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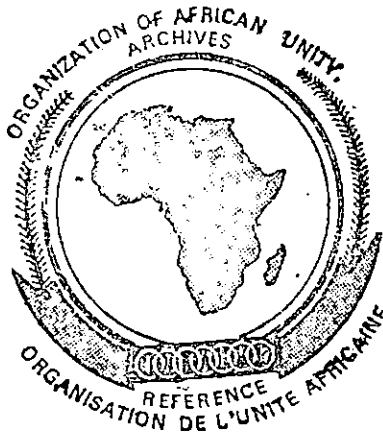
Twenty-Seventh Ordinary Session

Port-Louis, June 1976

CM/773(XXVII)

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE  
SECOND ALL-AFRICA TRADE FAIR  
ALGIERS FROM 1 TO 17 OCTOBER 1976

REPORT OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE  
OF TEN  
ALGIERS FROM 19 TO 24 APRIL 1976



REPORT OF THE  
OAU ORGANISING COMMITTEE OF TEN  
FOR THE SECOND PAN-AFRICAN TRADE FAIR

According to Resolutions CM/Res.443 (XXV) and CM/Res.468 (XXVI) of the OAU Council of Ministers, the Organising Committee of Ten of the OAU for the Second Pan-African Trade Fair composed of Algeria, Kenya, Zaire, Cameroon, Egypt, Tunisia, Ethiopia, Sudan, Liberia and Senegal met in Algiers from 19 to 24 April 1976.

It is to be recalled that a first meeting scheduled for Algiers from 1 to 3 March 1976, was not held as there was no quorum.

The following member States were present:

Algeria	Tunisia
Cameroon	Senegal
Egypt	Zaire.
Liberia	

The following member States were absent in spite of their Governments' notifications of their participation:

Ethiopia  
Kenya, and  
Sudan.

The quorum was thus reached and accordingly, the meeting took place.

The inaugural session was presided by His Excellency Mr. Layachi Yaker, Minister of Trade of the Popular Democratic Republic of Algeria who gave a speech, emphasizing the importance of the event of the Fair and explaining the facilities and preparations his country is giving to this event.

The Governments of the member States of the Organising Committee of the Second Pan-African Trade Fair, who have participated, have duly nominated their representatives to this meeting. The list of these representatives is annexed to this record.

The Representative of the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity made a prefatory statement.

The Committee proceeded to the election of its Bureau: President and Rapporteur. H.E. Mr. Layachi Yaker, Minister of Trade of the Algerian Democratic and Popular Republic, was elected President of the Committee.

At the proposal of the Delegation of Algeria, supported by all members of the Committee, Mr. Tumba Ntunkadi, General Commissioner of the International Fair of Kinshasa, Head of the Delegation of the Republic of Zaire, was elected Rapporteur of the Committee.

H.E. Mr. Layachi Yaker, bearing in mind his obligations, delegated his authority as President of the Committee to Mr. Mohamed Farah, the General Commissioner of the Second All-African Trade Fair and Head of the Delegation of the Algerian Democratic and Popular Republic.

Following the debate of this, the Committee adopted the following agenda for its work.

#### AGENDA

1. Organisation of Work.
2. Nomination of the Secretary-General (Host Country)
  - President
  - General Commissioner
  - Executive Director.
3. Implementation of the resolutions of the OAU Council of Ministers No. CM/443 (XXV) and No. CM/468 (XXVI).
4. Date and venue of the coming meeting.
5. Other matters.

#### Item 1 of the Agenda

Time-Table fixed for the working sessions:

Morning: 10.00 - 13.00 hrs.

Afternoon: 16.00 - 19.00 hrs.

Item 2 of the Agenda

The Head of the Delegation of Algeria, duly mandated by the Government of the Algerian Democratic and Popular Republic, pointed out the composition of the General Secretariat of the Second All-African Trade Fair.

President:

H.E. Mr. Layachi Yaker,  
Minister of Trade

General Commissioner:

Mr. Mohamed Farrah,  
General Director of the National Office of Fairs and Exhibitions (ONAFEX)

General Secretary:

Mr. Beualement Bensekkouma,  
Director of External Relations of (ONAFEX)

Considering the enumeration of posts, the Head of the Delegation of Algeria, indicated that taking into consideration the structure of the different posts set up for the realisation of the Second All-African Trade Fair, it was deemed preferable to substitute the title of Executive Director for that of Secretary-General.

Item 3 of the AgendaImplementation of Resolutions CM/Res.443 (XXV) and CM/Res.468 (XXVI) of the OAU Council of Ministers

The ~~texts~~ of the resolutions CM/Res.443 (XXV) and CM/Res.468 (XXVI) of the OAU Council of Ministers, were object of the discussion of item 3 of the Agenda and are annexed to this report.

In general, the above-mentioned resolutions lay down the terms of reference of the OAU Committee of Ten, the mode of OAU participation and that of the host country.

Concerning the terms of reference of the Committee, the following points were successively debated:

A. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION CM/RES.443 (XXV):

1. Exact number of participating Countries.

The Head of the Delegation of Algeria deemed that it is premature and arbitrary to fix the number of participants in the Second All-African Trade Fair.

The Secretariat of the Fair, in reference to the resolutions of the OAU Council of Ministers, did not wish to undertake unspecific general actions to extend invitations for the participation in this Fair before the meeting of the OAU Organising Committee of Ten. In this way the Secretariat was not prepared to give precisely the number of the countries which will participate in the Fair.

However, according to a first-hand exploration and some estimations, one could count a minimum of 40 countries participating in this Fair.

Also the General Commissioner of the Second All-Africa Trade Fair, has informed the OAU General Secretariat that as from the 6th of May 1976, five official Algerian Missions will be visiting the member countries of the OAU in order to present the "spirit, content and objectives" of the Fair and to invite those countries to participate actively in this great event.

2. Distribution of Floor-space and Related Expenses.

The President pointed out that in the "Palais des Expositions des Pins Martimes," Algiers, where the Second All-African Trade Fair will be taking place, three pavilions covering respectively, 30,000, 8,000 and 5,000 square meters will be placed wholly at the disposal of the participating African countries.

With regard to the distribution of floor-space, it was specified that each country would be free to request the necessary surface for its exposition, bearing in mind its projects and its possibilities and consequently it was impossible to define in advance the floor-space to be assigned to each country.

Nevertheless, to allay the apprehensions of the Heads of the Delegations of Senegal and Tunisia with regard to this matter, the President pointed out that all requests from participating African countries will be met, bearing in mind the great possibilities which exist on the premises of the Palais des Exposition and the extension projects of this Palais.

With regard to expenses for participation, the President pointed out that to allow all African countries to participate in this Fair without having to bear high expenses for participation, the responsible Algerian authorities have decided to apply a reduced rate of charges for renting, despite the increasing maintenance costs and the general rising rates of charges.

These prices were fixed in the following manner:

Covered site	-	100 D.A per square metre
Open-air site	-	50 D.A per square metre.

### 3. Number of Local and Foreign Visitors to the Fair

To make an estimation of the national visitors to the Second All-African Trade Fair, The Secretariat of the latter based itself on both the number of registered visitors during the previous International Fairs of Algiers and on the interest which the participation of all African countries in this Fair would arouse.

In this way, it is estimated that the Second All-African Trade Fair would welcome between 3,800,000 and 4,000,000 national visitors.

Regarding visitors from African and non-African countries, the estimates are difficult to establish. However, it was pointed out that a large scale publicity-campaign will be undertaken and directed

to many foreign countries with the view of advertising the holding of the Second All-African Trade Fair, to describe its content and to underscore the interest this Fair represents for trade dealers and business-men of all continents.

Moreover, the large number of tourists who will be staying in Algeria during the period in which the Fair will be held, will not fail to visit this show.

These indications afford ground for the belief that the number of foreign visitors, without being possible to fix beforehand, will be very impressive.

#### 4. Estimation of the Profits of the Fair

The President deemed that bearing in mind the expenses that the host country has to assume for the organisation of the Second All-Africa Trade Fair which are out of all proportion with anticipated revenues, he was not in a position to give whatever estimation regarding the profits. However, Committee felt that this estimate could be pointed out in the final report when the Fair is over.

#### 5. Break-down of General Financial Outlay and Respective Contributions of the Host Government and OAU Secretariat

The Committee was informed that the host country will assume the whole expenses accrued for the participation of the liberation movements recognised by the OAU.

In addition, the host country will place at the disposal of the OAU for the construction of its pavilion, the site, the necessary equipments, without its dressings and decorations; and will ensure the maintenance.

The OAU will take to its charge the expenses related to the dressings and decorations of its pavilion, as well as the expenses for the trips and sojourn of its representatives in the pavilion.

On reply to the Committee's query, the Representative of the OAU Secretary-General, informed that for the First All-Africa Trade Fair, the financial contribution provided by the OAU was US.\$142,800.

The Committee thought it pertinent to dwell on the participation of the OAU to the Second All-Africa Trade Fair, on the basis of its contribution to the first Fair, increased by a certain percentage taking into consideration the monetary erosion and the devaluation of the US dollar.

Also the Committee decided to take the reports, measures, and criteria applied by the International Monetary Fund, to work out the OAU contribution to the Second Fair.

With this view, the Committee calculated the OAU contribution to the Second All-Africa Trade Fair, on the basis of its contribution to the First Fair valued at its present value taking into consideration, the depreciation of the US dollar purchasing power, according to the following:

- i) The US dollar at present is a floating currency that has no parity with a fixed standard.
- ii) However, since June 1974, the International Monetary Fund has used the Special Drawing Rights to calculate the daily value of the US dollar vis-a-vis a combination of certain principal currencies.
- iii) The last Bulletin (at the time of Committee meeting) of the International Monetary Fund dated 6 April 1976, points out a depreciation of the dollar in terms of the Special Drawing Rights between 15% and 16%. This rate has remained almost stable in the course of the last 12 months, according the IMF Bulletins.

- iv) The Special Drawing Rights themselves, are subject to depreciation in terms of prevailing prices during the year 1974. It was calculated that the average yearly depreciation was between 7% and 8% according to several price indices. In other words, in the course of 4 years the depreciation is approximately 30%.

Therefore, by adding this percentage of depreciation of the US dollar, we reach a total percentage of 45% to 46%.

- v) On the basis of this percentage one could estimate that the depreciation is in the neighbourhood of 45%.
- vi) To interpret this in figures, the contribution of the OAU to the Second Fair, calculated on the basis of its contribution to the First Fair, would be about US.\$206,000.00

On these grounds, the Committee reached the conclusion that the contribution of the OAU should be 206,000.00 US. dollars.

6. Organization of Symposium on the Promotion of Intra-African Trade.

The Committee, having heard the statement of the President of the Committee of Ten regarding the symposium on the Promotion of Intra-African Trade, esteemed that it was necessary that a representative from the host country should be associated in the work of the OAU/ECA Committee charged with the task of preparing this symposium. The ADB, ABEDA, and other pertinent African and U.N. Organizations should be invited to take part.

B. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION CM/RES.468 (XXVI)

Then the Committee came to consider Resolution CM/Res.468 (XXVI) item by item.

1. With regard to operative paragraphs 1 and 2, concerning the new dates and the OAU pavilion, the Committee endorsed the provisions contained in them.

2. With regard to operative paragraph 3 the Committee had a lengthy discussion and reached the following conclusions:

Sub-paragraph (a)

The expenses for the dispatch of the products, materials and articles to be displayed and bringing them back to their places of origin, in addition to expenses for dressing and decoration of the pavilion... etc. as well as participation in the symposium will exceed the sum of US. \$21,500.00

However, in this regard the Committee was happy to take notice that the host country will bear any further expenses that would exceed this amount for transportation of articles, dressing and decoration of the OAU pavilion.

Sub-paragraph (b)

The Committee deems that the preparations for the Second All-Africa Trade Fair require an active participation for the OAU General Secretariat in the coming three meetings of the Committee. The first is scheduled for the period 19 to 24 August 1976; the second in the course of the preceding week to the inauguration of the Fair; and the third immediately after the closing date of the Fair, with a view of evaluating the activities and results of the event and to draw up the balance-sheet for future action.

Transportation expenses of air trips to participate in these three meetings would amount to the sum of US. \$4,500.00

Moreover, the Committee deems that the organisation and the operation of the OAU pavilion require the presence of three representatives from the OAU General Secretariat who would be responsible of all the activities to be undertaken by the pavilion with regard to the presentation of the true image of the OAU achievements as well as to give the explanation on the nature and content of the pavilion and the articles shown therein.

These representatives have to go to Algiers at least a week before the inauguration day and stay there for three days at least after the closing date, thus a total of 25 days. The total amount for the transportation expenses and per diem for these three persons is estimated (according to the prevailing tariffs) at US. \$12,500.00.

In addition, the activities of the pavilion require the recruitment in Algeria of a Secretary/Receptionist, a messenger, and a watchman, salaries of which will amount to US. \$3,500.00. We should add to this sum another amount of US. \$2,000.00 to cover the cost of installations, water consumption, electricity and telephone.

Thus this will result in a total of US. \$ 22,500.00

Accordingly the total costs of the OAU pavilion will be as follows:

Transportation of articles, dressing and decorations, etc. . . . .	US. \$21,500.00
6 Missions, locally recruited personnel and miscellaneous . . . . .	US. <u>\$22,500.00</u>
Grand Total . . . . .	US. <u>\$44,000.00</u>

On this matter, taking into consideration the moderate amount of this budget, Algeria offered to meet any eventual deficit as regards the dressing and extension work connected with the pavilion.

Sub-paragraph (c)

It was pointed out that the host country would assume the expenses for the participation of the liberation movements recognised by the OAU.

On this matter Algeria wished the OAU Liberation Committee to designate one of its representatives to this event to draw-up and co-ordinate, in collaboration with the General Secretariat of the Second All-Africa Trade Fair, the participation of these movements and to determine its scope.

Algeria would assume the expenses of this delegate.

Item 4

The Committee agreed with the resolution proposals requesting that its conclusions be submitted to the meeting of the OAU Council of Ministers to be held in Port-Louis (Mauritius) on 24th June 1976.

Items 5 and 6 called for no comment from the Committee which adopted them.

Date and Venue of the Next Meeting

The Committee decided to hold its second session in Algiers from 19 to 24 August 1976.

Other Business.

The Committee decided the following:

- that the deadline date of inscribing to the Fair is fixed on 15th July 1976,
- that the Secretariat of the Second All-African Trade Fair has its seat in Algiers,
- that the representatives of member States of the Committee represented in Algiers should be retained as their presence would avoid the eventual absence, and would secure the necessary continuity and effectiveness in the proceedings of the Committee,
- To keep the whole member States informed about the evolution of the preparations for the Fair, the Committee also decided the following measures:
  1. A monthly report on the evolution of preparations and events will be prepared by the General Secretariat of the Second All-Africa Trade Fair (Host Country) and communicated to member States and OAU General Secretariat.

2. A general report should be submitted to the OAU Organising Committee of Ten, during its coming meeting in Algiers between 19 - 24 August 1976. This report should give account on the missions organised to the member States of the OAU to encourage their participation in the Second All-Africa Trade Fair.

After covering the whole questions inscribed on the Agenda, and before the Committee concluded its work, it decided to send a message to His Excellency Mr. Houari Boumedienne, President of the Revolutionary Council and Council of Ministers of the Algeria Democratic and Popular Republic, expressing the Committee's pleasure and appreciation for Algeria's efforts in African solidarity, and for the arrangements taken to ensure the success of the Second All-Africa Trade Fair.

ORGANISING COMMITTEE OF TEN  
ON THE SECOND ALL-AFRICA TRADE FAIR

List of Delegations

- Algeria: Mr. Mohamed Farrah  
Director General of ONAFEX  
Head of Delegation
- Mr. Saadi Hocine  
Assistant Director General ONAFEX
- Mr. Benachba Abdelkader  
Ministry of Commerce
- Mr. Benikhlef Messaoud  
Attaché, ONAFEX
- Mr. Benadjaoud Abdelkader  
President of the Assembly of Workers, ONAFEX
- Mr. Bensekouma Boualem  
Director of External Relations, ONAFEX
- Cameroon: Mr. Joseph Pampi  
Embassy Attaché, Embassy of Cameroon at Algeria
- Egypt: Mr. Moustafa Khalaf  
1st Secretary (Commercial),  
Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt
- Liberia: Mr. Sumo Jones  
Vice-Minister of Commerce, Industry, and  
Transportation,  
Monrovia  
Head of Delegation
- Mr. Reginald Hodge  
Director of Local Transport  
Monrovia
- Mr. Emmanuel O. Akinselune  
General Controller  
Ministry of Finance  
Monrovia

Senegal: Mr. Mamadou Dionge  
Economic Counsellor  
Embassy of Senegal at Algeria

Tunisia: Mr. Hedi Benromdhane  
Commercial Representative of Tunis  
Embassy of Tunis  
Algiers

Zaire: Mr. Tumba Ntunkadi  
Commissioner-General  
International Fair of Kinshasa  
Head of Delegation

Mr. Modabi Bina Emengi  
Charge d'Affaires  
Embassy of Zaire at Algiers

OAU: Dr. Abou Bakr H. Abdel-Ghaffar  
Director Economic and Social Affairs Department  
OAU, Addis Ababa

RESOLUTION ON THE SECOND ALL-AFRICA  
TRADE FAIR

The Council of Ministers of the OAU Meeting in its Twenty-Fifth Ordinary Session at Kampala, Uganda from 18th to 25th July 1975,

Recalling its resolution CM/Res.277 (XIX), in particular operative paragraph 3,

Having considered the report on the Second All-Africa Trade Fair (CM/680),

Appreciative of the laudable efforts of the Government of Algeria in its preparations for the successful staging of the Second All-Africa Trade Fair,

1. DECIDES that the Second All-Africa Trade Fair will be staged in Algiers from 27 August to 12 September 1976
2. TAKES NOTE of document CM/680,
3. SETS UP an Organizing Committee of Ten composed of Algeria, Kenya, Zaire, Cameroon, Egypt, Tunisia, Ethiopia, Sudan, Liberia and Senegal.

The terms of reference of this Committee will be to ascertain:

- i) the exact number of participating countries;
- ii) the allocation of and charges for space;
- iii) the number of foreign and local visitors to the Fair;
- iv) an estimate of Fair earnings;

- v) an assesement of overall financial outlay and respective contributions of the host Government and the OAU Secretariat; and
  - vi) Organization and Charter of a Symposium on "the Promotion of Intra-African Trade" to be convened concurrently with the Fair;
4. DECIDES further that the Organizing Committee shall meet as soon as possible, and at any rate before December 1975, with a view to, inter-alia, estimating the financial contributions of the OAU towards the successful staging of the Fair and to submit these estimates to the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters and thereafter to the Twenty-Six Ordinary Session of the Council.

RESOLUTION ON THE SECOND ALL-AFRICA TRADE FAIR

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Twenty-Sixth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 23 February to 1 March 1976,

Recalling the resolution CM/Res.443 (XXV),

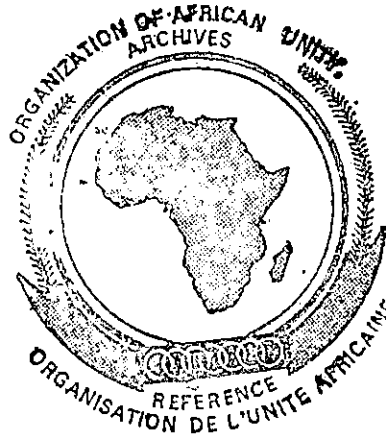
Having considered the Progress Report on the Second All-Africa Trade Fair contained in document CM/714 (XXVI),

Believing that the Second All-Africa Trade Fair offers a unique opportunity for exchange and flow of information and expansion of African Trade,

Desirous of ensuring all success to the Second All-Africa Trade Fair,

1. ACCEPTS in principle the dates proposed by the Algerian Government for the holding of the Fair, i.e. from 1 to 17 October 1976; however, the final decision rests with the Organizing Committee of Ten;
2. ACCEPTS the principle of a special pavilion for the OAU, taking into account the financial implications involved;
3. AUTHORIZES the Committee of Ten and the OAU Secretariat to decide on:
  - a) The budget of the OAU Pavilion and the sharing of the costs between the OAU and the host Government,
  - b) The specific budget for travelling expenses of participants and articles to be displayed by the OAU Secretariat,

- c) The nature and mode of participation of Liberation Movements recognized by the OAU and their expenses.
4. REQUESTS that the decisions of the Committee of Ten be referred to the 27th Session of the OAU Council of Ministers to be held in Port-Louis (Mauritius);
  5. DECIDES to appeal to all Member States of the OAU to make full participation in this Fair, in order to promote the exchange of ideas and information related to trade and with the aim of promoting and increasing inter-African trade;
  6. EXPRESSES its appreciation to the Government of Algeria for their intensified efforts and for the utmost co-operation they are giving to make the Fair a success.



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# Progress Report on the Second All-Africa Trade Fair- Algiers from 1 to 17 October 1976

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