



**ORGANIZATION OF
AFRICAN UNITY**

Secretariat
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منظمة الوحدة الافريقية

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**ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE
AFRICAIN**

Secretariat
B. P. 3243

اديس ابابا * Addis Ababa

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
THIRTIETH ORDINARY SESSION
Tripoli, Libya,
20-28 February 1978

CM/770 (XXVIII) Part.I
Annex I

COMMENTS AND OBSERVATIONS OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT ON THE
POLITICAL STRUCTURE AND THE ELECTION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE
SECRETARY GENERAL AND THE ASSISTANT SECRETARIES GENERAL

REPORT OF THE OAU AD HOC COMMITTEE ON STRUCTURAL REFORM



COMMENTS AND OBSERVATIONS PART I

The General Secretariat has no observations on the following parts:

- (i) - Introduction
- (ii) - Terms of Reference
- (iii) - Inauguration, Method and Organisation of Work
- (iv) - Present structure of the Principal Instructions of the Organization of African Unity.

Observations on paragraph V: Examination of the Structures

Principal Institutions

- (a) The Assembly: No observation
- (b) The Council of Ministers
Date and duration of meetings

The number of items on the Agenda of the Council of Ministers which keep on increasing every year coupled with the need to discuss indept items appearing on the Agenda and the pressure exercised on the Secretariat for the preparation of documents during conferences require that the duration of meetings be slightly extended:

Furthermore, it would be useful to fix exact date for the meetings of the two Ministerial Sessions to facilitate the preparation of time-tables in the various States and within the Regional Institutions with which we maintain close working relations.

Agenda

Following the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee, the decisions of the Council of Ministers and the provisions contained in the Rules of procedure of the OAU Council of Ministers, the Secretariat proposes that the Agenda of the two Ministerial Sessions be formulated as follows:

Provisional Agenda of the Ordinary Session held in February shall comprise inter alia:

- (i) Report of the Administrative Secretary-General;
- (ii) Consideration and the approval of the programme and the Organization's financial year stretches from 1 June to 31 May;
- (iii) Consideration of administrative and institutional matters;
- (iv) Consideration of economic, development and cooperation matters;
- (v) Issues raised by the Commissions or specialised institutions of the Organisation;
- (vi) Matters that the Conference may decide to include on the Council's agenda;
- (vii) Matters proposed by Member States;
- (viii) Any other matters.

Items (vi), (vii) and (viii) should take into consideration existing resolutions which emphasise the need of devoting the February session to the consideration of administrative, financial and economic matters.

Provisional Agenda of the Ordinary Session to be held in June shall comprise inter alia:

- (i) The Report of the Administrative Secretary-General;
 - (ii) Consideration of political and decolonization matters;
 - (iii) Matters that the Conference may decide to include on the Council's Agenda;
 - (iv) Matters proposed by Member States;
 - (v) Preparation of the Agenda for the Assembly of Heads of State and Government;
 - (vi) Any other matters.
- (a) The Group of African Ambassadors in Addis Ababa.

The Ad Hoc Committee began the consideration of this question in the general proposals contained in page 58 of its document.

The Secretariat supports the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee and thinks that it is necessary to provide the General Secretariat with a mechanism which it could use strictly on advisory basis.

To this end, the Secretariat proposes the following:

The setting up within the Headquarters of the Organisation of an African Group to be organised in such a way that it will exercise its functions permanently.

It shall be composed of plenipotentiaries delegated by their Governments.



It shall meet as soon as the Administrative Secretary General convenes it or at the request of the simple majority of the members of the Organization to discuss any issue or matter falling within the framework of the Charter or relating to the powers and functions of any one of the bodies provided for by the Charter.

THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Political Structure

The Secretariat is not in position to comment on this point because it deals with provisions involving political considerations which only member States are competent to appreciate to evolve, if possible the procedure provided for in the Charter for its amendment.

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Comments and Observations of the General Secretariat on the Political Structure and the Election of the Administrative Secretary General and the Assistant Secretaries General

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