



ORGANIZATION OF  
AFRICAN UNITY

Secretariat  
P. O. Box 3243

منظمة الوحدة الإفريقية

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ORGANIZATION DE L'UNITE  
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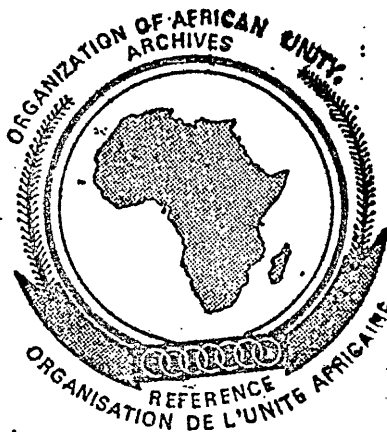
Secretariat  
B. P. 3243

Addis Ababa

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS  
Thirty-First Ordinary Session  
Khartoum, Sudan, 7 - 15 July 1978

CM/890-(XXXI)

Report of the Administrative Secretary-General on the  
Activities of the OAU Executive Secretariat  
at the UN in New York



NOTE OF PRESENTATION OF THE DOCUMENT ON CANDIDATURES

It will be recalled that during the 32nd Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations elections to the Security Council had led to certain difficulties within the African Group.

Problems had arisen from the fact that a delegation had questioned the very existence of the criteria and directives which have guided the African Group in this consideration of the question of candidatures for the last ten years.

This delegation had then alleged that since these criteria and directives never had had the sanction of the Council of Ministers or the endorsement of the Heads of State, they could not be viewed as a law having a binding effect on the Members of the Group.

It was against this background that during the meeting convened to draw the lessons from what had happened during the 32nd Session that the African Group decided, among other things, that the existing criteria should be up-dated, reviewed by the entire Group and forwarded to the 31st Session of the Council of Ministers for final approval and endorsement by the Heads of States and

Government ( Refer to the report of the Secretary-General of the OAU on the activities of the Executive Secretariat of the OAU in New York).

Attached to the present note is document No. CAN/111/OAU/72 Ref.2/65/77/Rev.3/192/78/Rev.4 Which has been adopted by all the Members of the African Group, with the reservation of the delegation of Nigeria, during its Meeting of Thursday 22, June, 1978, after three long previous meetings during which all the aspects of the document were thoroughly considered.

The African Group strongly recommends the said document for approval by the Council of Ministers.

New York, 28 June, 1978

Daramane Ouattara  
Ambassador

Executive Secretary of the OAU  
to the United Nations

No.CAN/111/OUA/72/Rev/2/65/77/Rev.3/192/78/Rev.4

WORKING PAPER ON CANDIDATURES

1. COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON CANDIDATURES

The Committee on Candidatures is composed of the following 9 Member States:

3 countries from the West, 2 from the Center, 2 from the East, 1 from the North and 1 from the South with the participation of the OAU Executive Secretariat.

a) PRESENT COMPOSITION

- |            |                 |
|------------|-----------------|
| 1. BURUNDI | 6. SIERRA LEONE |
| 2. MALAWI  | 7. SOMALIA      |
| 3. NIGERIA | 8. CHAD         |
| 4. UGANDA  | 9. TUNISIA      |
| 5. SENEGAL |                 |

b) MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE ON CANDIDATURES

The mandate of the Committee on Candidatures is for a period of two years renewable as from 1st of January.

c) QUORUM OF THE COMMITTEE ON CANDIDATURES

The quorum for a meeting of the Committee on Candidatures is constituted by 6 Member States which is 2/3 of the membership.

If after members have been duly notified on two occasions of a meeting of the committee and if after such notifications the quorum of 2/3 is not reached, the

Committee will meet with a quorum of 5 members to make recommendations to the Group.

## II. GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

### 1) WEST AFRICA (16 Member States )

- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Benin         | 9. Mali          |
| 2. Cape Verde    | 10. Mauritania   |
| 3. Gambia        | 11. Nigeria      |
| 4. Ghana         | 12. Senegal      |
| 5. Guinea        | 13. Sierra Leone |
| 6. Guinea-Bissau | 14. Niger        |
| 7. Ivory Coast   | 15. Togo         |
| 8. Liberia       | 16. Upper Volta  |

### 2) CENTRAL AFRICA ( 11 Member States )

- |                           |                        |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Chad                   | 7. Sao Tome & Principe |
| 2. Cameroon               | 8. Angola              |
| 3. Central African Empire | 9. Burundi             |
| 4. Congo                  | 10. Rwanda             |
| 5. Equatorial Guinea      | 11. Zaire              |
| 6. Gabon                  |                        |

### 3) EAST AFRICA ( 10 Member States )

- |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. Comoro     | 6. Seychelles |
| 2. Ethiopia   | 7. Somalia    |
| 3. Kenya      | 8. Tanzania   |
| 4. Mauritius  | 9. Uganda     |
| 5. Madagascar | 10. Djibouti  |

4.) NORTH AFRICA ( 6 Member States )

- |            |            |
|------------|------------|
| 1. Algeria | 4. Morocco |
| 2. Egypt   | 5. Sudan   |
| 3. Libya   | 6. Tunisia |

5.) SOUTHERN AFRICA ( 6 Member States )

- |             |               |
|-------------|---------------|
| 1. Botswana | 4. Mozambique |
| 2. Lesotho  | 5. Swaziland  |
| 3. Malawi   | 6. Zambia     |

III. PROCEDURE OF THE CANDIDATURES COMMITTEE

- A) When the number of candidates does not exceed the number of allocated seats, the candidatures committee, after appealing to the sub-represented regions, recommends the candidates having applied without taking into account the criteria.
- B) When the number of candidates exceeds the number of allocated seats the committee proceeds according to the following system :
- 1.) The distribution of seats among the five regions:  
West, East, Centre, North and South;
  - 2 ) The application of the basic following criteria:
    - (a) Non-re-election
    - (b) Non-cumulation
    - (c) The dateline for submission of candidatures.

C) When no basic criteria can be applied to the competing candidates, the Committee would apply the following procedure :

- 1 ) Negotiations among the candidates of the same region.
- 2 ) Regional consensus
- 3 ) Consensus of the African Group.

EXPLANATORY NOTES ON THE PROCEDURE TO BE  
FOLLOWED BY THE COMMITTEE ON CANDIDATURES:  
PARAGRAPHS (B)) AND (C)

B) When the number of candidates exceeds the number of allocated seats.

1))  
(C) Distribution of seats among the 5 regions

Number of Member States	:	49				
Distribution of seats	:	X				
1. WESTERN REGION	$\frac{16}{49}$	X	0.33	X		
2. CENTRAL AFRICA	$\frac{11}{49}$	X	0.22	X		
3. EASTERN AFRICA	$\frac{9}{49}$	X	0.18	X		
4. NORTHERN AFRICA	$\frac{6}{49}$	X	0.12	X		
5. SOUTHERN AFRICA	$\frac{6}{49}$	X	0.12	X		

Number of Seats	WEST 0.33	CENTER 0.22	EAST 0.18	NORTH 0.12	SOUTH 0.12	ROTATING SEATS			
1									
2									
3 3	1					1 Center/North 1 East/South			
4 4	1.32	1	0.88	1	0.72	1	0.48	0.48	1 North/South
5	1.65	1	1.10	1	0.90	1	0.60	1	



Number of Seats	WEST 0.33		CENTER 0.22		EAST 0.18		NORTH 0.12		SOUTH 0.12		ROTATING SEATS
6	1.98	2	1.32	1	1.08	1	0.72	1	0.72	1	
7	2.31	2	1.54	2	1.26	1	0.84	1	0.84	1	
8	2.64	2	1.76	2	1.44	2	0.96	1	0.96	1	
9	2.97	3	1.98	2	1.62	2	1.08	1	1.08	1	
10	3.30	3	2.20	2	1.80	2	1.20	1	1.20	1	1 North/South
11	3.63	4	2.42	2	1.98	2	1.32	1	1.32	1	1 North/South
12	3.96	4	2.64	2	2.16	2	1.44	2	1.44	2	
13	4.29	4	2.86	3	2.34	2	1.56	2	1.56	2	
14	4.62	5	3.08	3	2.52	2	1.68	2	1.68	2	
15	4.95	5	3.30	3	2.70	3	1.80	2	1.80	2	
16	5.28	5	3.52	3	2.88	3	1.92	2	1.92	2	

RATIO	<u>PERMANENT SEATS</u>						
NUMBER OF SEATS	WEST	CENTER	EAST	NORTH	SOUTH	ROTATING SEATS	
1							
2							1 West/East 1 Center/South/North
3	1	-	-	-	-		1 Center/North 1 East/South
4	1	1	1	-	-		1 North/South
5	1	1	1	1	1		
6	2	1	1	1	1		
7	2	2	1	1	1		
8	2	2	2	1	1		
9	3	2	2	1	1		
10	3	2	2	1	1		1 North/South
11	4	2	2	1	1		1 North/South
12	4	2	2	2	2		
13	4	3	2	2	2		
14	5	3	2	2	2		
15	5	3	3	2	2		
16	5	3	3	2	2		1 North/South

2 ) Application of Basic Criteria

(a) The Non-Re-election

(b) The Non-Pluralism

(c) The date-line for submission of Candidature.

(a) Non-Re-Election

- (1) Priority would be given to the candidate applying for the first time and who has never served before on this body on condition that its candidature be submitted on time.

(2) In case competing candidates have served on a body, priority would be granted to the one who does not seek immediate re-election or to the candidate whose mandate was first to expire.

(3) In applying the criteria of non-re-election, the Committee will take into account those countries who in virtue of secret ballot served one year of their normal mandate.

(b) Non-Cumulation

(1) Priority would be given to candidates who are not represented on any of the following organs:

- Security Council
- The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- World Food Council
- UN Organization for Industrial Development
- UN Programme on Environment

(2) In the framework of the ECOSOC Commissions, priority would go to Member States not occupying a seat on the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

(3) The criteria of Non-cumulation will not be applied to Member States occupying seats at the express request of the African Group.

(c) Dateline for Submission of Candidatures

The OAU Executive Secretariat will publish at the beginning of each year a document reviewing the position of African States in the various UN bodies, the list of vacant seats for the current year and the dateline fixed for submission of candidatures to the Candidature Committee.

(c) WHEN NO CRITERIA CAN BE APPLIED TO CANDIDATES, THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURE WILL GUIDE :

1 ) REGIONAL NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE COMPETING CANDIDATES

The Committee will carry out negotiations among the competing candidates of the same region so as to reach an agreement.

2.) CONSENSUS WITH THE CONSENT OF THE COMPETING CANDIDATES

In case negotiations do not reach an agreement, the competing candidates would be selected on the basis of regional consensus.

When a regional group is unable to reach a consensus, the competing candidates would be selected by a consensus of the African Group.



IV. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

The candidature Committee appeals to African Member States to submit their candidatures to the Executive Secretariat for transmission to members of the African Group.

The Secretariat would issue after the date fixed for the submission of candidatures a document showing the candidatures received and the date they were received.

1978-07

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