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CM/865(XXX)  
Annex II

REPORT OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE STANDING COMMISSION  
FOR AFRO-ARAB COOPERATION  
CAIRO, EGYPT  
28-29 NOVEMBER 1977

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1. The second meeting of the Standing Commission for Afro-Arab cooperation was held in Cairo at the Headquarters of the League of Arab States from 28-29 November 1977 under the Co-Chairmanship of the Chairmen of the African and Arab Groups, H.E. Edem Kodjo, the Foreign Minister of Togo and H.E. Ambassador Taher Radwan, the Permanent representative of Saudi Arabia.
2. Present were the 24 member States of the Standing Commission namely on the African side : ALGERIA, BOTSWANA, CAMEROON, COMORO, EGYPT, GABON, KENYA, LIBERIA, MOZAMBIQUE, NIGERIA, NIGER and Togo. On the Arab side : KUWAIT, LIBYA, MAURITANIA, PALESTINE, SAUDI ARABIA, SOMALIA, SYRIA, IRAQ, LEBANON, TUNISIA, MOROCCO and UNITED ARAB EMIRATES. Some other OAU member States participated as observers and representatives from BADEA and ADB, participated as well in that capacity.
3. The Chairman of the African Group called the meeting to order. The Prime Minister of the Arab Republic of Egypt His Excellency Mr. Mahmoud Salem addressed the opening session. In his statement he welcomed members of the Commission and emphasized the importance and inevitability of Afro-Arab Cooperation.
4. The two Co-Chairmen and the Secretary General of the League of Arab States in their statements expressed their thanks to the Egyptian Prime Minister and likewise stressed the importance of Afro-Arab Cooperation.

CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

5. The Standing Commission reviewed and approved the Provisional Agenda document (OAU-LAS/ST.COM/1 (II) as follows:

- 1) Adoption of the Agenda.
- 2) Formation of Bureau and Drafting Committee.
- 3) Organisation of work.
- 4) Report on the First Session of the Standing Commission on Afro-Arab Cooperation meeting in Yaounde (Cameroon).
- 5) Joint Report of the two Secretaries General of OAU and LAS on Afro-Arab Cooperation activities from June to 28 November 1977.
- 6) Report on the outcome of the Afro-Arab Working Group on Financial Cooperation meeting in Cairo.
- 7) Draft Budget of the Special Fund for the Running of the Executive Bodies of Afro-Arab Cooperation 1 June 1978 to 31 May 1979.
- 8) Formation of the three Afro-Arab Working Groups in the framework of Afro-Arab Cooperation.
- 9) Reports of Institutions active in the field of Afro-Arab Cooperation.
- 10) Any other business.

6. The Standing Commission completed the constitution of the Bureau by appointing Cameroon and Kuwait to serve on the Bureau as rapporteurs.

The Drafting Committee was also formed of the representatives of Botswana, Kenya and the United Arab Emirates and Morocco besides the two rapporteurs.

CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA ITEMS

7. The Standing Commission took note of the report of the First Session of the Standing Commission on the Afro-Arab Cooperation meeting in Yaounde, Cameroon. (Doc. OAU-LAS/ST.COM/2(II)).

8. The Standing Commission took note of the Joint Report of the two Secretaries General on the activities of the two Secretariats in the field of Afro-Arab Cooperation during the periods extending from 1 June 1977 to 28 November 1977. (Doc. OAU-LAS/ST.COM/3(II)).

9. The Chairman of the Working Group on Financial Cooperation submitted a report on the conclusion of the meeting of their Working Group which was held in Cairo from 25-28 September 1977. (Doc. OAU-LAS/ST.COM/4(II)). The Standing Commission adopted items (a) and (b) of the report with the final wording to read as follows:

- a) After a preliminary study, the African State or States concerned shall forward the project to BADEA or ADB.
- b) ADB or BADEA shall carry out an economic and technical assessment study of the project in consultation with the Working Groups if ADB or BADEA deems it necessary.

As regards paragraph (c), it was amended by the Commission to read as follows:

The project, together with the economic assessment studies prepared by the Working Groups and ADB shall be forwarded by BADEA to the Arab Development Funds for decision, taking into consideration the priorities and guidelines established by the Standing Commission.

10. The two Secretaries General presented the Draft Budget of the Special Fund for the Running of the Executive Bodies of Afro-Arab Cooperation. The Standing Commission adopted the total amount of US\$ 700.924 to be equally shared between the two organisations.

11. After the presentation of the report on the formation of the three Working Groups (Doc. OAU-LAS/ST.COM/6(II)) and following information submitted by the Arab side the Standing Commission decided to establish the following additional 4 Working Groups :

- i) The Working Group entrusted with Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries and Animal husbandry.
- ii) The Working Group entrusted with Mining, Industry and Water Resources.
- iii) The Working Group entrusted with Transport, Communications and Telecommunications.
- iv) The Working Group entrusted with cooperation in the educational, social, cultural and information fields.

In view of the fact that the budget approved in the First Session of the Standing Commission had provided for the

expenditure of four Working Groups only the Arab Group undertook to cover any deficit incurred by the establishment of a fifth Working Group during the current fiscal year expiring on 31 May 1978.

12. The Commission heard the comments of Dr. Al Shazly Al Ayari, Chairman and Director General of BADEA on the activities of the Bank and FASA. (Doc. OAU-LAS/ST.COM/6(II)).

#### FORTHCOMING SESSION

13. The Commission decided that the Secretaries General shall fix the date and venue of the forthcoming session in May 1978 after holding the necessary contacts.

#### RAPPORTEURS

Representative of the United  
Republic of Cameroon  
(HAJJI HAMAN DICKO)

Representative of the State  
of Kuwait  
(SOLIMAN M. AL-SHAHEEN)

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# Report of the Second Session of the Standing Commission for Afro-Arab Cooperation Cairo, Egypt 28-29 November 1977

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