



**ORGANIZATION OF  
AFRICAN UNITY**

Secretariat  
P. O. Box 3243

منظمة الوحدة الافريقية  
السكرتارية  
ص. ب. ٣٢٤٣

**ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE  
AFRICAINNE**

Secretariat  
B. P. 3243

Addis Ababa ••••• اديس ابابا

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Thirty-Second Ordinary Session

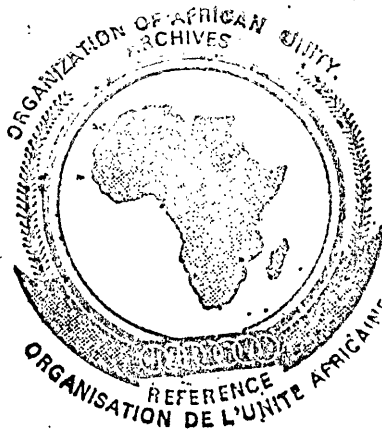
Nairobi, Kenya

23 February - 2 March 1979

CM/948 (XXXII)

Add.1

UNION OF AFRICAN PARLIAMENTS (UAP)



founding members and gave birth to the UNION OF AFRICAN PARLIAMENTS (U A P).

- 7/8 February, 1977

First Meeting of the Executive Committee of the U A.P in Nouakchott (Mauritania).

- 9/11 February, 1977

First Conference of the U A P. in Nouakchott (Mauritania).

- 7/9 September, 1977

Second Meeting of the Executive Committee of the U.A.P in Abidjan (Ivory Coast).

- 13/14 March, 1978

Third Meeting of the Executive Committee of the U A P in Cairo (Egypt).

- 15/16 March, 1978

Second U.A.P. Conference in Cairo (Egypt). (1)

2. AIMS

The Union of African Parliaments had two main objectives:-

- to contribute to the strengthening of the role and increase the prestige of the parliamentary institution on the basis of the roundamental African values;
- to ensure that freedom, justice and democracy

prevail in Africa.

To this end, it promotes contacts between African Parliamentarians on one hand and contacts between African Parliamentarians and those of the rest of the world on the other.

It also works towards the progressive establishment of a true African judiciary Community and contributes within its means - to the realization of the objectives of the Organization of African Unity (O A U ).

3 - STRUCTURES

The Union of African Parliaments is an African regional organization made up of Parliaments of O.A.U. Member States that never acceded to its constitution.

Each Parliament constitutes a National Group.

Besides, former Parliamentarians or other African personalities who have rendered valuable services to the U.A.P. may be admitted as honorary members.

1) The following Meetings are envisaged:

- Fourth Meeting of the Executive Committee from 25 to 27 September, 1978 in YAOUNDE.
- Fifth Meeting of the Executive Committee from 19 to 21 February 1979 in RABAT.
- Third Conference of the U.A.P. from 22 to 24 February 1979 in RABAT.

It shall carry out the following functions:

- convene the Conference and prepare its agenda;
- set up permanent or ad hoc study commissions;
- put up new members for admission, prepare Union's budget and submit it to the Conference etc....

#### THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT

It shall be liaison body between the National Groups and the Union as well as between the Union and the International Organizations. It's duties shall be temporarily carried out by the National Assembly of the Ivory Coast under the General Secretary of the National Assembly, M. Samuel Kouame.

#### 5. MEMBER COUNTRIES

Members of the UAP as at 1 July, 1978 are the following sixteen countries:

Algeria - Cameroon - Ivory Coast - Egypt - Gabon - The Gambia - Lesotho - Liberia - Morocco - Mauritania - Mauritius - Senegal - Sierra Leone - The Sudan - Tunisia and Zaire.

Djibouti, Kenya, Zambia and Upper Volta have expressed their desire to join the Union at the Third UAP Conference which should take place in February 1979 in Rabat.

A number of parliamentary and non-parliamentary African countries, as well as several International Organizations (UN, Inter-parliamentary Union, Arab Parliamentary Union, Latino-American Parliament, AIPLF, European Parliament) have already taken part in the deliberations of the Union as observer

#### 6. HEADQUARTERS

The Headquarters of the UAP is in Abidjan (Republic of Ivory Coast).

Address: P. O. Box 1381, Abidjan

Telephone: 323526

PREAMBLE

We Speakers and Representatives of African Parliament meeting in Abidjan from 11 to 13 February 1976;

FAITHFUL to the spirit, principles and objectives of the United Nations Charter and that of the Organization of African Unity;

DESIROUS to see all African Parliaments united to ensure freedom, equality, justice and dignity to the African peoples;

CONSIDERING the common objectives of African Parliaments;

GUIDED by the common will to develop relations of co-operation and friendship among African Parliaments;

AWARE of the necessity to develop the Parliamentary Institution in Africa and enhancing its prestige;

DECIDED to strengthen ties and maintaining permanent exchanges among African Parliaments by establishing a Common Organization;

DETERMINED to enforce the Abidjan Declaration of 27 January 1975;

HAVE DECIDED to establish the UNION OF AFRICAN PARLIAMENTS, and agreed on the following:

P A R T I

CONSTITUTION, HEADQUARTERS AND OBJECTIVES

ARTICLE 1

A regional organisation called "Union of African Parliaments" (U.A.P.) shall be established.

ARTICLE 2

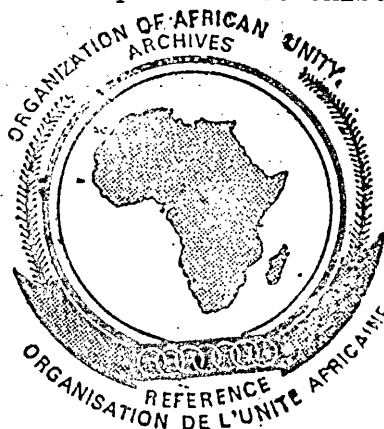
The Headquarters of the Union shall be sited in Abidjan.

It may be transferred to any other city by decision of the Conference.

ARTICLE 3

The Union of African Parliaments shall have the following objectives:

- to contribute:
  - to strengthening the role and enhance the prestige of the parliamentary institution by drawing inspiration from basic African values;
  - to ensure that effective freedom, justice and democracy prevail;
  - to encourage contacts between African Parliamentarians on one hand, and other Parliamentarians in the rest of the world on the other;
  - to work towards the gradual establishment of a true legal African community based on political, economic social and cultural realities of the Continent;
  - to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the Organisation of African Unity for the establishment of a durable peace through dialogue, within the context of inter-African cooperation, and a policy of good neighbourliness, of non-alignment of peaceful co-existence and African grouping.



PART III

BODIES OF THE UNION

ARTICLE 8

The Bodies of the Union shall be the conference, the Bureau, the Executive Committee and the General Secretariat

CHAPTER I : THE CONFERENCE

ARTICLE 9

The Conference shall be composed of delegates designated by National groups.

Countries where there is no Parliamentary system, as well as International and Inter-regional Organisations may attend the meetings of the Conference, if they shall apply for the status of observer.

CHAPTER III: THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 17

The Executive Committee shall be composed of one representative of each national group who may be replaced by a previously appointed alternate.

It shall elect a Bureau comprising:

- a chairman
- a vice-chairman
- a rapporteur.

The term of office of the Executive Committee and its Bureau shall cover the period between one ordinary session and the next.

ARTICLE 18

The Executive Committee shall meet twice a year in ordinary session.

It may be convened in extra-ordinary session upon the decision of the Bureau of the Union or at initiative of one or several national groups subject to the approval of the absolute majority of the national groups.

ARTICLE 19

The functions of the Executive Committee shall be to:

- draw up the agenda of the Conference;
- submit resolutions,
- study all matters referred to it by the bodies of the Union. To that end, it may set up standing or ad hoc committees.
- propose the acceptance and donations and gifts,
- draw up the annual budget and submit it to the Conference for approval,
- designate, each year, from among its members, two auditors and, on the basis of their report, approve the accounts of the previous financial year,
- propose the admission of new members,
- propose the adoption of the staff Rules and Regulations,
- propose the convening of the Conference in extra-ordinary session in conformity with Article 11.

ARTICLE 20

The structures and functioning of the Executive Committee shall be defined by the Rules of Procedure.



ARTICLE 27

Any National Group that will fail to pay up its annual contribution to the Union shall lose its voting right.

CHAPTER V  
FINAL PROVISIONS

ARTICLE 28

The present Constitution may be amended after such amendments have been submitted in writing to the Executive Committee six months before the holding of the Conference.

These amendments shall be approved by a two-third majority of the national groups.

ARTICLE 29

The present Constitution shall come into force at least six Parliaments shall have acceded to it.

The instruments of this accession shall be deposited with the Union's Headquarters.

ARTICLE 30

The Rules of Procedure, proposed by the Executive Committee for the approval of the Conference, shall determine the mode of application of the present contribution.



**AFRICAN UNION UNION AFRICAINE**

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Organs

Council of Ministers & Executive Council Collection

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1979-03

# Union of African Parliaments (UAP)

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