	Male	Kenya	East
3.	Stella Isibhakhomen ANUKAM	Female	Nigeria	West

3. **FURTHER APPOINTS** Imani D. ABOUD (Female, Tanzania, East) for a term of two (2) years, being the remainder of the term for Judge Solomy Balungi BOSSA (Female, Uganda, East).





**DECISION ON THE ELECTION OF FIVE (5) MEMBERS OF THE  
AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL LAW  
Doc. EX.CL/1101(XXXIII)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the election of Five (5) Members of the African Union Commission on International Law;
2. **APPOINTS** the following Members for a term of five (5) years:

NO.	NAME	GENDER	COUNTRY	REGION
1.	Kevin Ferdinand NDJIMBA	Male	Gabon	Central
2.	Narindra Arivelo RAMANANARIVO <sup>1</sup>	Female	Madagascar	East
3.	Hajer GUELDICH	Female	Tunisia	North
4.	Sindiso H. SICHONE	Female	Zambia	South

3. **DECIDES** that the election of one (1) Female Member of the African Union Commission on International Law from the Central Region shall take place in February 2019 during the Thirty-Fourth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council.

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<sup>1</sup> Floating Seat

**DECISION ON THE ELECTION OF FOUR (4) MEMBERS OF THE  
AFRICAN COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE RIGHTS  
AND WELFARE OF THE CHILD  
Doc. EX.CL/1102(XXXIII)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the election of Four (4) Members of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child;
2. **APPOINTS** the following Members for a term of five (5) years:

NO.	NAME	GENDER	COUNTRY	REGION
1.	Joseph NDAYISENGA	Male	Burundi	Central
2.	Azza AL ASHMAWY	Female	Egypt	North
3.	Alassane Aissatou SIDIKOU <sup>2</sup>	Female	Niger	West

3. **DECIDES** that the election of one (1) Female Member of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child from the Central Region shall take place in February 2019 during the Thirty-Fourth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council.

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<sup>2</sup> Floating Seat

**DECISION ON THE ELECTION OF THE VICE PRESIDENT OF  
THE PAN AFRICAN UNIVERSITY (PAU) COUNCIL  
DOC. EX.CL/1103(XXXIII)**

**The Assembly,**

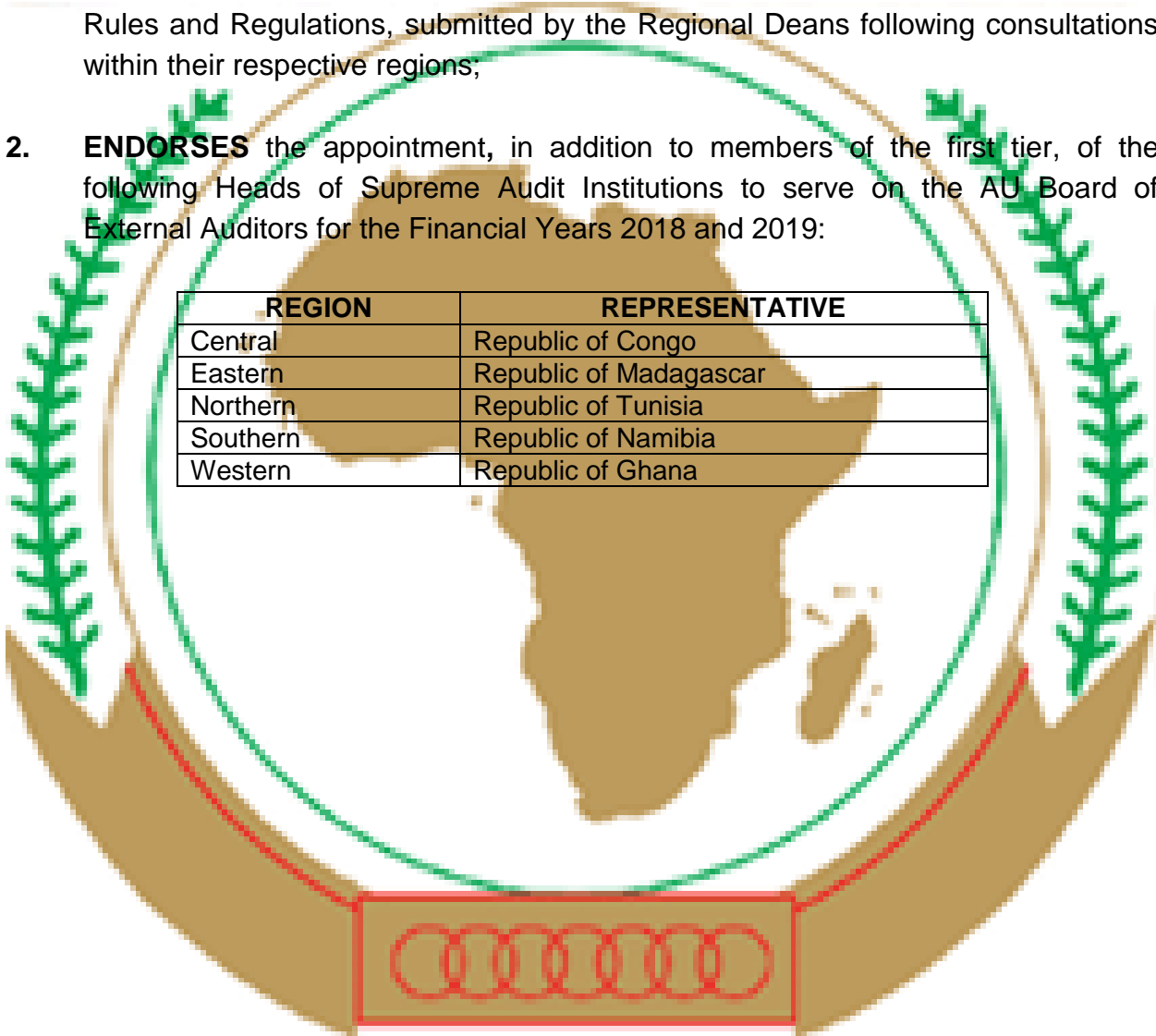
1. **TAKES NOTE** of the election of the Vice-President of the Pan African University (PAU) Council by the Executive Council;
2. **APPOINTS** Audrey Nthabiseng OGUDE (Female, South Africa, South) as the Vice-President of the PAU Council for a three (3) year term.



**DECISION ON THE APPOINTMENT OF THE MEMBERS OF  
THE AU BOARD OF EXTERNAL AUDITORS**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the proposals of appointment as per Article 77 of the Financial Rules and Regulations, submitted by the Regional Deans following consultations within their respective regions;
2. **ENDORSES** the appointment, in addition to members of the first tier, of the following Heads of Supreme Audit Institutions to serve on the AU Board of External Auditors for the Financial Years 2018 and 2019:



REGION	REPRESENTATIVE
Central	Republic of Congo
Eastern	Republic of Madagascar
Northern	Republic of Tunisia
Southern	Republic of Namibia
Western	Republic of Ghana

**DECISION ON THE DATES AND VENUE OF THE 32<sup>ND</sup> ORDINARY  
SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE AFRICAN UNION**

**The Assembly,**

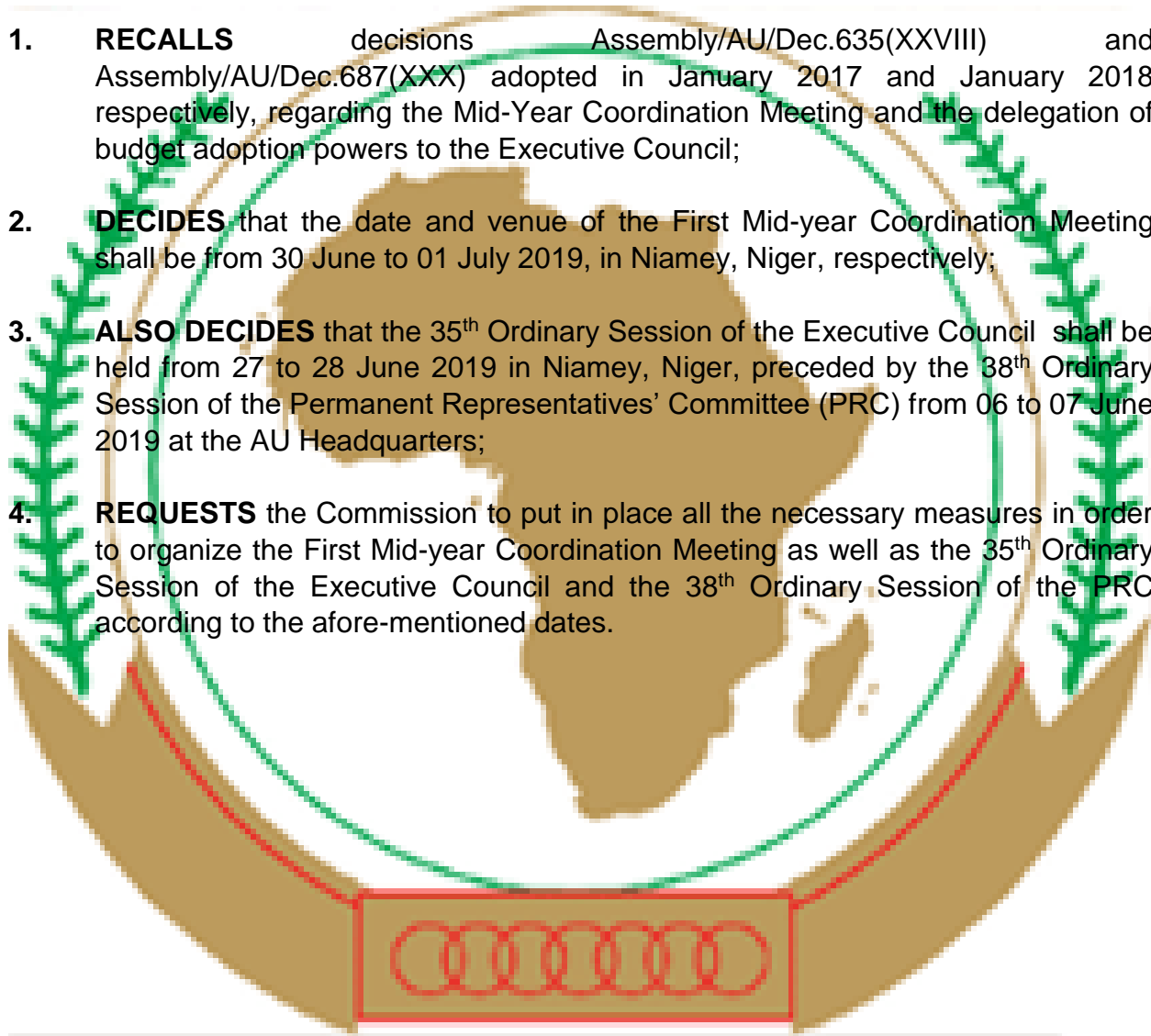
1. **DECIDES** that the dates of the Thirty-Second Ordinary (32<sup>nd</sup>) Session of the Assembly, which will be held at the AU Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, under the theme *“The Year of Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons: Towards Durable Solutions to Forced Displacement in Africa”* shall be as follows:
  - (i) Thirty-Seventh (37th) Ordinary Session of the Permanent Representatives’ Committee (PRC): 21-22 January 2019;
  - (ii) Thirty-Fourth (34th) Ordinary Session of the Executive Council: 07 - 08 February 2019;
  - (iii) Thirty-Second (32<sup>nd</sup>) Ordinary Session of the Assembly: 10 - 11 February 2019.
2. **REQUESTS** the Commission to put in place all the necessary measures in order to organize the Thirty-Second (32<sup>nd</sup>) Ordinary Session of the Assembly as well as the preparatory meetings of the Executive Council and the PRC according to the aforementioned dates.



**DECISION ON THE DATES AND VENUES OF THE FIRST MID-YEAR COORDINATION MEETING OF THE AFRICAN UNION AND THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES (RECS), THE 35TH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND THE 38TH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES' COMMITTEE (PRC)**

The Assembly,

1. **RECALLS** decisions Assembly/AU/Dec.635(XXVIII) and Assembly/AU/Dec.687(XXX) adopted in January 2017 and January 2018 respectively, regarding the Mid-Year Coordination Meeting and the delegation of budget adoption powers to the Executive Council;
2. **DECIDES** that the date and venue of the First Mid-year Coordination Meeting shall be from 30 June to 01 July 2019, in Niamey, Niger, respectively;
3. **ALSO DECIDES** that the 35<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Executive Council shall be held from 27 to 28 June 2019 in Niamey, Niger, preceded by the 38<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) from 06 to 07 June 2019 at the AU Headquarters;
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to put in place all the necessary measures in order to organize the First Mid-year Coordination Meeting as well as the 35<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Executive Council and the 38<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the PRC according to the afore-mentioned dates.



**DECISION ON THE 2019 THEME OF THE YEAR  
“THE YEAR OF REFUGEES, RETURNEES AND INTERNALLY  
DISPLACED PERSONS: TOWARDS DURABLE SOLUTIONS  
TO FORCED DISPLACEMENT IN AFRICA”**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the recommendation of the Executive Council Decision EX.CL/Dec.968(XXXI) on the theme of 2019;
2. **DECIDES** to declare 2019 as “*the Year of Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons: Towards Durable Solutions to Forced Displacement in Africa*”;
3. **REQUESTS** the Commission, in collaboration with the PRC and other stakeholders, to prepare a concept note and roadmap for the implementation of the 2019 theme.



**DECISION ON THE CANDIDATURE OF H.E. LOUISE MUSHIKIWABO,  
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, COOPERATION AND EAST AFRICAN  
COMMUNITY OF THE REPUBLIC OF RWANDA ON THE POST OF  
SECRETARY GENERAL OF LA FRANCOPHONIE**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Decision of the Executive Council, which endorses the candidature of H.E. Louise Mushikiwabo, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and East African Community of the Republic of Rwanda on the Post of Secretary General of la Francophonie;
2. **WELCOMES** the motion of support proposed by H.E. Idriss Deby Itno, President of the Republic of Chad, in keeping with the usual practice within the African Union aiming at bringing a collective support to African candidatures for strategic posts in the international system;
3. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** of the upcoming selection process in Erevan, Armenia, in October 2018, in order to fulfil the above mentioned position;
4. **URGES** all AU Member States to support the candidature of H.E. Louise Mushikiwabo, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and East African Community of the Republic of Rwanda on the Post of Secretary General of la Francophonie, in the spirit of African solidarity and Pan-Africanism;
5. **REQUESTS** especially AU Member States which are members of La Francophonie to mobilise the necessary support for H.E. Louise Mushikiwabo, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and East African Community of the Republic of Rwanda and cast the vote in her favour, if need be, on the Post of Secretary General of la Francophonie;
6. **UNDERLINES** the need for Africa to speak with one voice to ensure the success of its candidate as unity is a key to success.



## DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE AIDS WATCH AFRICA (AWA)

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the 2018 AIDS Watch Africa (AWA) Report and **ENDORSES** the recommendations contained therein;
2. **NOTES** the continued efforts of AU Member States and partners in the fight against AIDS, TB and Malaria and **URGES** them to redouble efforts to end these three diseases as public health threats by 2030 in line with the Catalytic Framework to end AIDS, TB and eliminate Malaria targets;
3. **COMMENDS:**
  - (i) the African Union for the significant milestones towards the establishment of the Africa Medicines Agency that will support regulatory harmonization, facilitate medical product registration and **URGES** Member States and partners to accelerate efforts to implement the PMPA business plan;
  - (ii) the Commission and partners for producing the 2018 Africa Scorecard on Domestic Financing for Health and **URGES** Member States to further increase domestic resources allocated to health in the context of Africa's increasing Gross Domestic Product and plateauing international support.
4. **REQUESTS** AU Member States and the international community to support the next Global Fund replenishment for its role in life-saving interventions in AIDS, TB and Malaria, the three biggest diseases in Africa;
5. **COMMENDS** the Commission for undertaking wide consultations on the Common African Position to the High Level Meeting on TB and **ENDORSES** the Common African Position on TB and **REQUESTS** Member States to attend the UN HLM on TB;
6. **ENDORSES:**
  - (i) the African Continental End TB Accountability Framework for Action and the End TB Scorecard initiative and **REQUESTS** the Commission working with WHO to produce the scorecard annually;
  - (ii) the "Zero Malaria Starts With Me" campaign and **REQUESTS** the Commission and the Partnership "Roll Back Malaria" (RBM) to coordinate with Member States and facilitate the launch and roll out of the "Zero Malaria Starts with Me" campaign.

7. **CONCERNED** with the rising threat of viral Hepatitis in Africa, **REQUESTS** the Commission and partners to organise in November/December 2018 a Special Ministerial Session on Viral Hepatitis to take stock on the status of viral hepatitis and provide a future continental direction;
8. **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of AWA to report on the progress made to the February 2019 Ordinary Session of the Assembly.



## DECISION ON HOSTING THE AFRICAN UNION CENTRE FOR POST-CONFLICT RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Assembly,

1. **RECALLS** its decision Assembly/AU/Dec.351(XVI) of January 2011 on the establishment of the African Union Centre for Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development (AUCPCRD), upon the proposal of the Arab Republic of Egypt;
2. **ALSO RECALLS** Executive Council Decision EX.CL/Dec.840(XXV) of June 2014 requesting the Commission to continue consulting with the Governments of Egypt and Uganda with a view to reaching an amicable solution on the location of the Centre;
3. **EXPRESSES SINCERE APPRECIATION** to the Republic of Uganda for withdrawing its offer to host the AUCPCRD in favour of the Arab Republic of Egypt;
4. **ACCEPTS** the offer of the Arab Republic of Egypt, and **DECIDES** that the Arab Republic of Egypt will host the AUCPCRD. In this respect, the Assembly **EXTENDS ITS SINCERE APPRECIATION** to the commitment demonstrated by Egypt, and **REQUESTS** that consultations start immediately with the AU Commission towards early establishment of the AUCPCRD;
5. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to:
  - (i) initiate and finalize the Host Agreement with the Arab Republic of Egypt; in accordance with the AU Rules and Regulations;
  - (ii) develop the structure of the AUCPCRD and prepare a comprehensive report on the financial and technical needs of the AUCPCRD for consideration by the relevant AU Policy Organs, prior to its submission to the Ordinary Session of the Assembly, through the Executive Council, scheduled for February 2019.

**DECISION ON THE DATES OF TICAD VII MINISTERIAL  
MEETING AND THE SUMMIT**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Executive Council decision EX.CL/Dec.1028(XXXIII) on the dates of TICAD VII Ministerial Meeting and the Summit;
2. **ENDORSES** the dates of 28 to 30 August 2019 for the TICAD VII Summit preceded by the Ministerial Preparatory Meeting on 27 August 2019 in Yokohama, Japan;
3. **REQUESTS** the Commission, in collaboration with the PRC, to commence the relevant preparations of the said Summit and the Ministerial meeting in accordance with the relevant Assembly and Executive Council decisions on the organization of the partnership meetings.



**DECISION ON THE SUCCESSFUL HOSTING OF THE  
THIRTY-FIRST ORDINARY SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY IN  
NOUAKCHOTT, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA**

**The Assembly,**

1. **RECALLS** its decision Assembly/AU/Dec.658(XXIX) adopted at the 29<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Assembly in July 2017, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;
2. **ALSO RECALLS** its decision Assembly/AU/Dec.688(XXX) adopted in January 2018 where the Assembly of the Union confirmed and decided that the 31<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session Assembly of the Union be hosted by the Islamic Republic of Mauritania;
3. **NOTES** with satisfaction the impressive planning, organization and hosting of the 31<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union by the Islamic Republic of Mauritania in Nouakchott “Almurabitun Palace Conference Centre” from 25 June to 2 July 2018;
4. **CONGRATULATES** H.E. President Mohamed Abdel-Aziz, President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, his Government and the People of Mauritania for the efforts and facilities put in place which led to a successful African Union Summit;
5. **COMMENDS** the Islamic Republic of Mauritania for the warm hospitality extended to all delegations and participants and **ALSO COMMENDS** the Government of Mauritania for the successful results of the AU Summit in particular the efforts done by the Mauritanian National preparatory Committee for the organization of the African Union Summit.

## DECLARATION ON THE AFRICAN ANTI-CORRUPTION YEAR

**WE**, Heads of State and Government of the African Union, meeting at our 31<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session in Nouakchott, Islamic Republic of Mauritania, following our debate on the 2018 theme of the year: *“Winning the Fight Against Corruption: A Sustainable Path to Africa’s Transformation”*:

**Recalling** decision Assembly/AU/Dec.657(XXIX) taken at the 29<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the African Union, that declared 2018 as the African Anti-Corruption Year;

**Establishing** the scope of the phenomenon of corruption, its universal nature and its specificity in Africa as one of the pressing governance and development challenges confronting the Continent given its harmful and corrosive effect on progress, stability and development while impeding economic growth by discouraging foreign investments, promoting inequality, creating distortions in resource allocation, increasing the cost of doing business and reducing the net value of public spending;

**Recognizing** that corruption seriously gets in the way of the normal functioning of economic and social activities, reduces the volume of public income, promotes the misappropriation and misallocation of scarce resources, undermines the rule of law and weakens government institutions;

**Recalling** the Assembly Special Declaration Assembly/AU/Decl.5.(XXIV) on Illicit Financial Flows which pointed out that illicit capital flight is exacerbated by corrupt tendencies of government agencies, lack of or weak African institutions and lack of capacity to monitor and curb such criminal activities;

**Further acknowledging** that the African Continent has made significant strides to combat corruption by putting in place legal and policy frameworks, notably the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption (AUCPCC) while **Further noting** that adoption of the legal and policy frameworks have not had the desired success in effectively tackling corruption in many member States and that adoption and implementation of the AUCPCC has been uneven across the continent;

**Bearing in mind** that the fight against corruption is a collective responsibility of Africa as a whole;

**HEREBY:**

1. **EXHORT** all African Union Member States to empower national anti-corruption agencies, financial intelligence units, audit firms and relevant bodies by strengthening their independence and adequately financing and capacitating them to be able to perform their duties in a hitch-free manner;
2. **APPEAL** to Member States to strengthen South-South cooperation through voluntary information exchange, mutual legal assistance and sharing of best

- practices among national anti-corruption agencies, audit institutions or relevant bodies devoted thereto;
3. **DECIDE** to combat illicit financial flows through measures such as the establishment of effective ownership registers, country-by-country reporting of financial information, participation in automatic exchange of tax information agreements, and support in strengthening tax authorities through the work of the African Tax Administration Forum;
  4. **UNDERTAKE** to implement inclusive development planning and policymaking that includes open, participatory and transparent budgeting processes to allow citizens participate in budget development and monitor the implementation thereof;
  5. **RECOGNIZE** the imperative of investing in demographic dividend through anti-corruption education and sensitization campaigns targeting young people as a means of catalysing attitude change;
  6. **STRESS** the need to address detection of corruption in defence contracting and procurement, exploitation of natural resource and in all transactions in the extractive industries sector, as well as in the private sector and the education sector as priority areas;
  7. **REQUEST** the African Union Advisory Board on Corruption, the Commission and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) together with other stakeholders to work to speed up implementation of the recommendations of the High Level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows from Africa;
  8. **CALL UPON** our international partners and allies to agree on a transparent and efficient timetable for the recovery and return of stolen assets to Africa with due respect for the sovereignty of States and their national interests;
  9. **UNDERTAKE** to adopt measures to ensure that public personalities declare their assets and that such assets are verified;
  10. **UNDERTAKE** to progressively abolish bank secrecy jurisdictions and tax havens on the Continent;
  11. **REQUEST** the Advisory Board on Corruption to make appropriate recommendations on amendment of the Convention to strengthen the Board and its mandate;
  12. **EXPRESS SATISFACTION** to H.E. Muhammadu Buhari, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Champion of the theme of the year, for his stewardship and commitment towards the commemoration of this theme;
  13. **INSTRUCT** the Commission to report regularly on the implementation of this Declaration.

**DECLARATION ON THE SITUATION IN  
PALESTINE AND THE MIDDLE EAST  
Doc. EX.CL/1080(XXXIII)**

**WE**, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, meeting at the 31<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union held in Nouakchott, Mauritania, from 1-2 July 2018:

**Taking note** of the Report on the Situation in Palestine and the Middle East and **recalling** all previous resolutions of the Organization of African Unity/African Union on the situation in Palestine for the maintenance of a lasting peace and security in the Middle East;

**Reaffirming** our total support for the Palestinian people in their just struggle against Israeli occupation, under the leadership of President Mahmoud Abbas, for the restoration of their legitimate right to establish an independent Palestinian State peacefully co-existing with the State of Israel;

**Also Reaffirming** our willingness to find a peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict in accordance with the principles of international law and all relevant United Nations resolutions calling for the establishment of a Palestinian State on the borders of 4 June 1967, with East Jerusalem as its capital;

**Reiterating** our call for the resumption of negotiations between the two parties with a view to achieving a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East,

**Expressing** our support for all initiatives aimed at finding a lasting solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through peaceful means including negotiations;

**Reaffirming** our position in support of the Palestinian cause and the Union's continued search for a just and comprehensive peace for the Palestinian people;

**Further reaffirming** that all settlements built in the West Bank, East Jerusalem and the Syrian Golan Heights are null and void;

**HEREBY DECLARE AS FOLLOWS:**

- 1. REQUEST** Member States and countries of the world to work towards finding a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict based on the relevant resolutions of international law and the Arab Peace Initiative for the establishment of two States: an independent Palestinian state with the 4 June 1967 borders and El-Quds-East as capital, peacefully co-existing with the State of Israel.
- 2. EXHORT** Member States that have recognised and are maintaining relations with the State of Israel to premise their recognition basis of the 1967 borders, and refrain from any action that could undermine the basis of the final two-State



solution, including the relocation of their embassies or diplomatic missions represented in Israel to El-Quds-East which is an occupied Palestinian territory.

3. **RENEW** our call to Member States to take into account, in any cooperation with the State of Israel, that such cooperation does not support the Israeli occupation at the expense of African support for the Palestinian cause, in line with the noble ideals of the African Union, particularly the right of people to freedom and self-determination in the interests of peace and security in the Middle East.
4. **URGE** Member States to support the State of Palestine in the pursuit of its sovereign right to become a full-fledged member of the United Nations and support the efforts made by Palestinians to join international agencies and adhere to international conventions and protocols.
5. **SUPPORT** the just peace plan proposed by Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas in his speech to the Security Council, based on UNSC resolutions on international legitimacy and the international consensus for the resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on the principle of the two-State solution.
6. **CALL UPON** the international community, particularly the United Nations Security Council, to hasten the implementation of Security Council Resolution 2334 of 24 December 2016 and to immediately end the Israeli offensive to colonize El Quds and other Palestinian territories in order to impose a de facto policy likely to undermine the chance of the two-State solution.
7. **STRONGLY REGISTER** our objection to US' decision of 6 December 2017 which considers El-Quds as the capital of Israel including the relocation of the US embassy to Israel from Tel-Aviv to El-Quds; a decision that constitutes a major obstacle to peace.
8. **REAFFIRM** that El Quds East within the borders of 4 June 1967 is the capital of the State of Palestine, in conformity with the resolutions of international legitimacy and previous decisions of the African Union in this regard.
9. **CONDEMN** the policy of Judaizing the city of El Quds conducted by the Hebrew State which continues to illegally annex parts of the city and to change its historical, legal and demographic character and the continuing attacks against sacred Muslim and Christian sites.
10. **DEPLORE** Israel's segregationist and racist policies and practices against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories as an affront to international human rights and humanitarian law and calls on the international community to intervene immediately to put an end to this situation.
11. **COMMEND** the decision taken by the United Nations Human Rights Commission in its special session of 19 May 2018 on Palestine, to send an independent

international commission to investigate promptly all violations of international human rights and humanitarian law in occupied Palestine, including El-Quds-East and the occupied Gaza Strip.

12. **DEPLORE** the land and sea blockade imposed by Israel on the Gaza Strip, causing the deterioration of the economic and humanitarian situation there and **CALL FOR** restrictions imposed on the Gaza Strip to be lifted immediately.
13. **REAFFIRM** the need to ensure international protection of the land and people of the State of Palestine, particularly in the current circumstances in which the violence of the occupation authorities against defenseless civilians is intensifying, as a prelude to the end of the occupation and to preserve the possibility of the two-State solution, pursuant to UN Security Council Resolutions 605 (1987), 672 and 673 (1990) and 904 (1994), based on the Geneva Conventions and reaffirm their applicability to the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967.
14. **REQUEST** the United Nations and the Quartet to move immediately to shoulder their responsibilities and pressure Israel to commit to the process of serious peace negotiations.
15. **REITERATE** that a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East requires Israel's full withdrawal from the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories to the June 1967 borders, including the Syrian Golan Heights and territories still under occupation in Southern Lebanon.
16. **DEMAND** that Israel refrains from using acts of terrorism against the Palestinian's civilian populations as well as arbitrary arrests of Palestinians including children, women, the elderly and sick people, which is an act of violation of international laws and human rights norms including the Geneva Convention on the Rights of Women and Children.
17. **IMPLORE** Member States to boycott goods and products that are produced and exported from the settlements in the Palestinian territories including East Jerusalem.
18. **ENCOURAGE** Member States that have not yet done so, to recognize the State of Palestine.

## DECLARATION ON THE CENTENARY OF NELSON MANDELA

**WE** the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, meeting in our 31<sup>st</sup> meeting of the AU Assembly in Nouakchott, Mauritania from 1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2018,

**RECALLING** the Declaration Assembly/AU/Decl.2(XXX) adopted at the 30<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, held from 28-29 January 2018, on the above mentioned subject:

1. **COMMEND** the Government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania for hosting the 31<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government and for convening a side event on the margins of the Summit to celebrate the Centenary of Nelson Mandela;
2. **REAFFIRM** our full support for the holding of a Peace Summit under the theme *“Strengthening the role of the UN in the promotion and maintenance of international peace: Building on Mandela’s Legacy”* on the margins of the 73<sup>rd</sup> Session of the UN General Assembly on 17 September 2018;
3. **SUPPORT** the proposal to have a Declaration as an Outcome of the Peace Summit and **CALL ON** the Commission and the African Group in New York to work closely with the relevant stakeholders in the process of drafting and negotiating the Outcome;
4. **REQUEST** the Commission and the AU Permanent Mission to the UN to carry out necessary consultations with the UN and other relevant parties to ensure the success of the proposed Peace Summit;
5. **URGE** all AU Member States to support and observe the Nelson Mandela Centenary and recommit themselves to the ideals and values espoused by Nelson Mandela.

**RESOLUTION ON THE UNESCO- EQUATORIAL GUINEA  
INTERNATIONAL PRIZE FOR RESEARCH IN LIFE SCIENCES**

**The Assembly,**

1. **RECALLS** its decision Assembly/AU/Dec.389(XVII) on the UNESCO-OBIANG NGUEMA MBASOGO International Prize for Research in Life Sciences;
2. **TAKES NOTE** of the renaming of the Prize which remains dedicated to the financing of scientific research, particularly in the screening and treatment of neglected poverty- related diseases;
3. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** of the communication by the Government of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea regarding the renewal of the UNESCO-Equatorial Guinea International Prize for Research in Life Sciences;
4. **WELCOMES** this African initiative which, between 2012 and 2018, has made it possible to reward researchers and institutions from all continents, particularly African researchers who have contributed to improving the quality of human life in several fields including health and food security;
5. **EMPHASIZES** that the awards are made by a UNESCO Scientific Committee;
6. **RECOGNIZES** that this Prize lends support to the development of scientific processes geared towards increasing agricultural production with a view to greater food security in the face of the devastating effects of climate change;
7. **SUPPORTS** the renewal of this Prize, which contributes to promoting research in life sciences;
8. **URGES** UNESCO to take all necessary steps to ensure the sustainability of the Prize.

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