

**AFRICAN UNION**

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**UNION AFRICAINE**

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**ASSEMBLY OF THE UNION**  
**Eighteenth Ordinary Session**  
**29 – 30 January 2012**  
**Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA**

**Assembly/AU/Dec.391-415(XVIII)**  
**Assembly/AU/Res.1(XVIII)**  
**Assembly/AU/Decl.1-3(XVIII)**

**DECISIONS, RESOLUTION AND DECLARATIONS**



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**DECISION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE  
PAN AFRICAN UNIVERSITY  
Doc. EX.CL/691(XX)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Decision of the Executive Council on the Report of the First Extraordinary Session of the Conference of Ministers of Education of the African Union (COMEDAF IV);
2. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Chairperson concerning the item on the launch of the Pan African University (PAU) in December 2011;
3. **COMMENDS** the Member States hosting the PAU Institutes in eastern, western, central and northern Africa, the Commission and the relevant partners that have committed financial, technical, intellectual and other resources to the realization of the high ideals of the Pan African University;
4. **REQUESTS** the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) to expedite its decision on the hosting of the PAU thematic hub on Space Sciences;
5. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to operationalize the Pan African University in collaboration with Member States, Regional Economic Communities and relevant partners, by launching calls for Member States to host PAU Centres, the establishment of the PAU Rectorate; the appointment of the PAU Council and Senate, as well as recruitment of staff and registration of students in accordance with the PAU Statutes, to ensure that the first PAU students are admitted by October 2012;
6. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to report on regular basis on the implementation of this Decision to the Executive Council through the Permanent Representatives' Committee.

**DECISION ON AFRICAN INTEGRATION**  
**Doc: EX.CL/693(XX)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report and Declaration of the Fifth African Union (AU) Conference of Ministers in charge of Integration (COMAI V) held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 8 to 9 September 2011;
2. **DECIDES** to devote, in line with conditions to be determined by the Commission, one of its ordinary sessions to considering development and integration issues;
3. **ADOPTS** the first Plan of Action of the Minimum Integration Programme and **REQUESTS** the Commission to set up a mechanism for monitoring and evaluating the Plan;
4. **INVITES** Member States to speed up the integration process by empowering regional and continental organizations in the specific areas in which consensus has been reached and to initiate, in this regard, actions to:
  - i) promote free movement of persons, goods, services and capital;
  - ii) speed up the ratification and effective implementation of legal instruments adopted within the framework of the integration process; and,
  - iii) emphasize intra-Africa partnerships;
5. **ALSO INVITES** Member States, the Commission and the Regional Economic Communities to develop programmes and multi-national projects in areas such as water, energy, the environment, health and control of cross-border pandemics like HIV/AIDS, Ebola fever, Rift Valley fever and Yellow fever;
6. **URGES** Member States to internalize the relevant legal instruments and to take into account regional and continental integration programmes and projects in their planning processes, and also include a commitment to the integration process in their legislation;
7. **INVITES** the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD) and the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU) to draw inspiration from the tripartite arrangement between the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the Southern African Development Community (SADC ) and the East African Community (EAC), and create a second pole of integration so as to speed up the establishment of the African Economic Community;

8. **REQUESTS** the Commission, in cooperation with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), to develop an effective strategy for sustainable growth and development to take African countries out of the Group of Least Developed Countries (LDCs);
9. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to submit to the Executive Council through the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) a report on the status of integration.





**DECISION ON THE GLOBAL AFRICAN DIASPORA SUMMIT**  
**Doc. EX.CL/696(XX)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Diaspora Ministerial Conference held on 24 September 2011 and **ENDORSES** the outcomes and conclusions;
2. **APPROVES** the Roadmap, schedule of activities and calendar of events proposed as lead up to the Summit and the follow-up processes;
3. **COMMENDS** the efforts made by the Commission and the Government of South Africa in active preparation for the Global Diaspora Summit on 25 May 2012;
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission and the Government of South Africa to continue their active collaboration and take all necessary measures to ensure the successful planning and conduct of the Global Africa Diaspora Summit;
5. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to consider and prepare a framework document on the representation of the African Diaspora in AU structures and processes in line with previous decisions of AU Policy Organs;
6. **REAFFIRMS** its Decision that the Diaspora issue remains a standing item on the agenda of Summit meetings;
7. **CALLS UPON** all Member States and relevant AU partners and Diaspora communities worldwide to support the effective preparation and conduct of the Global African Diaspora Summit and its implementation strategy thereafter;
8. **REQUESTS** the Commission to report on the outcomes of the African Diaspora Summit to the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly in June 2012.



**DECISION ON BOOSTING INTRA-AFRICAN TRADE  
AND FAST TRACKING THE CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AREA  
Doc. EX.CL/700(XX)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Commission on the Seventh Ordinary Session of the Conference of Ministers of Trade held in Accra, Ghana, from 29 November to 03 December 2011;
2. **RECOGNIZES** that the promotion of intra-African trade is a fundamental factor for sustainable economic development, employment generation and effective integration of Africa into the global economy;
3. **ENDORSES** the Framework, Road Map and Architecture for Fast Tracking the establishment of the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) and the Action Plan for Boosting Intra-African Trade, with the understanding that the High Level African Trade Committee (HATC) will provide a facilitating role and unlock any blockages that might arise and **REQUESTS** the Ministers responsible for the CFTA to report as appropriate to the Assembly, through the Executive Council, on progress;
4. **DECIDES** that the CFTA should be operationalized by the indicative date of 2017, based on the framework, Roadmap and Architecture, with the following appropriate milestones:
  - i) Finalization of the East African Community (EAC)- the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)- Southern African Development Community (SADC) Tripartite FTA initiative by 2014;
  - ii) Completion of FTA(s) by Non-Tripartite RECs, through parallel arrangement(s) similar to the EAC-COMESA-SADC Tripartite Initiative or reflecting the preferences of their Member States, between 2012 and 2014;
  - iii) Consolidation of the Tripartite and other regional FTAs into a Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) initiative between 2015 and 2016;
  - iv) Establishment of the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) by 2017 with the option to review the target date according to progress made.
5. **REQUESTS** Member States supported by the Commission and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to drive the process of boosting intra-African trade and the CFTA negotiations through the implementation of the short, medium and long-term programmes and activities contained in the Action Plan at the national, regional and continental levels;

6. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission, in collaboration with the RECs and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), to establish a core group of experts from Member States with a view to developing a framework by December 2012 for conclusion of a draft agreement on Rules of Origin;
7. **CALLS UPON** UNECA, the African Development Bank and other relevant development partners, to support the implementation of the Action Plan and the establishment of the CFTA;
8. **REQUESTS** the Commission to assess the impact on African countries, of the proposal to extend duty free, quota free access to Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Low Income Countries (LICs) before transmitting it to the G20.
9. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to report on regular basis on the implementation of this Decision to the Executive Council through the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC).



**DECISION ON THE REVITALIZATION OF AIDS WATCH AFRICA**  
**Doc. EX.CL/705(XX)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Commission on the revitalization of AIDS Watch Africa (AWA) including the Strategic Framework for AWA and initiatives to accelerate action to achieve African Union Commitments to combat HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in Africa;
2. **ENDORSES** the recommendations of the PRC on this report;
3. **RECALLS** its Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.6 (II) by which AWA was recognized as an advocacy platform at Africa's top Leadership level and by which AWA Secretariat was relocated to the Commission;
4. **DECIDES** to:
  - i) Revitalize AWA as an AU Heads of State and Government Advocacy and Accountability Platform, as well as mobilize resources to fight these diseases;
  - ii) Broaden the representation in AWA to be continent-wide;
  - iii) Extend the mandate of AWA to include Tuberculosis and Malaria in addition to HIV/AIDS;
  - iv) Strengthen AWA Secretariat at the Commission to enable it fulfil its new mandates.
5. **URGES** Heads of State and Government of AWA to intensify their efforts to maximize the visibility of AWA as an advocacy and accountability platform;
6. **CALLS UPON** relevant development partners and stakeholders at national, regional and continental levels to provide sustained support to countries, including resource mobilization, in order to achieve Africa's commitments on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria;
7. **REQUESTS** the Commission to provide a breakdown of the financial implications of the revitalization of AWA on the 2013 AU Budget to the Executive Council in June 2012;
8. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to coordinate and monitor the implementation of AWA Strategic Framework, and to report annually to the ordinary sessions of the Assembly on progress made.

**DECISION ON THE SITUATION IN PALESTINE  
AND THE MIDDLE EAST  
Doc: EX.CL/708(XX)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the Situation in Palestine and the Middle East; and **RECALLS** all resolutions and decisions of the Organization of African Unity/ African Union on the Situation in Palestine and to achieve lasting peace and security in the Middle East;
2. **REAFFIRMS** its full support to the Palestinian people in their legitimate struggle to end the Israeli occupation in order to establish their independent state, under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people;
3. **ALSO REAFFIRMS** its support for the peaceful resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict in accordance with the principles of international law and all relevant United Nations resolutions to ensure the establishment of an independent Palestinian State on the borders of June 1967, with Al-quds Al-sharif (Jerusalem) as its capital;
4. **FURTHER REAFFIRMS** its support for the Palestinians' efforts obtain the full membership for the State of Palestine in the United Nations and its specialized agencies;
5. **WELCOMES** the acceptance of Palestine as a full member of the Organization of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and **CONSIDERS** it as an important step in the right direction and to entrench the rights of the Palestinian people, to achieve their sovereignty over their territory and homeland through the accession of their State to the United Nations and its organizations;
6. **REITERATES** its full support for the efforts made by the President of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Chairman of the State of Palestine, President Mahmoud Abbas, aimed at achieving a comprehensive, just and lasting peace at the Middle East and **SUPPORTS** the efforts of Palestinian and Arab leaders in achieving reconciliation in the Question of Palestine;
7. **CONDEMNS** all Israeli actions related to changing the cultural landmarks and historic city of Jerusalem, through the policy Judaization, by demolition of houses and the expulsion and destruction of historic monuments of Islamic and Christian sanctities, the construction of a "Gate Maghareba" Bridge, the apartheid wall and the expansion of illegal settlements in and around occupied East Jerusalem;
8. **HOLDS** Israel responsible for the faltering peace process and negotiations, and **CONDEMNS** the continuation of expansion of settlements that the United

Nations considers as void and illegal, imposed on the Palestinian territories since the fifth of June 1967 and a major obstacle in the way of peace;

9. **CALLS ON** the United Nations and the Quartet to take immediate action and **ALSO CALLS ON** the Security Council to shoulder its responsibilities and to maximize its pressure on Israel to halt the settlement immediately. **FURTHER CALLS FOR** commitment to the peace process and negotiations avenue, to maintain security, peace and stability and to achieve a just comprehensive lasting peace in the region based on the principle of two-state solution according to the borders of June 4, 1967. **FINALLY CALLS FOR** the application of the provisions of the relevant international laws and previous Security Council resolutions in this regard;
10. **CONDEMNS** Israeli inhuman practices against Palestinian prisoners and detainees, and **EXPRESSES** its deep concern at the deteriorating humanitarian and economic situation in the occupied Palestinian territories, especially Gaza Strip, as a result of the blockade and Israeli illegal activities, and demands respect for human rights and international humanitarian laws, particularly the Fourth Geneva Convention;
11. **CALLS ON** Israel to abide by the decision of the United Nations and to sign the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, in order to make the Middle East a zone free of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction;
12. **CONFIRMS** that just, comprehensive and lasting peace can be achieved only through full Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab and Palestinian territories to the lines of June 1967, including the Syrian Golan Heights and Lebanese territories;
13. **REQUESTS** the Commission to take appropriate steps to revive the African Committee on the Question of Palestine;
14. **ALSO REQUESTS** Member States that have not yet done so, to recognize the State of Palestine.



**DECISION ON THE PROGRESS REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON  
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ASSEMBLY DECISIONS ON  
THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT (ICC)  
Doc. EX.CL/710(XX)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Progress Report of the Commission on the implementation of Assembly Decisions on the International Criminal Court (ICC);
2. **REITERATES** its commitment to fight impunity in conformity with the provisions of Article 4(h) and (o) of the Constitutive Act of the African Union;
3. **STRESSES** the need to explore ways and means to ensure that the request by the African Union (AU) to the United Nations (UN) Security Council to defer the proceedings initiated against President Bashir of The Sudan in accordance with Article 16 of the Rome Statute of ICC on deferral of cases by the UN Security Council, be acted upon and, in this regard, **REITERATES** its request to the UN Security Council and **REQUESTS** African members of the UN Security Council to place the matter on the agenda of the Council;
4. **RECOGNISES** the efforts by African Members of the UN Security Council to initiate dialogue and discussions on the issue of placing AU's request for deferral under Article 16 of the Rome Statute, both with regard to The Sudan and Kenya on the UN Security Council agenda and **ENCOURAGES** African non-Permanent Members of the UN Security Council to pursue their efforts in this regard;
5. **REQUESTS** the Group of African States Parties to the Rome Statute in New York and in the Hague as well as African Members of the United Nations Security Council to scrupulously follow-up on the implementation of Assembly Decisions on the ICC in collaboration with the Commission to ensure that African proposals and concerns are properly considered by the UN Security Council and the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute;
6. **REAFFIRMS** its understanding that Article 98(1) was included in the Rome Statute establishing the ICC out of recognition that the Statute is not capable of removing an immunity which international law grants to the officials of States that are not parties to the Rome Statute, and by referring the situation in Darfur to the ICC, the UN Security Council intended that the Rome Statute would be applicable, including Article 98;
7. **ALSO REAFFIRMS** that by receiving President Bashir, the Republic of Malawi, like Djibouti, Chad and Kenya before her, were implementing various AU Assembly Decisions on non-cooperation with the ICC on the arrest and surrender of President Omar Hassan Al Bashir of The Sudan;

8. **URGES** all Member States to comply with Assembly Decisions on the warrants of arrest issued by the ICC against President Bashir of The Sudan pursuant to Article 23(2) of the Constitutive Act and Article 98 of the Rome Statute of the ICC;
9. **REGRETS** that the AU's endorsement of two (2) persons as sole African candidates for the post of judge of the ICC was not respected by some Member States and **REQUESTS** that this situation, as it repeats itself in several other instances, be considered by the Commission together with the Permanent Representatives' Committee with a view to identifying ways and means of addressing it, in order to find a durable solution that will strengthen the African Common Positions and endorsements, and make appropriate recommendations to the Executive Council;
10. **REQUESTS** the Commission to consider seeking an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice regarding the immunities of State Officials under international law;
11. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to place the Progress Report of the Commission on the implementation of Assembly Decisions on the ICC on the agenda of the forthcoming Meeting of Ministers of Justice and Attorneys General for additional input;
12. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to report on regular basis on the implementation of this Decision to the Executive Council.

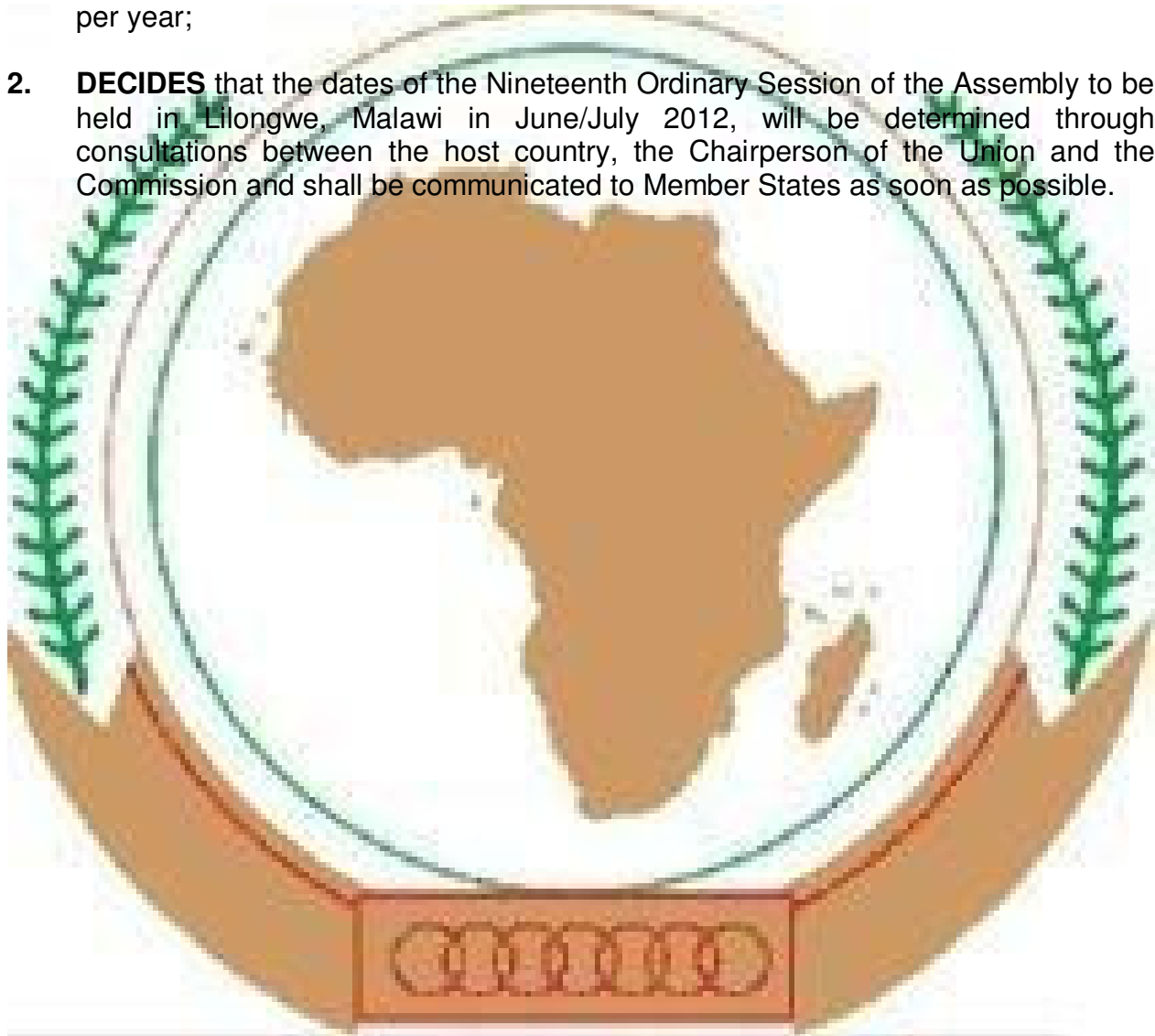




**DECISION ON THE THEME, DATE AND VENUE OF THE  
NINETEENTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE  
ASSEMBLY OF THE AFRICAN UNION**

**The Assembly,**

1. **RECALLS** its Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.368(XVII) adopted by its Seventeenth Ordinary Session in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, in July 2011, to have (1) theme per year;
2. **DECIDES** that the dates of the Nineteenth Ordinary Session of the Assembly to be held in Lilongwe, Malawi in June/July 2012, will be determined through consultations between the host country, the Chairperson of the Union and the Commission and shall be communicated to Member States as soon as possible.



**DECISION ON THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE  
ON CLIMATE CHANGE  
Doc. Assembly/AU/9(XVIII)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Coordinator of the Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC), H.E. Meles Zenawi, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, on the Durban United Nations Climate Change Conference (The Seventeenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (CoP17), and The Seventh Meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of Parties to The Kyoto Protocol (CMP 7), held from 28 November to 11 December 2011 in Durban, South Africa; and **ENDORSES** the recommendations contained therein;
2. **COMMENDS** the quality of leadership demonstrated by H.E. Meles Zenawi, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia in his role as the Coordinator of CAHOSCC as well as the efforts exerted by the other members of the CAHOSCC, the Ministers of Environment (AMCEN), the Group of African Negotiators and the Commission in upholding the African Common Position on Climate Change and in defending it with a single voice;
3. **ALSO COMMENDS** the Commission, the African Development Bank, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the Government of the Republic of South Africa and other partners for the successful establishment and organization of the African Pavilion in Durban during the Climate Change Conference;
4. **CONGRATULATES** H.E. President Jacob Zuma and the Republic of South Africa for having successfully hosted the Durban Climate Change Conference and for the exemplary leadership he demonstrated as President of the Conference, which was instrumental to the positive outcomes achieved in Durban;
5. **CALLS UPON** Member States to support the Durban Outcomes and South Africa in its capacity as the current President of the Conference of Parties;
6. **REQUESTS** the Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC) to nominate the three African Members to the Board of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) with the support of the Commission; and in consultation with the Chair of the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) who will periodically report through the Commission to CAHOSCC;
7. **REQUESTS ALSO** the Commission to step up its efforts in terms of providing the necessary facilitation and coordination support towards an effective Africa's preparation for the COP18/CMP8 scheduled to be held for later this year in Doha, Qatar.

**DECISION ON AFRICA CONSENSUS STATEMENT TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (RIO +20)  
Doc. Assembly/AU/10(XVIII)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **RECALLS** its “Decision on Africa’s Preparations for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20): Common Positions and Strategies in the Face of the Challenge of Green Economy and International Governance of the “Environment” - Doc. Assembly/AU/381(XVII);
2. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report presented by Africa’s Spokesperson and Political Coordinator for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20), H.E. Denis Sassou N’guesso, President of the Republic of Congo;
3. **RECOGNIZES** that the theme of its Eighteenth Ordinary Session - “Boosting Intra-African Trade” - is closely linked to the two (2) themes of Rio+20, namely, the “Green Economy in the context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication” and “Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development”; and further **RECOGNIZES** the importance of working to make Rio+20 a success for Africa;
4. **REAFFIRMS** that the transition to the green and blue economies offer new prospects of speeding up Africa’s progress to sustainable development through economic growth, job creation and poverty reduction;
5. **RECOGNIZES** the need to strengthen the institutional framework for sustainable development and to promote a balanced integration of the economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable development, and **REITERATES** its Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.381(XVII) which acknowledges that current institutional structures do not fully address Africa’s environmental, sustainable development and climate change needs, in the context of consideration of the institutional frameworks of sustainable development;
6. **CALLS ON** the international community, at Rio+20, to take into account the need to strengthen and consolidate the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and transform it into a specialized international environmental institution to be based in Nairobi, Kenya;
7. **APPROVES** Africa Consensus Statement to Rio+20 adopted at the Africa Regional Preparatory Conference of the United Nations Conference for Sustainable Development (Rio+20) held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 20 to 25 October 2011; **COMMENDS** the African Ministers and negotiators, the African Union Commission and the Conference of African Ministers of Environment (AMCEN) for the efforts invested in preparing and supporting the African Common Position on Rio+20, and **URGES** the African Group, including the Permanent Representatives of African countries in New York, to continue to speak with one

voice in the negotiations leading to the Rio+20 Conference to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012;

8. **URGES** the Rio+20 Conference to adopt concrete measures, together with appropriate implementation tools to speed up the achievement of the commitments made towards sustainable development, and **ALSO URGES** the international community to renew its efforts to beef up Official Development Assistance (ODA), grant debt relief, transfer green technology and promote equitable trade systems to help Africa to make sustainable development a reality;
9. **REQUESTS** the African Union Commission in collaboration with the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), the United Nations (UN) Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) to engage in regular consultations in order to support African countries by providing them with necessary technical and financial assistance to enable them participate effectively in the Rio+20 negotiation process;
10. **ALSO REQUESTS** the African Union Commission, in collaboration with UNECA, AfDB, UNEP, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and other concerned partner organizations, to organise a training programme for the purpose of building the capacity of African negotiators in the Rio+20 process;
11. **FURTHER REQUESTS** Member States to be represented at Rio+20 at the highest level, and **URGES** the main groups and stakeholders, particularly the youth, women and the civil society to actively participate in the Rio+20 process working closely with African Governments, and to advance Africa's sustainable development interests and priorities;
12. **COMMENDS** H.E. Denis Sassou N'Guesso, President of the Republic of Congo, in his capacity as Africa's Spokesperson and Political Coordinator for Rio+20, and **MANDATES** him to consult with other States and regional groups such as the Group of 77 and China, the European Union, the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), MERCOSUR, member countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organisation (ACTO), South American countries, members of the Bolivarian Alliance for the Americas (ALBA), the G8 and G20 in order to enlist their support for the Africa Consensus Statement to Rio+20 and achieve the expected outcomes;
13. **REQUESTS** the Republic of Congo to work with the African Union Commission, UNECA and other partner organizations to prepare a report on implementation of this Decision and the outcomes of Rio+20 for presentation to the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly in June 2012.

**DECISION ON THE HISSENE HABRE CASE**  
**Doc. Assembly/AU/12(XVIII)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Progress Report of the Commission on the Implementation of the Assembly Decisions on the Hissène Habre case;
2. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** of the willingness of the Republic of Rwanda to handle the trial of Hissène Habre;
3. **REITERATES** its commitment to fight impunity in conformity with the provisions of Article 4(h) of the Constitutive Act of the African Union;
4. **TAKES NOTE** that the Appeal Court of Senegal, has not yet pronounced itself on the request for extradition of Hissène Habre to Belgium;
5. **REQUESTS** the Commission to continue consultations with partner countries and institutions and the Republic of Senegal and subsequently with the Republic of Rwanda with a view to ensuring the expeditious trial of Hissène Habre and to consider the practical modalities as well as the legal and financial implications of the trial;
6. **REQUESTS** the Commission to closely monitor the implementation of this Decision and report accordingly to the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly in June 2012.



**DECISION ON THE OFFER OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHAD TO HOST THE  
ASSEMBLY OF THE AFRICAN UNION IN JUNE/JULY 2015  
Doc. Assembly/AU/14(XVIII) Add.1**

**The Assembly,**

1. **WELCOMES** the offer made by the Government of the Republic of Chad to host the Twenty-Fifth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union in June/July 2015;
2. **ACCEPTS** the offer of the Republic of Chad to host the Twenty-Fifth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union in N'djamena, Chad;
3. **REQUESTS** the Commission to set the exact dates for the holding of the Twenty-Fifth Ordinary Session of the Assembly, in agreement with the Permanent Representatives' Committee and the Republic of Chad.





**DECISION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SECRETARIAT OF  
THE AFRICAN UNION ADVISORY BOARD ON CORRUPTION IN ARUSHA,  
THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA**

**Doc: Assembly/AU/14(XVIII) Add.2**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the offer by the United Republic of Tanzania to host the Secretariat of the African Union Advisory Board on Corruption in Arusha;
2. **RECALLS** the Decision of the Thirty-Seventh Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) held in Lusaka, Zambia in July 2001 and the Declaration adopted by the First Session of the Assembly of the African Union held in Durban, South Africa in July 2002 which calls for the setting up of a coordinated mechanism to combat corruption effectively;
3. **FURTHER RECALLS** Decisions EX.CL/603(XVII) and EX.CL/680(XIX) of the Seventeenth and Nineteenth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Kampala, Uganda in July 2010, and Malabo, Equatorial Guinea in June 2011 respectively, which requested the Commission to fully operationalize the Secretariat for the Advisory Board on Corruption;
4. **RECOGNIZES** the importance of the role that the Secretariat will play in promoting and strengthening the development of the mechanisms required to prevent, detect, punish and eradicate corruption and related offences in the public and private sectors in Africa;
5. **FURTHER RECOGNIZES** the importance of the Advisory Board in establishing close collaboration with the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights in developing and promoting such mechanisms;
6. **REQUESTS** the Commission, in collaboration with the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, to take necessary measures to ensure the successful establishment of the Secretariat;
7. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to submit a report on the implementation of this Decision to the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly in July 2012.



**DECISION ON "INTEGRATION AS A FACTOR  
FOR AFRICAN RENAISSANCE"  
Assembly/AU/14(XVIII) Add.4**

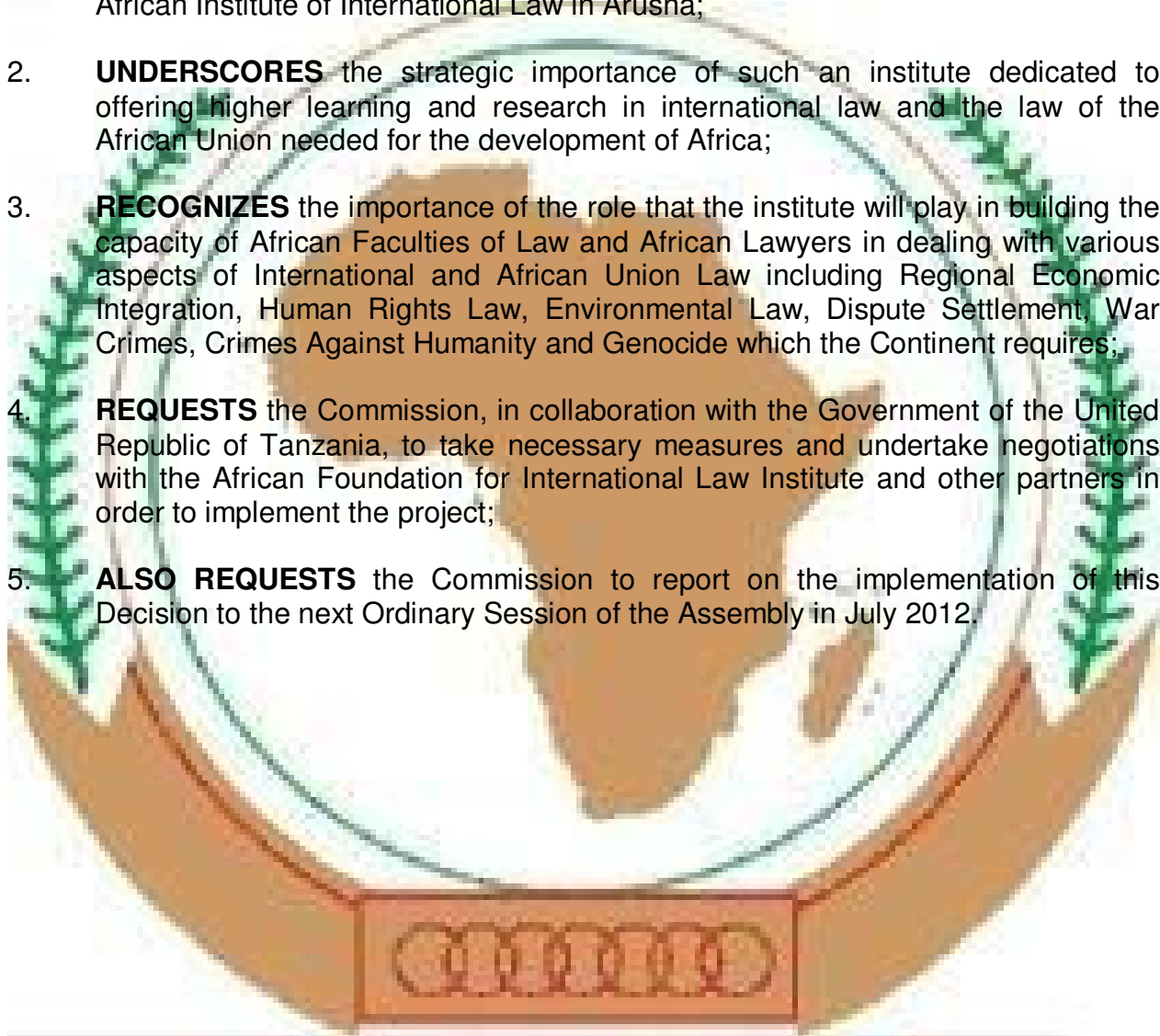
**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the proposal presented by the Republic of Togo;
2. **COMMENDS** the President of the Republic of Togo, Mr. Faure Essozimna Gnassingbe, for his thoughtful initiative to present such a crucial topic for discussion with his peers;
3. **REAFFIRMS** the provisions of the Accra Declaration [Assembly/AU/Decl.2(IX)] on the ultimate objective of African integration and that this process is essential for the development and renaissance of Africa;
4. **TAKES NOTE** of the recommendations of the International Symposium on "Integration as a Factor for Africa's Renaissance" held in Lomé, Togo from 17 to 19 May 2011;
5. **INVITES** Member States to join hands to map out more resilient regional and continental integration policies in the Regional Economic Communities ( RECs) and in the African Union (AU) Commission with focus on priority actions capable of leading, in the shortest possible time, to the free movement of persons, goods and services, and to the building of various intra-and inter-community infrastructure required to speed up the integration process;
6. **UNDERScores** the need for the AU Commission, working closely with the RECs, to develop recommendations on currency convertibility as a crucial factor of economic and commercial integration;
7. **INVITES** Member States to take the necessary steps to involve the peoples of Africa and the Diaspora in the integration process, the sole guarantee of African renaissance and the affirmation of Africa in the concert of Nations;
8. **CALLS UPON** the Secretariats of the RECs and the Commission, in collaboration with civil society organizations, to intensify efforts to initiate and undertake necessary actions to accelerate the integration process in the continent in furtherance of its economic, social and cultural development;
9. **ALSO CALLS UPON** the AU Commission to submit on regular basis reports on the implementation of this Decision.

**DECISION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AFRICAN  
INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW IN ARUSHA,  
THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA  
Doc: Assembly/AU/14(XVIII) Add.5**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the offer by the United Republic of Tanzania to establish an African Institute of International Law in Arusha;
2. **UNDERScores** the strategic importance of such an institute dedicated to offering higher learning and research in international law and the law of the African Union needed for the development of Africa;
3. **RECOGNIZES** the importance of the role that the institute will play in building the capacity of African Faculties of Law and African Lawyers in dealing with various aspects of International and African Union Law including Regional Economic Integration, Human Rights Law, Environmental Law, Dispute Settlement, War Crimes, Crimes Against Humanity and Genocide which the Continent requires;
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission, in collaboration with the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, to take necessary measures and undertake negotiations with the African Foundation for International Law Institute and other partners in order to implement the project;
5. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to report on the implementation of this Decision to the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly in July 2012.



**DECISION RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND WORK  
OF WANGARI MUTA MAATHAI  
Doc. Assembly/AU/14(XVIII) Add.6**

**The Assembly,**

1. **RECOGNIZES** the role and contributions of Prof. Wangari Maathai in the fields of environment, sustainable development and women's empowerment, as well as her unwavering dedication to promoting peace, democracy and human rights in Africa and the world at large, and **PAYS TRIBUTE** to this Africa's daughter and her contribution to the world;
2. **ACKNOWLEDGES** Wangari Maathai's vision on protecting and promoting human well-being through her pioneering Green Belt Movement (GBM) and grass-roots activism, inspiring people to promote worldwide sustainable development;
3. **ALSO ACKNOWLEDGES** the achievements of Wangari Maathai, as the first African woman to receive a Nobel Peace Prize recognizing her work to promote peace, security and sustainable development in Africa;
4. **WELCOMES** the ongoing international movement involving Governments, Civil Society Organizations, Regional and International Institutions to honor the value, vision, contribution and dedication of Wangari Maathai, thus inspiring people to call for human rights, peace and democracy, and environmental conservation;
5. **DECIDES** in recognition of her numerous achievements in her capacity as the first Presiding Officer of the African Union-Economic, Social and Cultural Council (AU –ECOSOC), African Union Peace Ambassador, Founder of the Green Belt Movement, Goodwill Ambassador to the Congo Basin Forest Initiative, UN Peace Messenger for Environment and Climate, and UNEP Champion of the Earth, to designate 3 March as Wangari Maathai Day to be observed in conjunction with Africa Environment Day, each year beginning in 2012;
6. **MANDATES** the African Union (AU) Commission to take the necessary measures, together with Member States, for the observance of Wangari Maathai Day by the African Union, and as such, **CALLS UPON** all Member States, United Nations Agencies, and International and Civil Society Organizations, to actively observe Wangari Maathai Day;
7. **ENCOURAGES** Member States to name public landmarks including streets, parks, squares, schools and institutes of peace in universities and other national monuments after Wangari Maathai, as a way to memorialize her life's work and serve as a tribute to inspire current and future generations to preserve the planet;

8. **ALSO ENCOURAGES** schools and universities to set up educational instruments and scholarship funds under the name of Wangari Maathai, to support students in the field of environment and sustainable development;
9. **FURTHER ENCOURAGES** the AU Commission, within the framework of the Make Peace Happen Campaign, as well as Member States, the private sector, the African Development Bank, the United Nations Environment Programme and other related international organizations and foundations, in cooperation with the Green Belt Movement, to take all the necessary measures to mobilize resources in support of 'Wangari Maathai Institute for Peace and Environmental Studies', as an African Center of Excellence, to encourage research on environmental governance and its linkages with peace human rights and democracy in Africa;
10. **DECIDES** to create the "Wangari Maathai Award for Outstanding African Achievements in Environment and Biodiversity Conservation" recognizing outstanding achievements of individuals committed to preserving the environment, and **REQUESTS** the Commission, in collaboration with the Republic of Kenya, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Green Belt Movement and other interested parties to define the modalities of establishing the Award and report thereon to the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly in June/July 2012 on ways to operationalize this Decision.



**DECISION ON THE AFRICAN SQUARE KILOMETRE  
ARRAY (SKA) PROJECT  
Doc. Assembly/AU/14(XVIII) Add. 7**

**The Assembly,**

1. **RECALLS** its Kampala Decision Assembly/AU/Dec. 303(XV) endorsing the African bid to host the Square Kilometer Array (SKA) on the African continent;
2. **WELCOMES** the progress made by Republic of South Africa in submitting the final African SKA bid documents to the Founding Board of the SKA;
3. **ALSO EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE** to Botswana, Ghana, Namibia, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Kenya and Zambia under the coordination of the Republic of South Africa, for providing diplomatic, regulatory, technical and logistical support for this bid;
4. **ENCOURAGES** the parties concerned to intensify efforts and continue to support the on-going processes and mobilize the support of the international community;
5. **STRESSES** the significant potential of investment in African Radio Astronomy initiatives, such as the planned African Very Long Baseline Interferometry (VLBI) Network, to rapidly enhance Africa's science and technology capacities, and therefore;
6. **PROPOSES** the inclusion of Radio Astronomy as a priority focus area for Africa's international science and technology partnerships, such as the Eighth Africa-European Union (EU) Partnership on Science, Information Society and Space;
7. **CALLS UPON** other Member States, the Commission, and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to support the African SKA bid both directly and in all relevant forums where such support would promote the success of the bid, leading towards the final decision expected to be made in 2012.



**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY  
COUNCIL ON ITS ACTIVITIES AND THE STATE  
OF PEACE AND SECURITY IN AFRICA  
Doc. Assembly/AU/6(XVIII)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) on its Activities and the State of Peace and Security in Africa;
2. **WELCOMES** the progress made towards the full operationalization of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) and the promotion of lasting peace, security and stability in Africa. **COMMENDS** the PSC and the Commission, as well as the Regional Economic Communities/Regional Mechanisms for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution (RECs/RMs), for their commitment and efforts;
3. **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the progress made in the consolidation of peace in Burundi, Central African Republic, The Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of Guinea, Guinea Bissau and Liberia. **ENCOURAGES** all the actors concerned to be untiring in their efforts, especially as regards the deepening of national reconciliation, the promotion of good governance and democracy, the reform of the security sector, as well as the acceleration of economic revival;
4. **NOTES ALSO WITH SATISFACTION** the significant progress made in the transitional processes in Tunisia and Egypt and **REITERATES ITS FULL SUPPORT** for the on-going efforts. **EXPRESSES SATISFACTION** at the measures taken by the new Libyan authorities to promote reconciliation among all Libyans and for an inclusive transition that would culminate in democratic elections, as well as their commitment to ensure the security of African migrant workers in Libya. **REQUESTS** the Commission to accelerate the process of establishing an AU Liaison Office in Libya, in conformity with the decision of the PSC;
5. **COMMENDS** the signing in Antananarivo, on 16 September 2011, of the Roadmap to end the crisis in Madagascar and the measures taken within the framework of its implementation, and **ENCOURAGES** the Malagasy parties to spare no effort to bring the transition to a successful conclusion. **SALUTES** SADC for the significant results it has achieved in the search for a negotiated solution to the crisis and **INVITES** the Commission to continue to support the implementation of the Roadmap and to mobilize the support of the international community to this end, including through the expeditious opening of the AU/SADC Liaison Office in Antananarivo;
6. **EXPRESSES ITS SATISFACTION** at the progress made in the peace and reconciliation process in Somalia, in particular the gains made on the ground, as

well as the adoption of the Political Roadmap in September 2011. **WELCOMES** the steps being taken for the strengthening of AMISOM and TFG forces to take advantage of the current momentum on the ground and further peace and reconciliation. **URGES** the UN Security Council to expeditiously endorse the new Strategic Concept for future AMISOM operations, as adopted by the PSC and to authorize the required support through assessed contributions. **COMMENDS** AMISOM for its outstanding achievements and **PAYS TRIBUTE** to the Governments of Burundi, Djibouti, Kenya, Ethiopia and Uganda, as well as to IGAD, for their commitment to the achievement of lasting peace and reconciliation in Somalia. **ALSO CALLS ON** the Somali stakeholders to demonstrate the required unity of purpose and commitment for the full implementation of the Political Roadmap. **CALLS ON** all AU partners to extend the necessary support to the on-going efforts, as well as humanitarian assistance to the needy populations, particularly in view of the drought that affected Somalia and other countries in the Horn of Africa. **LOOKS FORWARD** to the outcome of the London meeting of 23 February 2012, which provides an opportunity for enhanced mobilization of the international community in support of the Somali people and AU's efforts;

7. **WELCOMES** the adoption of Resolution 2023 (2011) by the United Nations Security Council which condemned Eritrea for its destabilization activities in Somalia and in the region, and **URGES** the Council to ensure full implementation of both this Resolution and Resolution 1907 (2009); **FURTHER WELCOMES** the Communiqué issued by the 309<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the PSC which underscored the need to ensure full implementation of these and other relevant resolutions; **CALLS UPON** Member States to take adequate measures to fully implement the provisions of these resolutions; and **URGES** the State of Eritrea to fully comply with these resolutions and desist from its destabilization activities in Somalia and in the region<sup>1</sup>;
8. **ALSO WELCOMES** the adoption, on 14 July 2011, of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (DDPD) and the signing of an Agreement between the Government of Sudan (GoS) and the Liberation and Justice Movement (LJM), **ENCOURAGES** the parties to fully implement the commitments made, **CALLS ON** the holdout groups to join the peace process without any further delay, and **APPEALS** to the international community to extend the necessary support to this process. **REITERATES ITS FULL SUPPORT** for the efforts of the AU High-Level Implementation Panel (AUHIP) towards the launch of the Darfur Political Process (DPP), in line with the AU policy on Darfur, as encapsulated in the report and recommendations of the AU Panel on Darfur (AUPD), which provides a comprehensive roadmap for peace in Darfur. **COMMENDS** the AU-UN Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) for its invaluable contribution to peace and security in Darfur. **DEPLORES** the on-going fighting in some parts of Blue Nile and South Kordofan, **STRESSES** the urgent need for the two parties to immediately cease

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<sup>1</sup> Reservation of the State of Eritrea.



hostilities, and facilitate humanitarian access to those in need and the return of IDPs and refugees. In this respect, **REQUESTS** the AUHIP to continue the efforts it has initiated regarding the Two Areas;

9. **EXPRESSES CONCERN** at the difficulties in the post-secession negotiations between The Sudan and South Sudan, **CALLS ON** the two countries to immediately halt and reverse the unilateral actions they have taken regarding the issue of oil, which can only threaten their economic prospects and relations, and **REQUESTS** them to extend full cooperation to the AUHIP in order to speedily reach agreement on all outstanding issues, in line with the agreed principle of two viable States, in peace with each another and mutually supportive. The Assembly **COMMENDS** IGAD for its continued commitment and efforts to the resolution of the current difficulties. **EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** to the AU multilateral and bilateral partners for their support to the AUHIP efforts and **APPEALS** for continued coordination to expedite the conclusion of the ongoing negotiations;
10. **EXPRESSES CONCERN** at the continued impasse in the peace process between Eritrea and Ethiopia, and **REITERATES** AU's call for renewed African efforts to help the two countries to overcome the current difficulties, normalize their relations and lay the foundation for lasting peace and security in the Horn of Africa. **ALSO REITERATES** the urgent need for the full and scrupulous implementation of the 6 June 2010 Agreement between Djibouti and Eritrea, and **REQUESTS** the PSC to actively follow up on the matter and report to it accordingly;
11. **WELCOMES** the launch of the Regional Cooperation Initiative against the Lord's Resistance Army (RCI-LRA), **COMMENDS** the Commission and the countries concerned for the steps already taken and **ENCOURAGES** them to expedite the full operationalization of the Initiative. **EXPRESSES AU'S GRATITUDE** to the international partners which have extended support to the efforts being deployed for elimination of the LRA;
12. **STRESSES** the need for renewed efforts towards post-conflict reconstruction and development in order to consolidate peace where it has been achieved. In this respect, **WELCOMES** the steps being taken by the Commission for the launch of an African Solidarity Initiative to support Member States emerging from conflicts and **LOOKS FORWARD** to the launch of the Initiative in the margins of its next Ordinary Session;
13. **REITERATES** the importance it attaches to the implementation of the AU Border Programme (AUBP), **WELCOMES** the significant results achieved so far and **ENCOURAGES** the Commission to pursue and intensify the efforts being deployed. In this respect, **CALLS FOR** the expeditious finalization of the Draft Convention on Cross-Border Cooperation and **REQUESTS** Member States to facilitate this process by attending at the appropriate level the ministerial conference being planned by the Commission to this end;

14. **REITERATES AU'S DEEP CONCERN** at the proliferation of weapons in the Sahelo-Saharan region and the risks this situation poses for long-term security and stability, **CONDEMNS STRONGLY** the activities of armed groups in the region, including the recent attacks perpetrated in the northern part of Mali, **EXPRESSES ITS FULL SUPPORT** for the efforts being made by the countries of the region, with the support of the AU, **WELCOMES** the initiative by the Commission to organize, on the margins of the Ordinary Session of the Executive Council, a consultation on the outcome of the assessment mission on the security fallout of the Libyan crisis, and **REQUESTS** the PSC to consider, with the participation of the countries of the region, the impact of this crisis and further concrete modalities through which the AU can strengthen the efforts of the region and mobilize adequate international assistance in support of the priorities identified by the affected countries;
15. **EXPRESSES DEEP CONCERN** at the spate of terrorist attacks in different parts of the continent, in particular, in Nigeria, **STRONGLY CONDEMNS** these terrorist attacks and **REQUESTS** the Commission, in particular through the African Centre on the Research and Study on Terrorism (ACRST) and the Special Representative of the Chairperson of the Commission, to facilitate an enhanced and coordinated response to this threat, particularly in view of the emerging linkages among terrorist groups, as well as between these terrorist groups and criminal networks;
16. **WELCOMES** the comprehensive report submitted by the Chairperson of the Commission on the AU-UN Partnership on Peace and Security and the subsequent PSC decision articulating AU's vision of this partnership. **EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE** to President Jacob Zuma for the initiative to convene a meeting of the Security Council on the issue on 12 January 2012 and for having personally chaired the deliberations. **REITERATES** Africa's position on the urgency and need for a stronger partnership based on a forward-looking reading of Chapter VIII of the UN Charter and underpinned by the following principles: support to African ownership and priority setting; consultative decision-making; division of labour and sharing of responsibilities; and effective use of the respective comparative advantages of the two organizations, and **REQUESTS** the Commission to actively follow up on this matter and to provide regular reports

**DECISION ON THE TENTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF TEN  
ON THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL REFORM  
Doc. Assembly/AU/8(XVIII)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Committee of Ten Heads of State and Government on the Reform of the United Nations (UN) Security Council;
2. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** of the recent developments in the intergovernmental negotiations on the United Nations (UN) Security Council Reform;
3. **REAFFIRMS** the Ezulwini Consensus and Sirte Declaration containing the African common position on the Reform of the UN Security Council;
4. **UNDERScores** the need for Africa to continue to speak with one voice and cohesively on all issues in the on-going intergovernmental negotiations, in order to build on the gains so far achieved by Africa and ensure that the interest of the continent continues to be maintained and safeguarded at all times;
5. **COMMENDS** the efforts of the African Permanent Representatives to the UN in promoting and defending the continent's interest in the UN Security Council Reform process;
6. **REQUESTS** the African Permanent Representatives of the Committee of Ten to the UN participating in the on-going intergovernmental negotiations on the UN Security Council reform, to continue to work closely with other African Permanent Representatives to the United Nations, and to continue to dialogue with and engage other Member states and interest groups in the reform process, with a view to advocating, canvassing and promoting the African common position;
7. **ENCOURAGES** the African Permanent Representatives of the Committee of Ten to the UN to continue to build on and intensify its efforts directed at forging alliance in support of the African common position with diverse interest groups engaged in the intergovernmental negotiations, and to seek any further guidance if necessary, in furtherance of its mandate;
8. **REQUESTS** the Commission to continue to facilitate the activities of the African Permanent Representatives of the Committee of Ten to the UN in the intergovernmental negotiations on UN Security Council Reform and related consultations thereon;
9. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Committee of Ten to continue to intensify efforts in advocating, canvassing and promoting the African common position to endeavour to reach out at the highest political levels for the purpose of garnering and galvanizing the necessary political will in support of the African common position;

10. **REITERATES** that the Committee of Ten remains seized of this matter until Africa achieves its objectives on the Reform of the UN Security Council, and **REQUESTS** the Committee to report to the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly in June/July 2012.



**DECISION ON THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF MEMBER STATES  
TO THE BUDGET OF THE AFRICAN UNION**

**Doc. EX.CL/687(XX)iv**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the recommendations of the Executive Council on the contributions of Member States to the Budget of the African Union;
2. **ACKNOWLEDGES** Member States that are up-to-date with the payment of their contributions;
3. **URGES** Member States to pay up their contributions in full and on time; and **ENCOURAGES** those Member States with arrears of contributions to clear such arrears;
4. **DECIDES** that the sanctions imposed on Guinea Bissau and the Central African Republic be lifted;
5. **FURTHER DECIDES** that the temporary exemption granted to the Democratic Republic of Congo be extended as long as the country complies with its payment schedule;
6. **REQUESTS** the Executive Council through its Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee on the Scale of Assessment to consider the cases of the Republic of The Sudan and of the Republic of South Sudan with a view to making appropriate recommendations to the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly through the Executive Council in June 2012.

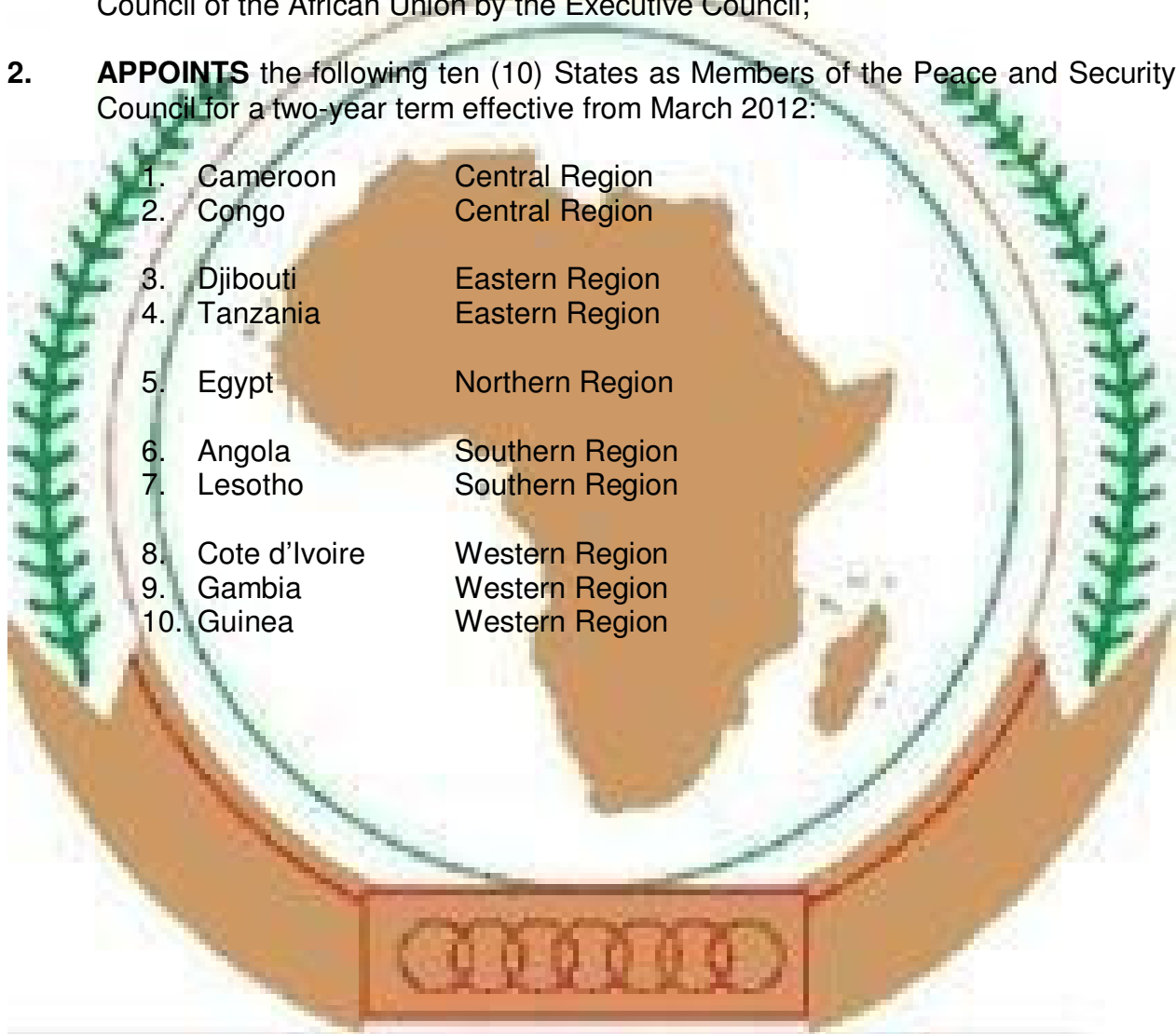


**DECISION ON THE ELECTION OF TEN (10) MEMBERS OF THE  
PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION  
DOC. EX.CL/715(XX)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the election of ten (10) Members of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union by the Executive Council;
2. **APPOINTS** the following ten (10) States as Members of the Peace and Security Council for a two-year term effective from March 2012:

- |     |               |                 |
|-----|---------------|-----------------|
| 1.  | Cameroon      | Central Region  |
| 2.  | Congo         | Central Region  |
| 3.  | Djibouti      | Eastern Region  |
| 4.  | Tanzania      | Eastern Region  |
| 5.  | Egypt         | Northern Region |
| 6.  | Angola        | Southern Region |
| 7.  | Lesotho       | Southern Region |
| 8.  | Cote d'Ivoire | Western Region  |
| 9.  | Gambia        | Western Region  |
| 10. | Guinea        | Western Region  |





**DECISION ON THE CELEBRATION OF THE FIFTIETH  
ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF  
THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY**

**The Assembly,**

1. **PAYS SPECIAL TRIBUTE** to the generations of Pan-Africanists and the Founding Fathers of our continental organization who strived to promote unity, solidarity, cohesion and cooperation among the peoples of Africa and African States;
2. **RECALLS** its Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.361(XVI) to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the establishment of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 25 May 2013;
3. **EXPRESSES ITS DEEPEST APPRECIATION** to the OAU for its historic role in the liberation of the peoples of Africa from the yoke of colonialism and Apartheid as well as for its invaluable contribution towards the objective of achieving unity in our continent;
4. **DECLARES** 2013 as the Year of Pan-Africanism and African Renaissance;
5. **DECIDES** that the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the establishment of the OAU shall be celebrated by highlighting the ideals of Pan-Africanism and Africa's aspirations for peace, democracy, development and unity;
6. **REITERATES** its request to the Commission to make the necessary arrangements for this celebration, in close collaboration with the host country, Ethiopia, and all other Member States;
7. **REQUESTS** the Commission to coordinate activities for an inclusive and participatory process of reflection on the last fifty (50) years of efforts towards African unity, with the intention of defining Pan-Africanism for the coming generation;
8. **ENCOURAGES** Member States and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in coordination with the Commission to organize various activities including media events, debates and competitions in schools and universities, public opinion surveys, sessions in local and national legislatures, and other activities to celebrate the year of Pan-Africanism and enhance the awareness of the new generation of Africans about the ideals of Pan-Africanism and African Renaissance.



**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT  
ORIENTATION COMMITTEE ON THE NEW PARTNERSHIP  
FOR AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT  
Doc. Assembly/AU/7(XVIII)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE WITH APPRECIATION** of the Report by the Chairperson of the Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC) on the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) , H.E. Meles Zenawi Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia;
2. **ENDORSES** the conclusions of the Twenty-Sixth NEPAD HSGOC Meeting;
3. **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the steady progress towards results-based performance by the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) in delivering its mandate based on Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.282(XIV) of the Fourteenth Ordinary Session of the Assembly and **COMMENDS** the improved working relations with the African Union (AU) Commission and increasing linkages between NPCA, Member States and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs);
4. **EXPRESSES** deep concern that NPCA organizational structure is yet to be finalized two (2) years after the integration of NEPAD into the structures and processes of the AU, and **THEREFORE REQUESTS** the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) through its Sub-Committee on Structural Reforms to consider as a matter of urgency the finalization of the NPCA structure by March 2012 for subsequent approval by the Nineteenth Ordinary Session of the Assembly;
5. **EMPHASIZES** the vital importance of recommending a practical and efficient structure for NPCA that adequately reflects and is consistent with its mandate to enable it effectively implement the core objectives of NEPAD as the programme of the AU , and **REQUESTS** that the process of finalizing NPCA structure should include appropriate consultations with the Commission, the NEPAD Steering Committee and NPCA;
6. **ENDORSES** the implementation of key NEPAD regional and continental programmes and projects as reflected in the NPCA Activity Report for the period July to December 2011 **PARTICULARLY NOTING** the progress regarding the technical support to Member States on Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) investment plans; Rural Futures Programme; Partnership for African Fisheries (PAF); the signed TerrAfrica Leverage Fund to enhance Sustainable Land and Water (SLW) management; African Medicines Regulatory Harmonization (AMRH) with current focus on the East African Community (EAC); Set-up of Capacity Development Expert Pool with UNDP support under the Africa Platform for Development Effectiveness (APDev); South

Sudan Development Initiative (SSDI) in conjunction with UNECA and UNDP; and Natural Resources Governance to advance the African Mining Vision;

7. **NOTES** the increasing efforts of African Governments to mobilize domestic resources in the face of the current impact of global financial crisis and **REITERATES** the critical need to creatively re-assess predictable and sustainable funding options in support of implementing prioritized national and NEPAD programmes and projects;
8. **ACCORDINGLY REQUESTS** NPCA and United Nations Economic Commission (UNECA), in partnership with relevant institutions to undertake an in-depth study to explore strategies and viable modalities to improve the mobilization of domestic resources as development finance which will be submitted to the NEPAD HSGOC for consideration;
9. **RECALLS** Declaration Assembly/AU/Decl. 1 (XII) of the Twelfth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of January 2009 which resolved to support the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) as the unique strategic and sectoral framework in Africa to promote physical integration of the Continent and attainment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as well as the NEPAD goals of promoting sustainable growth and development for which infrastructure is a major cornerstone;
10. **APPROVES** the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) and the Institutional Architecture for its implementation and **RESOLVES** to include national priorities, the various programmes and projects contained in the Priority Action Plan (PAP) of PIDA, with special consideration for Island States and to proceed with the expeditious implementation of the Institutional Architecture for Infrastructure Development in Africa (IAIDA) which identifies NPCA as executing agency;
11. **UNDERScores** the need for the promotion of innovative financing mechanisms reflecting Africa's real commitment to speed up infrastructure development with the overriding need to commit sufficient resources for project preparation; and **REQUESTS** the Commission to take all the necessary measures in coordination with NPCA, to ensure the accelerated implementation of PIDA and to report annually thereon;
12. **COMMENDS** the good progress achieved in the implementation of prioritized projects under the AU-NEPAD Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative (PICI) through the work of HSGOC High Level Sub-Committee chaired by H.E. Jacob Zuma, President of the Republic of South Africa, **WHILE RECOGNIZING** the pressing need to address challenges of upgrade, maintenance and effective utilization of existing infrastructure to boost intra-African trade for meaningful growth and deepen regional integration;
13. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the technical inputs of national focal points for PICI projects to designing appropriate regional standards for Public-Private Partnerships

(PPPs) as the foundational platform to strengthen infrastructure development on the Continent with emphasis on constructive engagement with RECs and **WELCOMES** the offer by the Government of the Republic of South Africa as Chairperson of PICI to convene a High Level Meeting of all stakeholders including Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the East African Community (EAC) to engage on re-designing the parameters of the North-South Corridor;

14. **RE-EMPHASIZES** the shared principles of ownership, transparency, mutual accountability in strengthening Africa's partnership with the G8 in support of the Continent's development priorities and **NOTES** the development-related outcomes of the G20 Summit held in November 2011 in Cannes, France, particularly the G20 High Level Panel (HLP) on Infrastructure and the call on support for project implementation by Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs). **SUPPORTS** the strengthening of emergency and long-term responses to food insecurity by fostering investments in agriculture, mitigating price volatility impact especially in low income countries and set-up of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) regional emergency food reserve system;
15. **EXAMINES** the prospects for Africa's partnership with the G8 and G20 in 2012, **UNDERSCORING** the importance of ensuring that Africa's priorities are adequately reflected on the 2012 agenda of the two global forums and **THEREFORE REQUESTS** the Commission and NPCA to promptly consult with the Governments of the United States of America and Mexico as countries holding the 2012 Presidency of the G8 and G20 respectively, towards this objective;
16. **WELCOMES** the key outcomes of the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness held in Busan, Republic of Korea, in December 2011 as reflected in the '*Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation*' particularly the policy shift from Aid to Development Effectiveness and commitment to the use and strengthening of country systems as default approach to enhance appropriate capacities to achieve better development results;
17. **COMMENDS** the conscientious and unified efforts of African countries, regional institutions and stakeholders to rally behind the first-ever African Consensus and Position on Development Effectiveness premised on South-South and Trilateral Cooperation, Financing for Development and Capacity Development which was developed through the facilitation and technical support of the Commission and NPCA, under the umbrella of Africa Platform for Development Effectiveness (APDev);
18. **REITERATES** that Africa should take necessary follow-up actions to implement the post-Busan agenda through inclusive and Africa-wide consultations in shaping the new global partnership based on the Continent's context and **REQUESTS** the Commission and NPCA to actively engage the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in ensuring that Africa's voice and



representation are taken into account in the emerging global partnership arrangements, for results-oriented partnership for effective development cooperation;

19. **COMMENDS** the Government of the Republic of South Africa for successfully hosting the Seventeenth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations (UN) Framework Convention on Climate Change, in December 2011 with historic and precedent-setting outcomes based on the sterling work of H.E. Meles Zenawi, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia as Chairperson of Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC) and contributions of Member States;
20. **REQUESTS** NPCA in collaboration with the Commission and partner institutions including United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), UNECA and the African Development Bank (AfDB) to continue to support the African process and follow up on the negotiations on Climate Change particularly the outcomes of COP 17 as well as for NPCA to facilitate the development, implementation and coordination of adaptation actions including building adaptive capacities at national and regional levels to strengthen sectoral resilience and reduce vulnerability to climate change;
21. **TAKES NOTE** of significant progress achieved on AIDS response across Africa over the past decade, in particular the historic achievement of putting over five (5) million people on treatment and reducing the rate of new infections by over twenty-five percent (25%) in a substantial number of countries, but **EXPRESSES** concern over the current funding crisis facing AIDS response given the impact of global financial crisis and **REQUESTS** the Commission and NPCA in collaboration with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) to work out a road map of shared responsibility to draw on African efforts for viable health funding streams with support of traditional and emerging partners to address AIDS dependency response;
22. **NOTES WITH APPRECIATION** the efforts to strengthen UN system-wide support for NEPAD implementation through closer collaboration between NPCA and UN Agencies especially the key roles of UNECA, UNDP and UN Office of Special Adviser on Africa (UN-OSAA) and in this regard, **WELCOMES** the 2011 Report of *Mutual Review of Development Effectiveness (MRDE)* produced by UNECA/OECD; Conclusions of 12<sup>th</sup> UN Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM-Africa); 2011 Report on *UNDP Human Development - Sustainability and Equity: A Better Future for All*; and the 10<sup>th</sup> NEPAD Anniversary Week at the 66<sup>th</sup> UN General Assembly in New York in October 2011;
23. **RE-AFFIRMS** the overall significance of forward looking approaches towards the swift implementation of NEPAD in the next decade following the commemoration of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of NEPAD in 2011 and **WELCOMES** the planned NEPAD Colloquium and Fund-Raising as prime multi-stakeholder events in March 2012 to round up the anniversary.

## DECISION ON THE ELECTIONS OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

### The Assembly,

Having conducted the election of the Chairperson of the Commission and taking note of the fact that neither of the two (2) candidates has obtained the required majority,

#### 1. **DECIDES** to:

- i) suspend the elections of the Members of the Commission, in conformity with the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly<sup>2</sup>;
- ii) extend the term of office of the current Members of the Commission until the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly;
- iii) establish an Ad-hoc Committee of Heads of State and Government composed of one (1) Member State per region together with the Republic of Benin as the Chairperson of the Union, the Republic of Gabon and the Republic of South Africa with the mandate to address the issues relating to the next elections of the Members of the Commission;

#### 2. **REQUESTS** the Commission to take all the necessary measures towards the implementation of this Decision and **AUTHORISES** the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) to approve the necessary expenditures in this regard.

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<sup>2</sup> Reservation by the Republic of Botswana

**DECISION ON THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE AFRICAN UNION  
COMMISSION INTO THE AFRICAN UNION AUTHORITY  
Doc. Assembly/AU/13(XVIII)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE**, of the Progress Report of the Commission on the implementation of Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.372(XVII) on the Transformation of the African Union Commission into the African Union Authority, adopted by the Seventeenth Ordinary Session of the Assembly held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, from 30 June to 1 July 2011;
2. **DECIDES** to defer consideration of this matter to the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly in June/July 2012.





**RESOLUTION ON THE DIASPORA**  
**Doc. Assembly/AU/14(XVIII) Add.3**

**The Assembly,**

**Recalling** the Protocol on Amendments to the Constitutive Act of the African Union, approved in January 2003 by the 1<sup>st</sup> Extraordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and in particular Article 3(q) of which invites and encourages the full participation of the African Diaspora as an important part of our Continent, in the building of the African Union;

**Also Recalling** Decisions:

- Ext/EX/CL/Dec.6 (III) of the Third Extraordinary Session of the Executive Council of the African Union, held in South Africa in 2003, on the Development of the Diaspora Initiative in the African Union; and
- EX.CL/Dec.221(VII) of the Seventh Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Sirte, Libya, in June/July 2005, on the Definition of the African Diaspora;

**Further Recalling** Decision EX.CL/406(XII) Add.1 by which the Executive Council requested the Commission to conduct an in-depth feasibility study on the idea of having the Diaspora as the sixth region of the Continent as well as develop modalities for Diaspora participation in the organs and activities of the Union;

**Taking into consideration** the Declaration of the 1<sup>st</sup> Conference of Intellectuals from Africa and the Diaspora held in Dakar from 6 to 9 October 2004, reaffirmed by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference held in Salvador de Bahia, Brazil, from 12 to 14 July 2006, by which the intellectuals from Africa and the Diaspora subscribed to the idea of making the Diaspora the sixth region of the African Union;

**Also taking into consideration** the proposals of Africans from the Diaspora aimed at assisting the African Union and the Continent, and providing moral and diplomatic support to Diaspora initiatives designed to effectively help the Continent;

**Convinced** of the need to build a solid foundation for reviving the African family in its entirety across the world as an effective instrument to give impetus to the African renaissance;

**Aware** of the need to build lasting partnerships between the African Diaspora and the African continent through sustained dialogue and resilient collaboration with the governments and peoples of different regions of the world, home to the African Diaspora;

**Desirous** of sending a strong signal to all components of the Diaspora and establishing an official mechanism for consultation between Africa and its Diaspora;

1. **DECIDES** to recognize the African Diaspora as a substantive entity contributing to the economic and social development of the Continent, and to invite its representatives as observers to sessions of the Assembly of the African Union;
2. **REQUESTS** the African Union Commission to report to the Ordinary Session of the Assembly in January 2013 through the Executive Council.



## DECLARATION ON BOOSTING INTRA-AFRICAN TRADE AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AREA (CFTA)

**We**, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, meeting at the 18<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of our Assembly in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 29 to 30 January 2012, on the theme Boosting Intra-African Trade:

**Recalling** the recommendation of the Sixth Ordinary Session of the Conference of African Union (AU) Ministers of Trade on the need to fast track the establishment of a Continental Free Trade Area;

**Taking Note** of recent developments in the global economic, trading and financial systems;

**Aware** that Africa is one of the regions of the world with the lowest level of intra-regional trade, a factor which makes our continent particularly vulnerable to external trade and financial shocks;

**Concerned** by the current low level of trade between African countries and aware of the need to enhance Africa's productive capacities;

**Mindful** of the fact that enhanced intra-African trade and deepened market integration can contribute significantly to sustainable economic growth, employment generation, poverty reduction, inflow of foreign direct investment, industrial development and better integration of the continent into the global economy;

**Noting** that the African Union was established to achieve, among its main objectives, the acceleration of the attainment of the African Economic Community (AEC);

**Aware** of the numerous obstacles to the growth of Africa's intra and inter-regional trade;

**Commending** the Heads of State and Government of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), East African Community (EAC), and Southern African Development Community (SADC) for their initiative to establish the Tripartite Free Trade Area (FTA) that will cover about half the membership of the African Union;

**Taking Note** of the Report and Resolution of the Seventh Ordinary Session of the AU Ministers of Trade Conference held in Accra, Ghana, from 29 November to 3 December 2011;

**Hereby:**

1. **REAFFIRM** our commitment to the acceleration and deepening of Africa's market integration;

2. **CALL ON** Member States, the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and AU Commission to promote industrial development of the continent, and value addition with a view to diversifying economies and moving away from reliance on traditional export of commodities;
3. **ENDORSE** the Action Plan for Boosting Intra-African Trade and **REQUEST** the AU Commission, in collaboration with RECs, Member States, and development partners, to develop an implementation strategy for the Action Plan;
4. **CALL ON** Member States, RECS, the AU Commission and development partners to adopt the necessary measures towards the effective implementation of the Action Plan;
5. **REQUEST** Member States supported by the AU Commission and the RECs to drive the process of boosting intra-African trade and the CFTA negotiations through the implementation of the short, medium and long-term programmes and activities contained in the Action Plan at the national, regional and continental;
6. **DECIDE** that the CFTA should be operationalized by the indicative date of 2017, based on the framework, Roadmap and Architecture, with the following appropriate milestones:
  - Finalization of the East African Community (EAC)- the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)- Southern African Development Community (SADC) Tripartite FTA initiative by 2014;
  - Completion of FTA(s) by Non-Tripartite RECs, through parallel arrangement(s) similar to the EAC-COMESA-SADC Tripartite Initiative or reflecting the preferences of their Member States, between 2012 and 2014;
  - Consolidation of the Tripartite and other regional FTAs into a Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) initiative between 2015 and 2016;
  - Establishment of the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) by 2017 with the option to review the target date according to progress made.
7. **REQUEST** the Commission, in collaboration with United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and other relevant agencies, to take appropriate measures including studies, technical support to RECs and sensitization of Member States and partners, for the effective implementation of the CFTA Road Map;
8. **ENDORSE** the Framework, Road Map and Architecture for Fast Tracking the establishment of the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) and the Action Plan for Boosting Intra-African Trade, with the understanding that the High Level African Trade Committee (HATC) will provide a facilitating role and unlock any blockages

that might arise and **REQUEST** the Ministers responsible for the CFTA to report as appropriate to the Assembly, through the Executive Council on progress;

9. **URGE** Member States, RECs, development partners and other stakeholders to work closely with the AU Commission towards the realization of the objective of Africa's continental market integration.



**DECLARATION ON THE PROGRAMME FOR  
INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA  
Doc. EX.CL/702(XX)**

**We**, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, meeting at the Eighteenth Ordinary Session of our Assembly in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 29 to 30 January 2012,

**Considering** the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community adopted in Abuja, Nigeria, in June 1991;

**Bearing in mind** the Constitutive Act of the African Union adopted in Lomé, Togo, on 11 July 2000;

**Considering** Declaration Assembly/AU/Decl. 1 (XII) of our Twelfth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in January 2009 which resolved to support the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) as the unique strategic and sectoral framework in Africa;

**Considering** the vital and facilitator role of infrastructure and related services in the political and socio-economic development, and physical integration of the continent, as well as in the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);

**Considering** that infrastructure demand will increase continuously given the population growth and economic perspectives;

**Recognizing** the need to speed up development of infrastructure and associated services in Africa and to put in place harmonized sectoral policies and programs;

**Recalling** that the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) constitutes an African initiative and an African Union programme aimed at ensuring poverty reduction and sustainable development for which infrastructure is the cornerstone;


**Welcoming** the various initiatives on infrastructure development in Africa, including:

- (i) The Infrastructure Consortium for Africa (ICA);
- (ii) The Africa - European Union Partnerships on Infrastructure and Energy, as defined in the Joint Africa/European Union Strategy (JAES);
- (iii) The Presidential Infrastructure Championship Initiative;
- (iv) The Special Fund of the NEPAD Infrastructure Project Preparation Facility (NEPAD-IPPF); and
- (v) The African Water Facility (AWF).



**Taking note** of the report on the conclusions of PIDA formulation, in accordance with Declaration Assembly/AU/Decl. 1 (XII);

**Concerned by:**

- 
- i) The enormity of the infrastructure gap, the high costs and low quality of transport, energy, water and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) services in Africa, which seriously affect the competitiveness of the continent;
  - ii) The low level of connectivity of infrastructure networks in Africa;
  - iii) The poor access of African populations to modern services, energy and transportation, particularly for the low-income social segment;
  - iv) The weak enforcement of African Union Decisions on improving access to services of transportation, energy and information technology & communication in Africa by Member States;
  - v) The need to ensure equitable management of water resources for better use for all;
  - vi) The huge financing needs for infrastructure of around sixty billion United State dollars for the coming ten years, and the poor resource mobilization by Member States, for the preparation and implementation of infrastructure projects; and
  - vii) The impact of the current global financial crisis on infrastructure development in Africa.

**Underscoring:**

- i) The decisive role of the Commission, the Regional Economic Communities and the Specialized Institutions in the implementation of programmes for infrastructure development in Africa, in coordination with Member States;
- ii) The need to establish an institutional architecture for effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of programmes for infrastructure development in Africa;
- iii) The need for active participation and strong involvement of the private sector in infrastructure development in Africa.

**1. REAFFIRM:**

- i) Our determination to pool our efforts to develop integrated, reliable and efficient infrastructure networks of transport, energy, telecommunications ICT and trans-boundary water, as well as their associated services;
- ii) The urgent need to enhance access to transport, energy and water infrastructure and services, for the majority of the African population as well as access to electronic applications (e-gov, e-education, e-health);
- iii) The importance for African financial institutions, to spare no effort to better support the implementation of the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa;
- iv) The need to fully involve the private sector in infrastructure development in Africa.

**2. UNDERTAKE TO:**

- i) Promote harmonization of regulations and standards to ensure interconnection, efficient operations and security of networks, and market development;
- ii) Establish an appropriate institutional framework for the development of major integrative projects and carry out the necessary reforms to ensure their better operation and maintenance;
- iii) Contribute financially to the Special Fund of the NEPAD Infrastructure Project Preparation Facility and the African Water Facility;
- iv) Increase public financing of infrastructure and promote public-private partnerships to speed up infrastructure development;
- v) Enhance production of, and inter-State trade in, energy by implementing major integrative hydroelectric power projects and high capacity oil refineries as well as gas and oil pipelines;
- vi) Develop new and renewable energy resources in order to provide clean, reliable, affordable and environmentally friendly energy as well as nuclear energy for peaceful purposes in order to sustainably meet Africa's long-term energy needs;
- vii) Accelerate the construction of missing links and the development and modernization of railways, and increase of ports capacity;

- viii) Accelerate the facilitation of inter-State transport through the harmonization of laws and simplification of transit procedures to promote efficiency and safety of transport operations in Africa;
- ix) Work together for the full and diligent implementation of the 1999 Yamoussoukro Decision;
- x) Give high priority to environmental protection, and to transport and energy safety and security, within the framework of the sustainable development of infrastructure and related services;
- xi) Develop regional and continental Telecommunication/ICT broadband networks and ensure access to submarine cable resources for all Member States, in order to achieve an African Information Society and an integrated digital economy;
- xii) Focus on joint programmes for the management of shared water resources.

### 3. **RESOLVE TO:**

- i) Approve the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa and the institutional architecture for its implementation;
- ii) Include in our national priorities, the various projects and programmes contained in the Priority Action Plan(PAP) of the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa and ensure that sufficient resources are committed to the preparation and implementation of these projects;
- iii) Undertake institutional reforms, both legal and regulatory , conducive to the creation of a favourable business climate for private investment in infrastructure;
- iv) Promote innovative financing mechanisms reflecting a real commitment by Africa to speed up infrastructure development on the continent.

### 4. **INVITE** the Commission to take all the necessary measures to:

- i) Ensure, in coordination with the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) , the speedy implementation of the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa and to report annually thereon;
- ii) Proceed with the expeditious implementation of the Institutional Architecture for Infrastructure Development in Africa;
- iii) Define the modalities of Member States contributions to the Special Fund of the NEPAD Infrastructure Project Preparation Facility and the African Water Facility;

- iv) Prepare in coordination with the NPCA, an Annual report on PAP implementation status.

**5. URGE:**

- i) Member States, the Regional Economic Communities the Commission and NPCA to strengthen African and international cooperation in the implementation of PIDA projects and programmes;
- ii) The Commission to take all the necessary initiatives to ensure expeditious implementation of this Declaration.

- 6. APPEAL** to the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, the African Development Bank, the World Bank, the European Union, the Specialized Organizations, the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations System and all relevant Development Partners, to support the implementation of this Declaration.



**DECLARATION ON THE DONATION OF A CONFERENCE CENTRE  
AND OFFICE COMPLEX TO THE AFRICAN UNION  
BY THE PEOPLES' REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

**We**, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union meeting at the 18<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of our Assembly in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 29 to 30 January 2012 on the theme of Boosting Intra-African Trade;

Hereby:

1. **EXPRESS** our profound gratitude to the Government and People of the Peoples' Republic of China for the generous donation of an ultra-modern state of the art Conference Centre and Office Complex to the African Union and the people of Africa, which was inaugurated and handed-over to the African Union on 28 January 2012;
2. **FURTHER EXPRESS** our deep appreciation to the Government and people of China for the announcement by H.E. Jia Qinglin, Chairman of the Chinese Peoples' Political Consultative Conference, of a donation of RMB 600 million for African Union activities over the next three (3) years;
3. **NOTE** with appreciation and deep satisfaction the kind gesture by the Government and people of China, which is a concrete manifestation of China's commitment to the long-standing historical and enduring relations between Africa and China, in the true spirit of South-South Cooperation;
4. **UNDERTAKE** to ensure the judicious use and maintenance of the facility so that it could serve as an eternal monument to Sino-African friendship and for the benefit of future generations.

2012

# Assembly of the Union Eighteenth Ordinary Session 29 – 30 January 2012 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

## The Assembly

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