



**ORGANIZATION OF
AFRICAN UNITY**

Secretariat
P. O. Box 3243

منظمة الوحدة الأفريقية
السكرتارية
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**ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE
AFRICAIN**

Secretariat
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Addis Ababa ••••• ادیس ابابا

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Thirty-Fourth Ordinary Session

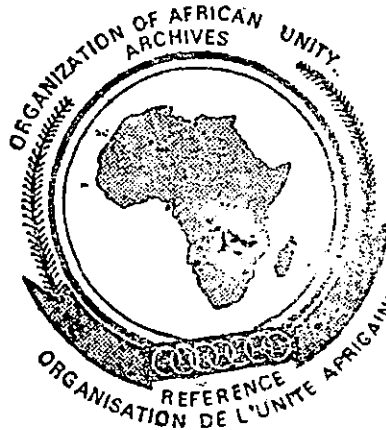
23rd February to 1st March 1981

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

CM/1114 (XXXVI)

APPLICATION FOR OAU OBSERVER STATUS

SUBMITTED BY THE UNION OF AFRICAN TOWNS



CM-1114

MICROFICHE

APPLICATION FOR OAU OBSERVER STATUS (UAT)

The Union of African Towns (UAT) with Headquarters in DAKAR (SENEGAL) has applied for OAU Observer Status. The Union was established in 1975 by Mayors and representatives of a number of African Towns so as to establish direct links between the citizens of communities, towns or villages.

Aims and Objects of the U.A.T.

The aim of the Union of African Towns is to assist the Cities of the Countries of the African Continent to :-

- a) establish and strengthen the bonds of solidarity among all the cities so as to contribute to their harmonious development towards progress;
- b) exchange of information and experiences;
- c) study the various systems of municipal organizations with a view to making them more efficient and promoting communal representation and action through research and establishment of appropriate standardisation, while respecting national, regional and local specificities;
- d) promote from this foundation a true African Unity;
- e) define common aspirations and objectives and their ~~sustenance~~ sustenance by public powers;
- f) to develop the work of the OAU whose principles of non-alignment, respect for cultures and ethnic groups, and whose objectives of co-operation have been endorsed by all peace and justice loving Africans.

While respecting national institutions and traditions specific to each country and region, the UAT aims at promoting local collectivities in all fields: administrative, technical, financial, social and cultural.

Membership

Any African city may join the Union either directly, or through a national Association of Towns. The following States are founding members of the Union :

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Algeria | Ivory Coast | Gambia |
| Upper Volta | Lesotho | Morocco |
| Cameroon | Egypt | Ghana |
| Kenya | Liberia | Mauritania |
| Congo-Brazzaville | | |
| | Gabon | Guinea Bissau |
| Mauritius | Libya | Niger |
| Nigeria | Rwanda | Sudan |
| Togo | Zambia | Uganda |
| Senegal | Swaziland | Tunisia |
| Central African Republic | | |
| Zaire | Somalia | Chad |

Funding Sources

U.A.T. draws its financial resources from :

- a) Contributions from members;
- b) Subventions from Governments and Inter-Governmental organizations;

- c) Grants, gifts and legacies from public or private institutions as well as from individuals involved in the development of Towns;
- d) proceeds from activities organised on its behalf.

U.A.T. wishes to name the following countries, members of the OAU, who know the Union sufficiently well :-

- 1. Egypt
- 2. Togo
- 3. Senegal
- 4. Ivory Coast
- 5. Upper Volta.

General Observations

The Statute and the Memorandum of U.A.T. together with the criteria for granting Observer Status had been sent to all OAU Member States on 16th November, 1978 for comments. There was no objection from any one of them.

U.A.T. is an African non-Governmental Organization whose aims and objectives are in line with those of the OAU. There is no similar organization already enjoying an OAU Observer Status.

The OAU General Secretariat recommends that this application be favourably considered.

- ANNEX I - Criteria for granting OAU Observer Status,
- ANNEX II - Statute of the Union of African Towns,
- ANNEX III - A Memorandum on the objectives of the Union of African Towns.

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
Thirty-sixth Ordinary Session
23rd February to 1st March 1981
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

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CRITERIA FOR GRANTING OBSERVER STATUS WITH THE OAU

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CRITERIA FOR GRANTING OBSERVER STATUS WITH THE OAU

At its Fourteenth Session, the Assembly of Heads of State and Government approved the following criteria for granting Observer Status with the OAU:-

a) Any organization applying for Observer Status with the OAU will show its genuineness; its credibility; its pan-Africanism; the impossibility of being influenced by forces external and inimical to Africa. If it is a professional Organization, it should include all various disciplines of the wider profession. For instance an Association of Engineering, civil and mechanical, for the whole Africa. Any organization seeking Observer Status with the OAU should therefore:

1. Have its objectives and activities conform with the fundamental principles and objectives set forth in the Charter of the OAU;
2. Be an African Organization, registered in Africa with its headquarters in Africa. Membership would be African, excluding South Africa, Rhodesia and South West Africa, while minority Racist Governments are still in power in these places. Membership external to Africa should not have voting rights;
3. Have sound financial basis. Sources of finance should be African. Donors external to Africa are to be clearly disclosed.

2. To the above end, the Organization should be required to submit :-

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- a) a written application and the following documents to the General Secretariat indicating its intention, at least six months before, it can be considered by the Council of Ministers, in order to allow for sufficient time for processing the application,
 - b) its Constitution or Charter, its list of up-to-date membership, sources of its finance, including copies of its most recent balance sheet, and Memorandum of activities, all in the main languages of the OAU in sufficient quantity to facilitate circulation to Member States,
 - c) if a non-governmental organization, the particulars of at least five Member States of the OAU, who have intimate knowledge of the Organization, and who are prepared to sponsor it. One of those States should be that where the Organization has its registered headquarters.
3. No application for Observer Status shall be submitted for consideration of the Council of Ministers, unless it has been fully processed by the General Secretariat.
4. The Memorandum of Activities should contain the past and present activities of the Organization, its connections, including any connections external to Africa, and any other information, which will assist in determining the identity of the Organization, especially its scope of activities (Ref. CM/784 (XXVIII)).

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5. The Assembly also stipulated that :-

The granting of Observer Status to an Organization entails no obligation on the Organization of African Unity to grant subsidy to that organization. The granting of subsidy to any organization can be envisaged only in certain cases, in exceptional and urgent circumstances, when such subsidy represents a temporary and vital addition to the budget of the Organization enjoying Observer Status.

PART II OBSERVER PARTICIPATION IN THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE OAU

6. a) All observers may be invited to be present in the public galleries for the inaugural and closing meetings of all OAU Conferences;

(b) An observer at a meeting of an OAU institution may participate in the proceedings of that institution only in accordance with the conditions laid down in Part III under,

7. Observer may have access to OAU documents provided that they are:

(a) Not of a confidential nature;

(b) Ones not dealing with matters of interest to the observers concerned.

Distribution of OAU documents shall be against payment in those cases where there is no reciprocity.

8. Observers may be expressly invited to attend private meetings during discussion of a subject in which they are concerned.

9. With the express authorization of the Chairman, observers may participate in the proceedings of meetings to which they are invited. Although they may participate in the proceedings, observers shall not have the right to vote.

10. Observers may be authorised by the Chairman of the Conference to make a statement on a matter on which they are concerned, subject to the text of the statement being communicated beforehand to the Conference Chairman, through the medium of the Secretary-General.

11. The Conference Chairman may give the floor to observers in order to enable them to reply to questions which might be addressed to them by Member States.

PART III: SPECIAL PROVISIONS DEALING WITH PARTICIPATION OF OBSERVERS
IN THE WORK OF OAU SPECIALIZED COMMISSIONS.

12. Observer Status shall be granted under the following categories:

A. Category A shall include:

- (i) Governments in exile and the liberation movements of African territories under colonial domination recognized by the OAU. International organizations or their specialized agencies which have signed a co-operative or consultative agreement with the OAU;
- (ii) African inter-governmental organizations which have important interest in most of the activities of OAU Member States and which comprise a large number of OAU Member States.

B. Category A observers may:

- (i) Attend all public sessions;
- (ii) Request the inclusion of certain items of particular interest to them in the provisional agenda;
- (iii) Make a written or oral statement on a matter of special interest to them, subject to the prior approval of the Chairman of the Session.

13. A. Category B shall cover African inter-governmental organizations having a specialized competence, and having an interest in substantial activities of the OAU.

B. Category B observers may:

- (i) Attend all public sessions;
- (ii) Make a written or an oral statement to the Specialized Commissions on a matter of special interest to them, subject to the approval of the Chairman of the session;
- (iii) Reply to questions which the Commission, or Member States, might address to them.

14. A. Category C shall include:

- (i) Inter-African non-governmental organizations associations or unions;
- (ii) Inter-African non-governmental institutions.

B. Category C Observers may:

- (i) Attend the public sessions of the OAU Specialized Commissions during discussion of a matter concerning them;
- (ii) Communicate a written declaration to the Commission through the medium of the Administrative Secretary-General, and after approval by the Chairman of the session.

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PART IV: FINAL PROVISIONS

15. The provisions of the General Convention on Privileges and immunities, and those relating to the Headquarters Agreement of the OAU; shall not be applicable to observers, save for those regarding facilities provided for the granting of visas.

16. Observers shall themselves be responsible for expenses incurred as a result of their travel to and from, and their stay at the venue of the Conference.

17. These Rules may cease to apply to any institution enjoying the advantages of observer status should the Council of Ministers consider that this institution has ceased to satisfy the requirements laid down in these criteria.

(Ref. CM/162/Rev.2)

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

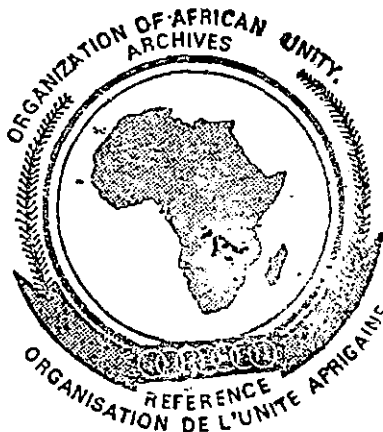
Thirty-Sixth Ordinary Session

23rd February to 1st March 1981

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

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STATUTES OF THE UNION OF AFRICAN TOWNS



STATUTES OF THE UNION OF AFRICAN TOWNS

1. It is understood that International Co-operation is to be developed in concert with Inter-governmental Co-operation as well as in recognition of the General Assembly of the UNO (Ref. A/RES/2861 XXVI^o) and the General Conference of UNESCO (Ref. i-i XVII^o).

2. It is understood that Intercommunal Co-operation has essentially for its object the establishment of direct relations between citizens and communities: Towns or villages, that it enables these local collectivities to develop themselves along lines appropriate to their natural environment, the first basis of social order;

The "Union of African Towns" considers as its objective the creation of opportunities enabling towns of countries of the African Continent :

a) to establish and develop links of solidarity among all towns in order to contribute to their harmonious development towards progress :

b) to exchange information and experience;

c) to study the various systems of municipal organization with a view to extending them according to the various national regions, or local peculiarities through research and implementation of appropriate changes in order to render them more efficient for contributing to the promotion of representation and communal action;

d) to promote from this foundation true African unity;

e) to define common aspirations and objectives and their sustenance by the Public Powers;

f) to promote the aims of the OAU among which are the principles of non-alignment, non-interference, respect for cultures and ethnic groups, objectives for co-operation which have received the approval of all Africans imbued with the spirit of peace and justice, because it denotes dialogue and fraternal co-operation with all peoples of the world, a fact included in the avowed aims of Africa.

3. The Union of African Towns does not expect to substitute itself for already existing international organizations nor for their respective missions.

It proposes to act through continental and inter-continental relations as a veritable instrument of information, animation, development and co-ordination of activities of African Towns.

4. The Union of African Towns is constituted on the democratic basis of an Assembly for each Town, and each Association of Towns has one voting power. It encourages, where they are not yet in existence, the formation of national associations of Towns and National Committees of Twinage, at the same time giving authority to the association of Towns and the Committee for promoting international relations among towns. These can also join the Union of African Towns and may be represented at the General Assembly.

5. The Union of African Towns shall be represented by the OAU at the United Nations and its Specialised Institutions. It shall establish relations with all associations of Towns and Mayors of the World pursuing the same national or international aims. It shall defend, its ideals and shall fight solidly and concretely for the establishment of a Universal civilisation. It shall, at the same time, provide for the practice of decentralised diversified and human co-operation, a factor for progress and for man's dignity.

6. An information review shall be the organ of the association.

CHAPTER I DESCRIPTION AND HEADQUARTERS

Article 1 : It has been decided to form, for an unlimited period, a continental Association called the Union of African Towns (hereinafter called by the initials U.A.T.) the headquarters of which is at.....

CHAPTER II : OBJECTIVES AND MEANS

Article 2 : The U.A.T. has for its aim, respect for national institutions and traditions relevant to each country or region, the promotion of local collectivities in all its aspects administrative, technical, financial, social and cultural.

A harmonious development of local collectivities ensures, in effect, safer and more solid bases for the welfare of citizens, for the stable prosperity of States and for just and peaceful international exchanges.

Article 3 : The U.A.T. shall place at the disposition of its members :

- a) An information and documentation service concerning all aspects of local life;
- b) A co-operation service among local Towns at the level of different stages of development in such a way as to enable each to benefit from the experiences and knowledge of others ;
- c) A service of world relations for operations of extreme urgency.

CHAPTER III MEMBERS

Article 4: Any African Town can join the U.A.T. either directly, or indirectly through the intermediary of a national Association of Towns.

Article 5 : Any membership implies :

- a) the acceptance of the statutes and especially the objectives of the U.A.T. as well as the charters of the United Nations and the OAU and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- b) an effective voluntary willingness for co-operation with a view to the global development of local collectivities.
- c) payment of contributions the methods and amounts of which shall be determined by the internal regulations of the Union.

Article 6: Membership becomes effective when the demand has been accepted by the Executive Council of the U.A.T. which shall inform all its members and when the conditions of article 5 shall have been fulfilled.

Article 7: A City may lose its membership by :

- a) withdrawal after six months' notice;
- b) dismissal through non-compliance with the provisions of Article 5 and after 2 successive reminders within a period of two years;

Article 8 : Any dispute about the membership of a city shall be referred to the General Assembly for consideration.

CHAPTER IV - ORGANS

Article 9: The U.A.T. has three organs: The General Assembly, the Executive Council and the General Secretariat.

The General Assembly:-

Article 10: The Supreme Organ of the U.A.T. is the General Assembly. The General Assembly is composed of a delegate per member-town. National Associations also have a vote each. Any member of the U.A.T. may delegate its powers either to a national Association or to another member. No delegate may have more than three votes. Observers may be admitted to the General Assembly but shall have no voting power.

- a) The General Assembly has as functions:
1. Voting of the programme of activities and the budget.
 2. examination of the activities report presented by the Secretary-General.
 3. finding solutions to matters arising out of litigations.
 4. election of the Chairman and members of the Executive Council.
 5. appointment of auditors.
- b) The General Assembly shall meet once every two years in ordinary session at the headquarters of the Association, or in another town willing to host the session, which shall be selected by the General Assembly at its preceding session. The General Assembly may be convened in an extraordinary meeting by its Chairman upon favourable advice of the Executive Council.
- c) At the opening of the ordinary session, it elects its bureau for the session, comprising the Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen, two Rapporteurs. The Bureau is elected for a whole session.

The Chairman of the session shall be an ex-officio member of the Executive Council.

The Secretariat of the General Assembly shall be headed by the Secretary-General of the Union.

Decisions shall be taken by a simple majority of votes cast. However, a budget can only be approved by a majority of two-thirds of the members present.

The Executive Council:

Article 11:

- a) The Executive Council is elected by the General Assembly. It is composed of a representative of each member-country. The chairman of the General Assembly of the U.A.T. is a de jure member of the Executive Council.
- b) It meets twice a year in ordinary session; it may be convened into extra-ordinary session by its Chairman, upon the request of the Secretary-General or by $\frac{1}{3}$ of its members.
- c) The Executive Council is to watch over the application of statutes to ensure the implementation of decisions of the General Assembly; to ensure execution of programmes and watch over the financial situation.
- d) It decides upon admission of new members to the U.A.T.
- e) It elects its Bureau which comprises other than the Chairman, a deputy Secretary-General, a Treasurer, and a deputy-Treasurer; they are elected for a period of two years and are re-eligible.

- f) Decisions are taken by a simply majority of votes cast;
- g) It may appoint as technical advisor any physical or moral person interested in inter-communal co-operation provided that the number of people so appointed does exceed 10.

The Secretariat-General

Article 12 :

The Secretariat-General is presided over by a Secretary-General elected by the Executive Council for two years. His duties are :

- a) to implement the programme drawn up and voted upon by the General Assembly;
- b) to implement the budget;
- c) to prepare documents for the General Assembly and the Executive Council.
- d) to maintain the necessary relations with local authorities, national or inter-governmental, as well as with non-governmental organizations and any moral or physical person who may be interested in inter-communal co-operation;
- e) to activate the activities of the U.A.T. with a view to accomplishing the objectives fixed by the General Assembly;

- f) to recruit and appoint personnel of the Secretariat-General;
- g) to carry out Secretariat duties for the General Assembly and the Executive Council.

CHAPTER V - FINANCING

Article 13 : The U.A.T. hopes to finance its administration and activities by the following means :-

- a) Contributions from members;
- b) Subventions from Governments and inter-governmental organizations;
- c) Contributions, gifts and legacies from public or private companies, as well as private individuals interested in the development of Towns.
- d) Products displayed during demonstrations organised for its benefit.

Article 14 : A solidarity fund shall be created to aid the most unfavoured and distressed members.

CHAPTER VI - RELATIONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS OF INTER-COMMUNAL CO-OPERATION

Article 15 : The U.A.T. does not claim exclusivity and remains open without discrimination to any form of co-operation in line with its aspirations.

CHAPTER VII - MODIFICATION OF STATUS AND DISSOLUTION

Article 16 : The Statutes and headquarters may be changed by the General Assembly by a majority of two-thirds of members of the Union duly summoned and authorised.

Projects for alteration may be submitted to all members at least six months before the date for convening the General Assembly.

Article 17 : The Union may be dissolved by a majority of two-thirds of members meeting in extraordinary session of the General Assembly. Assets are then checked, accounts verified and the balance divided pro-rata among members according to their contributions.

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Thirty-Sixth Ordinary Session

23rd February to 1st March 1981

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

CM/1114 (XXXVI) Annex III

MEMORANDUM ON THE OBJECTIVES OF THE
UNION OF AFRICAN TOWNS

MEMORANDUM ON THE OBJECTIVES OF THE U.A.T.

The Union of African Towns, a non-governmental organization aims at reinforcing union between all African Towns by breaking all language cleavages inherited from colonisation.

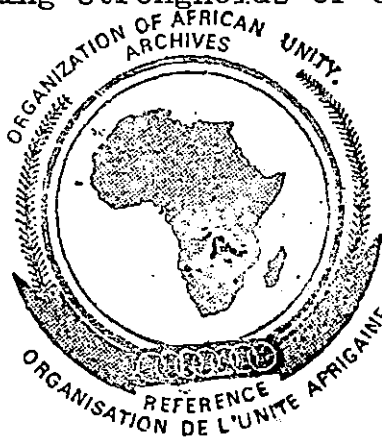
The U.A.T. in its patient search for co-operation among African cities, intends to establish favourable conditions for the achievement of African Unity in the basic sectors which the towns of our continent constitute.

The U.A.T. rejects any kind of interference in the internal affairs of states and all sorts of racial, sexual and religious discrimination.

It will do all in its capacity to seek ways and means likely to promote an administration of towns which will be more humanitarian and more adapted to our realities and undertakes to help in the framework of inter-African co-operation, for the human, economic, cultural and social promotion of African Towns.

The U.A.T., a true instrument for inter-cities co-operation, will facilitate exchanges between populations of African Towns in the framework of actions undertaken to promote inter-African education, harmonious development of towns, understanding and peace among people.

It will assist the UNO and the OAU in the eradication of racialism and the still existing strongholds of colonialism on our continent.



1. Headquarters of the U.A.T. :

Dakar, Capital Town of Republic of Senegal.

2. Full list of the Founding Member-States :

Algeria, Cameroon, Congo, Ivory Coast, Egypt, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Upper Volta, Kenya, Mauritius, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Uganda, Republic of Central Africa, Rwanda, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Tchad, Togo, Tunisia, Zaire, Zambia.

3. List of Members of the Executive Bureau

Chairman: Senegal

Vice Chairmen : Cameroon, Egypt, Gabon,
Kenya, Morocco, Zaire

Secretary-General : Togo

Assistant Secretaries-

General : Guinea Bissau, Zambia.

Treasurer : Ivory Coast

Assistant

Treasurers : Upper Volta, Niger

Auditors : Algeria, Popular Republic of the Congo,
Liberia, Tchad.

4. Sources of financing :

a) Contribution from Member Towns

b) Grants from Governments, regional and inter-regional organizations.

c) Miscellaneous receipts

d) Solidarity Fund

5. The Five Member States which have taken cognisance of the UAT

Egypt, Togo, Senegal, Ivory Coast, Upper Volta.

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Application for Observer Status Submitted by the Union of African Towns

Organization of African Unity

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