



**ORGANIZATION OF
AFRICAN UNITY**

Secretariat
P. O. Box 3243

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

TWENTY-SEVENTH ORDINARY SESSION

Port-Louis, Mauritius

24 - 29 June, 1976

منظمة الوحدة الافريقية

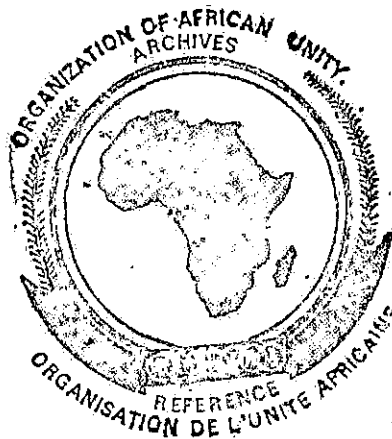
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**ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE
AFRICAIN**

Secretariat
B. P. 3243

OM/747 (XXVII)

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE
CREATION OF A CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN INTERGOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATIONS (1)



REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE
 CREATION OF A CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN INTERGOVERNMENTAL
 ORGANIZATIONS (1)

- 1 - The creation of a Conference of African Intergovernmental Organizations and Associations of African Governmental Bodies was originally conceived to fill the gap caused by the absence of a structure for coordinating the activities of Intergovernmental Organizations and Associations of African Governmental bodies. The latter (seventy-five in number) have sectorial responsibilities in the economic, scientific, technological, and cultural fields, involving Member-States in a network of horizontal interdependencies which, in the opinion of the Secretary-General, should be rationalized. Whence the need to normalize procedures connected with their commitments to Member States and their relations of cooperation with the OAU.
- 2 - In fact, the idea of creating a structure for coordinating the activities of such Organizations and Associations, within the framework of the provisions of Article II of the OAU Charter, has come from those Organizations and Associations themselves.

Thus it was that, upon being requested, the OAU and ECA organized in Addis Ababa, from 2 to 6 September 1974, the first meeting of African Inter-governmental Organizations and Associations of African Governmental Bodies.

- 3 - The meetings, chaired by the OAU Secretary-General, who was unanimously elected Chairman, and designed to embody consultation among these Organizations and Associations in OAU activities, were supervised by the following Committee:

Election of the Committee

- 4 - Chairman, Mr. W. Eteki Mboumoua, Administrative Secretary-General of the Organization First Vice-Chairman, Mr. B. Tonwe, Executive Secretary of the Lake Chad Basin Commission; Second Vice-Chairman, Mr. M. Coulibaly, Assistant Sales-Manager of Air Afrique;

(1) This report, under Ref:CM/661 (XXV) was submitted to the Council during its Twenty-Fifth Ordinary Session, which referred it to the present Session without having discussed it at all.

Rapporteur, Mr. J. Diouf, Executive Secretary of the Association for the development of rice-growing in West Africa.

Participation

- 5 - The following representatives of African Intergovernmental Organizations took part in the meeting: Air Afrique, the Association for the Advancement of Agricultural Sciences in Africa (AAASA), the Association for the Development of Rice-Growing in West Africa (ADRAO), the Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO), the Bank of Central African States (BEAC), the Coordinating Committee for the Trans-African Highway Bureau, the Lake Chad Basin Commission (CBLT), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the African and Malagasy Higher Education Council (CLMES), the African Malagasy and Mauritian Common Organization (OCAM), the Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa (DLCOEA), the Joint Anti-Locust and Anti-Avian Organization (OCLAV), the International African Desert Locust Control Organization (OLCML), the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the Afro-Malagasy Postal and Telecommunications Union (AMPTU), the Central African Customs and Economic Union (UDEAC), and the African National Television and Broadcasting Union (URANI).
- 6 - The following Organizations were represented at the meeting of Observers: The United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the International Labour Office (ILO), the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) the World Health Organization (WHO), and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD).

Agenda

7 - The meeting adopted the following Agenda:

- 1) Opening of the Meeting
- 2) Election of a Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur
- 3) Adoption of the agenda and the Programme of Work
- 4) African Intergovernmental Organizations: present and future programme of activities.
- 5) Machinery for coordinating the activities of African Inter-Governmental Organizations.
- 6) Contribution of African Intergovernmental Organizations to the solution of current problems in the African countries (drought, desert locust, natural disaster)
- 7) Relations with cooperating States and Bodies
- 8) Any Other Business
- 9) Adoption of the Report.

Machinery for coordinating the activities of African Intergovernmental Organizations

- 8 - In introducing this item on the agenda, the Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU laid stress on the need for cooperation and coordination between African Intergovernmental Organizations. The Executive Secretary of the ECA was of the same opinion and recalled that the ECA had contributed in the creation of several African Intergovernmental Organizations which he quoted.
- 9 - A Committee composed of the First Vice-Chairman, the Rapporteur and the Director of OCALAV was appointed to study this item on the agenda and make recommendations to the participants.

10- At the conclusion of the meetings, the Committee submitted the following recommendations to the meeting:

- a) A conference of Intergovernmental Organizations should be set up.
 - i) Members: Members of the Conference would be limited to African Inter-Governmental Organizations. Observer-Status might be granted to African Non-Governmental Organizations and Organs belonging to the United Nations System.
 - ii) Frequency/ of Meetings: The Conference would meet in Ordinary Session in 1975 (2) and in 1976 (2) and subsequently every two years.
Extraordinary Session might be held.
 - iii) Organization: A Coordinating Committee shall be appointed to organize meetings of the Conference and follow-up implementation of its decisions. An officer of the Administrative Secretariat of the OAU shall be assigned to it as secretary/ to the Conference.
 - iv) Venue of Meetings: The venue for the meetings shall be selected by decision of the Conference. The 1975 (2) session shall be held in Addis Ababa.
- b) Regional meetings shall be organized to study problems of special interest to the sub-regions.
 - i) Organization: Four regional coordinating committees shall be set up, one for each sub-region.
 - ii) Regional organizations shall act in turn as secretary of the regional coordinating committee.
- c) Sub-Commissions: Sub-commissions for the conference and regional meetings shall be established upon the recommendation of the coordinating committees concerned.

(2) The Conference had hoped that the Council would accept the recommendation of its Provisional Committee preparatory to the convening of the Constituent Assembly in September 1975.

- d) Financing: A fund to coordinate the activities of African Intergovernmental Organizations should be created, funded from the following sources:
- i) contributions from African intergovernmental organizations, including the OAU,
 - ii) contributions from organs of the United Nations system,
 - iii) Other sources.

11-After having examined the Committee's recommendations, the meeting decided to establish the conference of African Intergovernmental Organizations whose Constituent Assembly would be held in Addis Ababa in 1975 (2). Moreover, the meeting also set up a Preparatory Committee to organize the constitutive meetings, and called upon the Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU to take the necessary measures to enable the Committee to exercise its functions. (for the text of the resolution, see Resolution No.1 in the second part of the present report).

Contributions by African Intergovernmental Organizations to the solution of Current Problems in the African countries (drought, desert locust, natural disaster).

- 12- In placing this item on the agenda, the Executive Secretary of the LDRAO made a brief expose of the problems and effects of drought. He pointed out that a more energetic coordination of the activities of African intergovernmental organizations would be necessary in these fields. Many of those taking part explained the measures taken by their respective organizations in dealing with drought.
- 13- The ALISA decided to consider the problem of drought as a priority; it was considering organizing a symposium to study the setting-up of a committee to examine all aspects of effects of drought:
- 14- The Lake Chad Basin Commission was intervening in the zone coming within its competence to fight the effects of drought by stockpiling foodstuffs, building warehouses and providing transport for relief operations.

(2) See note page 4.

Relations with Cooperating States and Bodies

- 15- A large number of participants had taken the floor on that subject, and had pointed out the difficulties connected with the formalities etc. that had to be complied with before the assistance of the UNDP could be obtained. The hope was expressed that the UNDP would lend its assistance in the implementation of projects drawn up by African Intergovernmental Organizations.

Other Business

- 16- There was no discussion on this item of the agenda, since no other matter had been proposed.

Adoption of the Report

- 17- Before concluding its work, the meeting adopted two resolutions. The first concerned the creation of the Conference of African Intergovernmental Organizations while the second dealt with the campaign against locusts and other crop pests in Africa.

At the conclusion of its work, the meeting adopted the following resolutions:

- 18- No. 1: Conference of African Intergovernmental Organizations

The meeting of African Intergovernmental Organizations held in Addis Ababa from 2 - 6 September 1974,

Recalling article 2 of the Charter of the Organization of African Unity,

In View of the pertinent resolutions of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on cooperation between African countries,

Recognizing the need to intensify cooperation between African Intergovernmental Organizations,

Conscious of the urgent necessity of obtaining the cooperation of African Intergovernmental Organizations,

1. DECIDES that a Conference of African Intergovernmental Organizations shall be created;
2. FURTHER DECIDES to establish a Preparatory Committee, composed of members of the Committee of the meeting and the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, to draw up, on behalf of a constituent conference of African Intergovernmental Organizations, for study and adoption, a draft Constitution and Rules of Procedure for the Conference of African Inter-governmental Organizations;
3. INVITES the Preparatory Committee to organize and convene a meeting of the Constituent Conference at the Headquarters of the Organization of African Unity in 1975;
4. REQUESTS the Administrative Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity to submit a report on this meeting to the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its Twenty-Fourth Session;
5. FURTHER REQUESTS the Administrative Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity to provide the necessary facilities to enable the Preparatory Committee to discharge its responsibilities.

19- No.2: Campaign against locust and other crop pests in Africa
The Meeting of African Intergovernmental Organizations
Expressing its satisfaction at the interest shown by the Organization of African Unity for the activities of Inter-African Organizations in the anti-locust and anti-pest campaign, /

Gravely concerned at the threat of a possible scarcity of anti-pesticides which are absolutely indispensable for the development of agriculture in Africa and for the well-being of African peoples, and concerned also by the possibility of a final halt to their production,

Considering that the brutal and unexpected rise in the cost of anti-pesticides employed in Africa has imposed a heavy financial burden on the most disadvantaged countries,

Noting the financial difficulties implied in the running of organizations campaigning against the great crop pests, such as the desert locust and grain-eating birds,

1. INVITES the Organization of African Unity to join with competent Organizations to study the feasibility of integrating their operational and research activities with a view to reducing expenses and stepping up the efficiency of participating organizations;

2. CALLS UPON the Organization of African Unity to stress the necessity for a continued supply of anti-pesticides suited to the anti-locust campaign;

3. SUGGESTS that the Organization of African Unity request the Organization of Oil-exporting countries to facilitate the formation of stocks of anti-pesticides indispensable to Africa;

4. SPECIFICALLY REQUESTS the Organization of African Unity to appeal to African countries not belonging to organizations campaigning against the great crop pests, but which are, nevertheless, affected by these plagues, to kindly adhere to those organizations, so that the activities of the campaign against crop pests such as locust, grain-eating birds and leaf-eating caterpillars, may be coordinated under the most effective conditions.

20- The Secretary-General wished to inform the Council that he convened on 30 June 1975 in Addis Ababa, the Provisional Committee of the Conference of African Intergovernmental Organizations, in accordance with Recommendation No. 1 of the First Conference of African Intergovernmental Organizations.

The meeting whose purpose was to examine the draft Constitution and Rules of Procedure of the Conference jointly prepared by the OAU and ECA, adopted the following report at the conclusion of its work:

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE MEETING OF
THE PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN INTER-
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND ASSOCIATIONS OF
AFRICAN GOVERNMENTAL BODIES

1. The Secretary-General wished, in the first place, to draw the Council's attention to the fact that the present report concerned the work of the Provisional Committee of the Conference of African Intergovernmental Organizations and Associations of African Governmental Bodies, which met at the Headquarters of the General Secretariat on 30 June 1975.

This report was submitted to the Council during its Twenty-Fifth Ordinary Session under reference CM/661 (XXIV) Addendum 1.

The Secretary-General was once again submitting it at the Council's request, in the hope that this time the coordination of the activities of African Intergovernmental Organizations will receive the attention it deserves.

2. The Provisional Committee, composed of the Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU, Chairman, the Executive Secretary of the Lake Chad Basin Commission, 1st Vice-Chairman, the Assistant Sales-Manager of Air Afrique, 2nd Vice Chairman, the Executive Secretary of ADR/O Rapporteur, the Legal Advisor, Special Advisor to the Executive Secretary of the ECA (the Head of the Bureau of Cooperation and Assistance of the OAU, assuming the functions of Secretary of the Provisional Committee), met at the Headquarters of the OAU General Secretariat to frame the draft Constitution for the Conference of African Intergovernmental Organizations and Associations of African Governmental Bodies.

3. The Bureau, having drawn up the draft constitution, which was to be submitted to the Constituent Assembly of the Conference of African Intergovernmental Organizations and Associations of African Governmental Bodies, adopted the following resolution:

4. The Provisional Committee of the Conference of African Intergovernmental Organizations, under the chairmanship of the Secretary-General of the OAU, and including the Assistant Sales-Manager of Air Afrique 2nd Vice-Chairman, the Executive Secretary of ADRIO Rapporteur, the Executive Secretary of the Lake Chad Basin Commission 1st Vice-Chairman, the Special Advisor of the Executive Secretary of the ECA, meeting in Addis Ababa on 30 June 1975, at the Headquarters of the OAU General Secretariat, to draw up the Constitution of the Conference of African Intergovernmental Organizations;

Recalling the recommendations of the First Meeting of African Intergovernmental Organizations held in Addis Ababa from 2 - 6 September 1974.

Recalling the provisions of Article II of the Charter of the Organization of African Unity.

Recalling Resolution CM/Res. 355 (XXIII) requesting the Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU to participate in efforts aimed at strengthening inter-African cooperation through African Non-Governmental Organizations;

Recommends: to the Twenty-Fifth Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity:

- a) to approve the principle of the creation of a Conference of African Intergovernmental Organizations and Associations of African Governmental Bodies;

- b) Requests the OAU Council of Ministers to kindly authorize the Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU to convene for September 1975 the Constituent Assembly of the Conference of African Intergovernmental Organizations and Associations of African Governmental Bodies;
- c) Requests, to this end, the Council of Ministers to authorize the Advisory Committee on Administrative, Budgetary and Financial Matters, to earmark the necessary funds for the holding of the Constituent Assembly of the Conference of African Intergovernmental Organizations and Associations of African Governmental Bodies.

5. The Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU, in submitting this recommendation, in accordance with the intentions of the Provisional Committee, of which he was chairman, wished to stress the need felt by all African Intergovernmental Organizations and Associations of African Governmental Bodies, for a coordinating structure to ensure, at both regional and Continental level, the exchange of information between Bodies and Organizations which, within the framework of Inter-African cooperation, were endeavouring to strengthen African horizontal economic, cultural, technological and scientific solidarity.

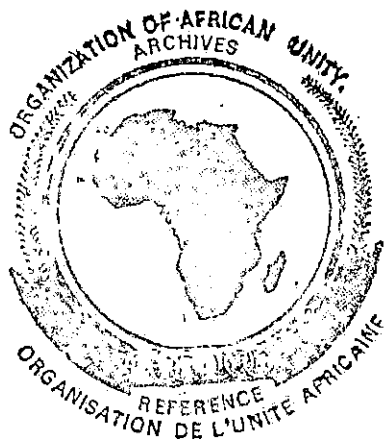
6. For this reason, the Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU hoped that the Twenty-Seventh Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers would agree to sponsor the establishment of the Conference of African Intergovernmental Organizations and Associations of African Governmental Bodies and would, to this end, authorize the OAU Advisory Committee on Administrative, Budgetary and Financial Matters to earmark the Funds needed to convene the Constituent Assembly of African Intergovernmental Organizations and Associations

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Annex

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of African Governmental Bodies. It was with this aim that the Secretary-General was submitting the attached draft resolution to the Council.



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