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Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

P. O. Box 3243

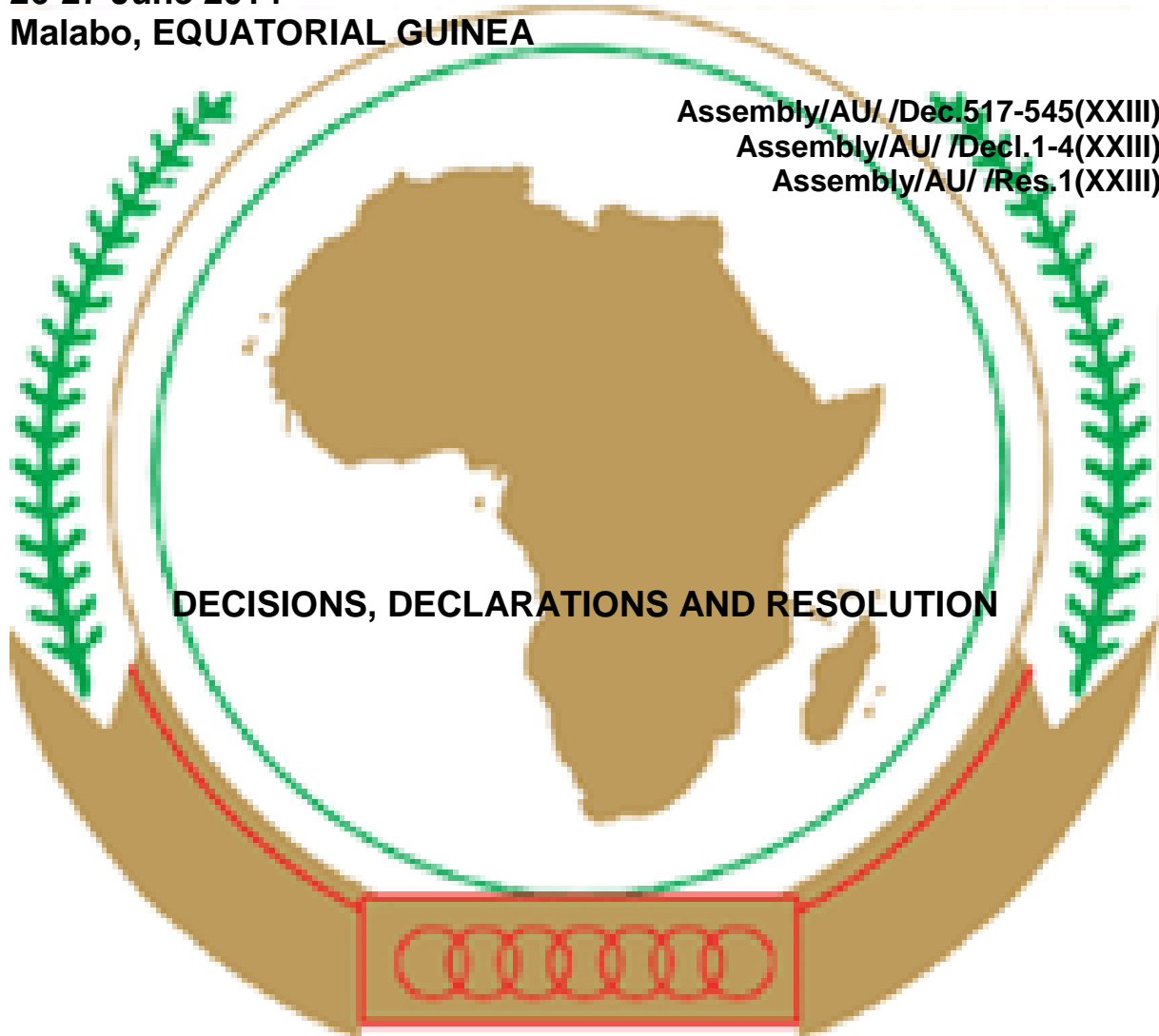
Telephone: 5517 700

Fax: 5517844

Website: www.Africa-union.org

**ASSEMBLY OF THE UNION
Twenty-Third Ordinary Session
26-27 June 2014
Malabo, EQUATORIAL GUINEA**

**Assembly/AU/ /Dec.517-545(XXIII)
Assembly/AU/ /Decl.1-4(XXIII)
Assembly/AU/ /Res.1(XXIII)**



DECISIONS, DECLARATIONS AND RESOLUTION

TABLE OF CONTENT

SR. No.	DECISION NO.	TITLE	No. of Page
1	Assembly/AU/Dec.517(XXIII)	Decision on the Protocol and the Statute for the Establishment of the African Monetary Fund – Doc. EX.CL/836(XXV)	1
2	Assembly/AU/Dec.518(XXIII)	Decision on Post-2015 Development Agenda Doc. EX.CL/836(XXV)	2
3	Assembly/AU/Dec.519(XXIII)	Decision on Productivity, Competitiveness and Industrialization – Doc. EX.CL/836(XXV)	2
4	Assembly/AU/Dec.520(XXIII)	Decision on Strategy for Science Technology and Innovation in Africa 2024 – Doc. EX.CL/839(XXV)	1
5	Assembly/AU/Dec.521(XXIII)	Decision on African Observatory for Science Technology and Innovation (AOSTI) – Doc. EX.CL/839(XXV)	1
6	Assembly/AU/Dec.522(XXIII)	Decision on Pan-African Intellectual Property Organization (PAIPO) – Doc. EX/CL/839(XXV)	1
7	Assembly/AU/Dec.523(XXIII)	Decision on African Scientific Research and Innovation Council (ASRIC) – Doc. EX.CL/839(XXV)	1
8	Assembly/AU/Dec.524(XXIII)	Decision on the International Salon on Invention and Innovation – Doc. EX.CL/839(XXV)	1
9	Assembly/AU/Dec.525(XXIII)	Decision on the AU Continental TVET Strategy – Doc. EX.CL/840(XXV)	1
10	Assembly/AU/Dec.526(XXIII)	Decision on the Operationalization of the Specialized Technical Committees – Doc. EX.CL/845(XXV)	1
11	Assembly/AU/Dec.527(XXIII)	Decision on the Integration of the APRM into the African Union Doc. EX.CL/851(XXV)	1
12	Assembly/AU/Dec.528(XXIII)	Decision on the Report of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC) – Doc.EX.CL/858(XXV)	1
13	Assembly/AU/Dec.529(XXIII)	Decision on the Draft Legal Instruments – Doc. Assembly/AU/8(XXIII)	1
14	Assembly/AU/Dec.530(XXIII)	Decision on the Report of the High Level Committee on the Post-2015 Development	1

SR. No.	DECISION NO.	TITLE	No. of Page
		Agenda – Doc. Assembly/AU/12(XXIII)	
15	Assembly/AU/Dec.531(XXIII)	Decision on the report of the High Level African Trade Committee on Trade Issues – Doc. Assembly/AU/13(XXIII)	2
16	Assembly/AU/Dec.532(XXIII)	Decision on the Date and Venue of the Thirty-First Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union – Doc. Assembly/AU/18(XXIII) Add.1	1
17	Assembly/AU/Dec.533(XXIII)	Decision on the Management of the Radio Broadcasting Spectrum in Africa for Transition from Analogue to Digital Broadcasting – Doc. Assembly/AU/18(XXIII) Add.4	1
18	Assembly/AU/Dec.534(XXIII)	Decision on Maritime Piracy – Doc. Assembly/AU/18(XXIII)Add.5	2
19	Assembly/AU/Dec.535(XXIII)	Decision on the Interim Report of the African Union Commission on South Sudan – Doc. Assembly/AU/19(XXIII)	1
20	Assembly/AU/Dec.536(XXIII)	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/4(XXIII)	7
21	Assembly/AU/Dec.537(XXIII)	Decision on the Fourteenth Report of the Committee of Ten on UN Reforms – Doc. Assembly/AU/10(XXIII)	2
22	Assembly/AU/Dec.538(XXIII)	Decision on the High Level Work Programme on Climate Change Action in Africa (WPCCAA) and Preparations for the Global Climate Change Events in 2014 – Doc. Assembly/AU/11(XXIII)	3
23	Assembly/AU/Dec.539(XXIII)	Decision on the Theme, Date and Venue of the Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union	1
24	Assembly/AU/Dec.540(XXIII)	Decision on the Report of Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC) on NEPAD – Doc. Assembly/AU/9(XXIII)	4
25	Assembly/AU/Dec.541(XXIII)	Decision on the Election of Judges of the African Court of Human and Peoples' Rights	1

SR. No.	DECISION NO.	TITLE	No. of Page
		– Doc. EX.CL/854(XXV)	
26	Assembly/AU/Dec.542(XXIII)	Decision on the Official Opening of the Ordinary Sessions of the Assembly	1
27	Assembly/AU/Dec.543(XXIII)	Decision on the Appointment of the Members of the Panel of the Wise of the African Union	2
28	Assembly/AU/Dec.544(XXIII)	Decision on the Budget of the African Union for the 2014 Financial Year – Doc. Assembly/AU/3(XXIII)	2
29	Assembly/AU/Dec.545(XXIII)	Decision on the Report of AIDS Watch Africa (AWA) - Doc. Assembly/AU/14(XXIII)	1
Declaration:			
30	Assembly/AU/Decl.1(XXIII)	Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods – Doc. Assembly/AU/2(XXIII)	7
31	Assembly/AU/Decl.2(XXIII)	Declaration on Ending Preventable Child and Maternal Death in Africa – Doc. Assembly/AU/18(XXIII) Add.3	2
32	Assembly/AU/Decl.3(XXIII)	Declaration in Support of Small Island Developing States Ahead of the Third International Conference on Small Island Development States to be held in Samoa from 1 to 4 September 2014	1
33	Assembly/AU/Decl.4(XXIII)	Declaration on Nutrition Security for Inclusive Economic Growth and Sustainable Development in Africa	2
Resolution:			
34	Assembly/AU/Res.1(XXIII)	Resolution on the Lifting of the Economic and Trade Embargo Imposed on the Republic of Cuba by the United States of America	1

**DECISION ON THE PROTOCOL AND THE STATUTE FOR THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AFRICAN MONETARY FUND
Doc. EX.CL/836(XXV)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the recommendations of the Executive Council for the consideration and adoption of the draft Protocol and the Statute for the Establishment of the African Monetary Fund;
2. **ADOPTS** the Protocol and the Statute for the Establishment of the African Monetary Fund;
3. **CALLS ON** Member States to sign and ratify as expeditiously as possible the Protocol for the Establishment of the African Monetary Fund so as to enable the Protocol to enter into force.



DECISION ON POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA
Doc. EX.CL/836(XXV)

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of Seventh Joint Annual Meeting of the African Union Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development;
2. **REQUESTS:**
 - i) Member States to ensure that the overarching goal of the Common African Position, which is to eradicate poverty in all its forms, is the key message in the intergovernmental negotiation process on the post-2015 development agenda, and to be vigilant about what Africa is negotiating;
 - ii) The Commission, in collaboration with partners, to carry out projections of financing needs for implementing the Post-2015 Development Agenda in Africa using sustainable finance including domestic resources.
3. **CALLS UPON** the secretariat of the High-level Committee, with the support of partners, to come up with an advocacy and negotiation strategy to build alliances in order to ensure that African priorities identified in the Common African Position are reflected in the global Post-2015 Development Agenda;
4. **REQUESTS** member States to enhance their statistical capacity to enable them to effectively monitor progress in the implementation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda, and **CALLS UPON** countries that have not signed and ratified the African Charter on Statistics to do so as expeditiously as possible;
5. **CALLS UPON** the Commission, in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Africa, the African Development Bank and the African Capacity-Building Foundation, to fast-track the establishment of the African Union Institute for Statistics and the African Statistics Training Centre, in accordance with the decision made by Heads of State and Government;
6. **REQUESTS:**
 - i) the Commission, the Economic Commission for Africa, the African Development Bank and the United Nations Development Programme to facilitate regular expert dialogue between development planners and statisticians, with the purpose of embedding statistics in planning and management for results, so that Africa's transformative Agenda is achieved;
 - ii) the Commission, the Economic Commission for Africa, the African Development Bank, the United Nations Development Programme and the regional economic communities, with the support of partners, to organize a high-level conference in 2014 to discuss the data revolution in Africa and its implications for the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

**DECISION ON PRODUCTIVITY, COMPETITIVENESS
AND INDUSTRIALIZATION
Doc. EX.CL/836(XXV)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of Seventh Joint Annual Meetings of the Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development and African Union Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance;
2. **COMMITTS** itself to speeding up implementation of the African Union Productivity Agenda for Africa, which, as an essential engine for accelerated industrialization on the continent, will progressively build and enhance the competitiveness of the continent in the global economy;
3. **CALLS FOR:**
 - i) enhancement of the Pan-African Productivity Association, to provide it with the capacity to act as a regional think tank, catalyzer, research and knowledge developer and policy adviser on productivity at the continental level;
 - ii) the establishment and enhancement of productivity organizations at national and regional levels and for efforts to ensure that they become members of the Pan-African Productivity Association.
4. **REQUESTS:**
 - i) the Commission to work closely with the Pan-African Productivity Association, the regional economic communities and international partners, including the United Nations Development Programme, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in order to facilitate the establishment of regional organizations on productivity and social dialogue and to compile and disseminate best practices on productivity in Africa;
 - ii) the Commission, the Pan-African Productivity Association, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the Observatoire économique et statistique d'Afrique subsaharienne (AFRISTAT) and other development partners to develop a comprehensive productivity and competitiveness measurement system to track progress and to make intercountry, interregional and global comparisons.
5. **UNDERTAKES** to join efforts with the ministries of labour, industry, economic development and finance and with other relevant bodies in the public and private sector in promoting social dialogue and productivity in support of the implementation of industrial policies at all levels, with particular focus on the SMMEs and agribusiness;

6. **INVITES** the Commission, in collaboration with the International Labour Organization, the Pan-African Productivity Association and other development partners to organize regular activities to foster a culture of productivity in Africa and building productivity capacity management at all levels;
7. **REQUESTS** the Commission to follow-up on the implementation of the decision and report to the Assembly on progress in the implementation.



**DECISION ON STRATEGY FOR SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY
AND INNOVATION IN AFRICA 2024
Doc. EX.CL/839(XXV)**

The Assembly,

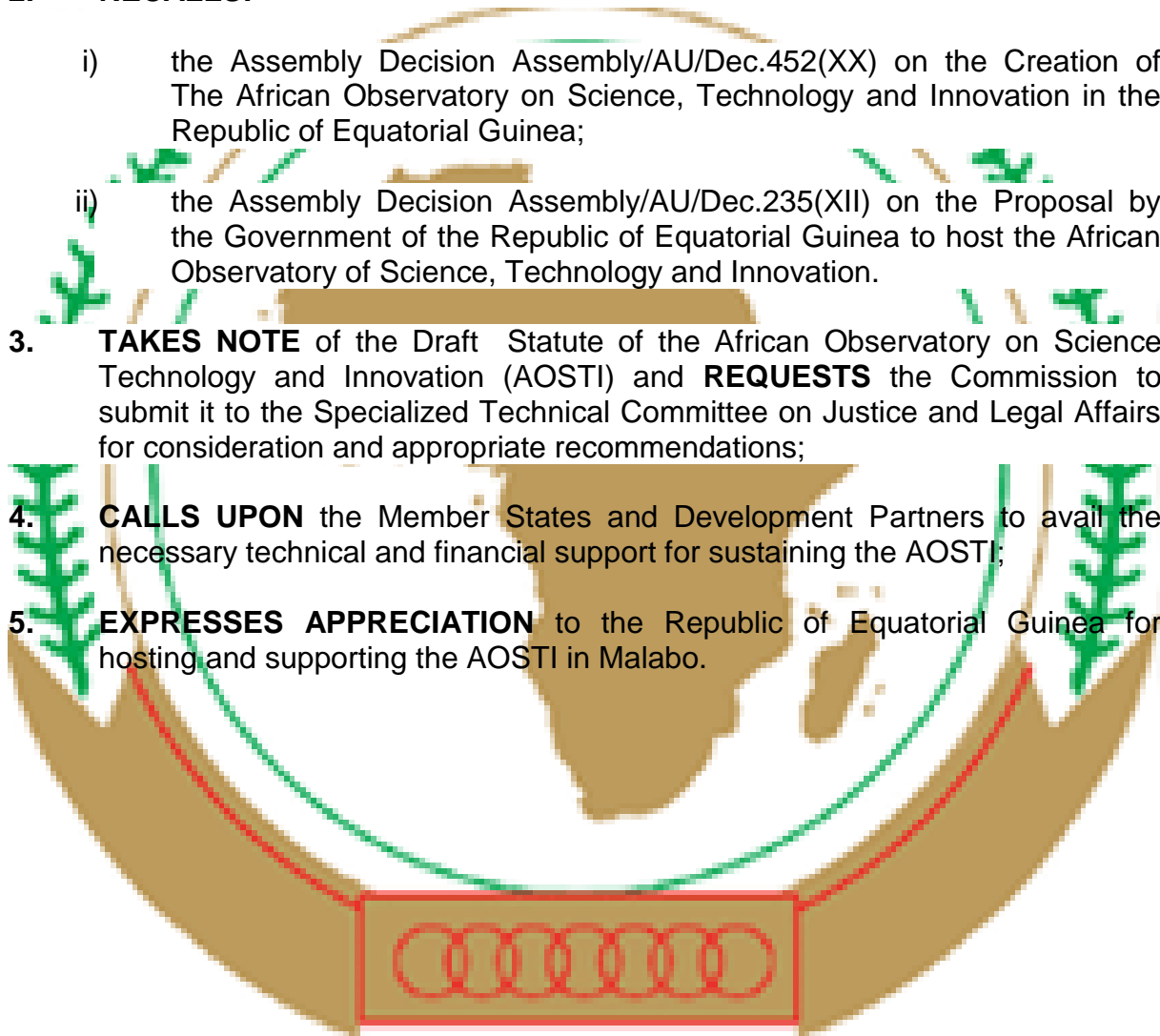
1. **TAKES NOTE** of the recommendations of the Executive Council on the Report and of the Extraordinary Session of the African Union Conference of Ministers in charge of Science and Technology (AMCOST V) held in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, from 15 to 18 April 2014;
2. **ADOPTS** the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa -2024 (STISA-2024) as continental framework for accelerating Africa's transition to an innovation-led, knowledge-based economy within the overall framework of the AU Agenda 2063;
3. **CALLS UPON** Member States and Regional Economic Communities to integrate the STISA-2024 in their STI development agendas, ensure its implementation, and popularization in the continent;
4. **INVITES** the Development Partners, UNESCO, UNECA, UNCTAD and other stakeholders to support the implementation of STISA-2024;
5. **REQUESTS** the Commission to prepare practical modalities for implementation of STISA-2024 at all levels and to report progress in this regard to the Summit.



**DECISION ON AFRICAN OBSERVATORY FOR SCIENCE,
TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION (AOSTI)
Doc. EX.CL/839(XXV)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report and the recommendations of the Extra Ordinary Session of the African Ministerial Conference on Science and Technology (AMCOST V) held from 16 to 18 April 2014 in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo;
2. **RECALLS:**
 - i) the Assembly Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.452(XX) on the Creation of The African Observatory on Science, Technology and Innovation in the Republic of Equatorial Guinea;
 - ii) the Assembly Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.235(XII) on the Proposal by the Government of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea to host the African Observatory of Science, Technology and Innovation.
3. **TAKES NOTE** of the Draft Statute of the African Observatory on Science Technology and Innovation (AOSTI) and **REQUESTS** the Commission to submit it to the Specialized Technical Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs for consideration and appropriate recommendations;
4. **CALLS UPON** the Member States and Development Partners to avail the necessary technical and financial support for sustaining the AOSTI;
5. **EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** to the Republic of Equatorial Guinea for hosting and supporting the AOSTI in Malabo.



**DECISION ON PAN AFRICAN INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (PAIPO)
Doc. EX.CL/839(XXV)**

The Assembly,

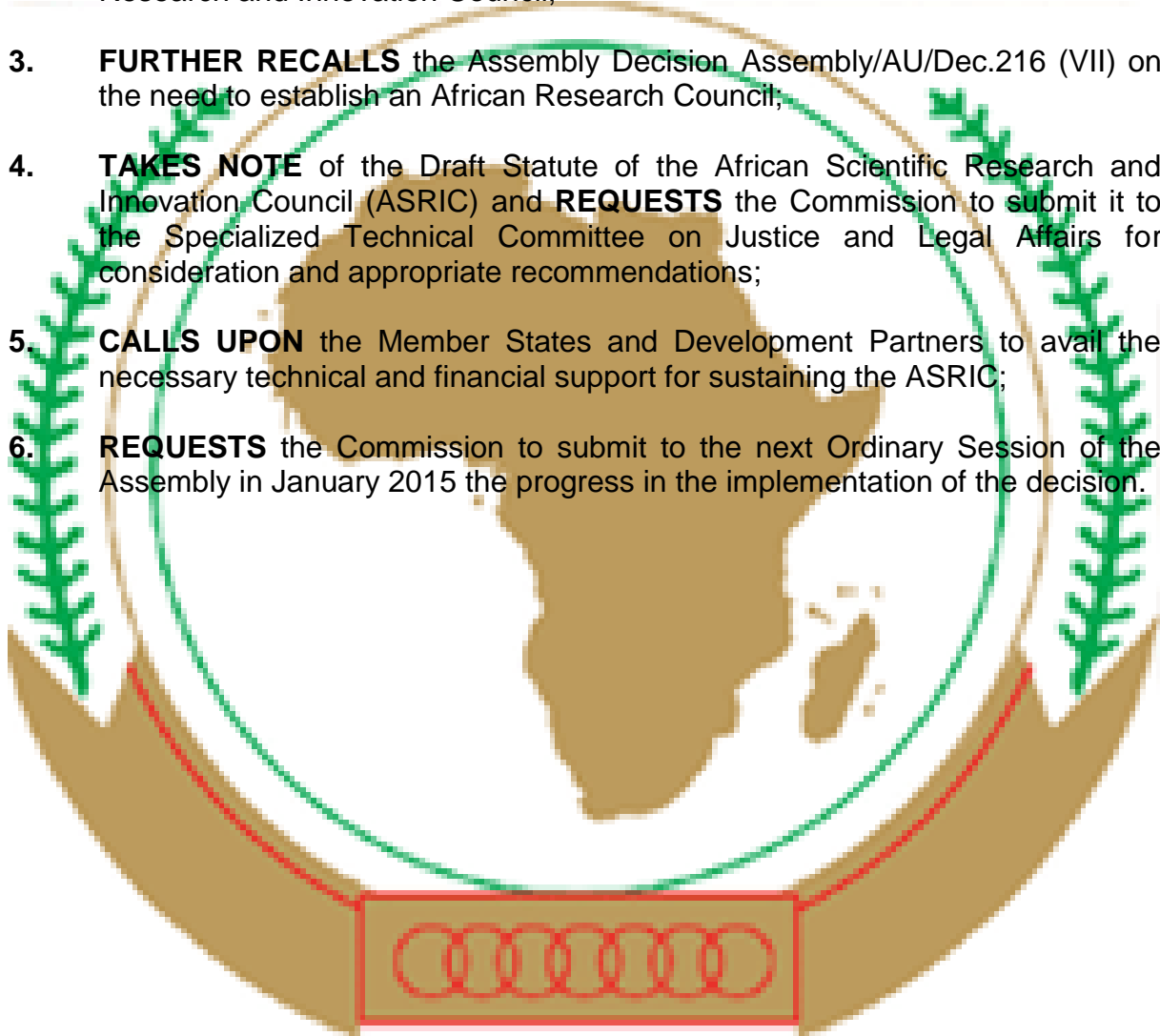
1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report and the recommendations of the Extra Ordinary Session of the African Ministerial Conference on Science and Technology (AMCOST V) held from 16 to 18 April 2014 in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo;
2. **RECALLS** Assembly Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.453(XX) on the Creation of the Pan-African Intellectual Property Organization (PAIPO);
3. **TAKES NOTE** of the Draft Statute of the Pan African Intellectual Property Organization (PAIPO) and **REQUESTS** the Commission to submit it to the Specialized Technical Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs for consideration and appropriate recommendations;
4. **RECOGNIZES** ARIPO and OAPI as building blocks for the creation of a single Pan African Intellectual Property Organization and **WELCOMES** their support in the implementation of the Heads of State and Government decisions on PAIPO;
5. **INVITES** Member States, WIPO as well as development organizations and partners to lend support for implementation of the decision;
6. **WELCOMES AND ENDORSES** the offer by the Republic of Tunisia to host the Headquarter and Secretariat of PAIPO;
7. **REQUESTS** the Commission to prepare road map for implementation of PAIPO in coordination with the host country and to report progress in this regard to the Summit.



**DECISION ON AFRICAN SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH
AND INNOVATION COUNCIL (ASRIC)
Doc. EX.CL/839(XXV)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report and the recommendations of the Extraordinary Session of the African Ministerial Conference on Science and Technology (AMCOST V) held from 16 to 18 April 2014 in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo;
2. **RECALLS** the Executive Council Decision EX.CL/Dec.747(XXII) on African Research and Innovation Council;
3. **FURTHER RECALLS** the Assembly Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.216 (VII) on the need to establish an African Research Council;
4. **TAKES NOTE** of the Draft Statute of the African Scientific Research and Innovation Council (ASRIC) and **REQUESTS** the Commission to submit it to the Specialized Technical Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs for consideration and appropriate recommendations;
5. **CALLS UPON** the Member States and Development Partners to avail the necessary technical and financial support for sustaining the ASRIC;
6. **REQUESTS** the Commission to submit to the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly in January 2015 the progress in the implementation of the decision.



**DECISION ON THE INTERNATIONAL SALON
ON INVENTION AND INNOVATION
Doc. EX.CL/839(XXV)**

The Assembly,

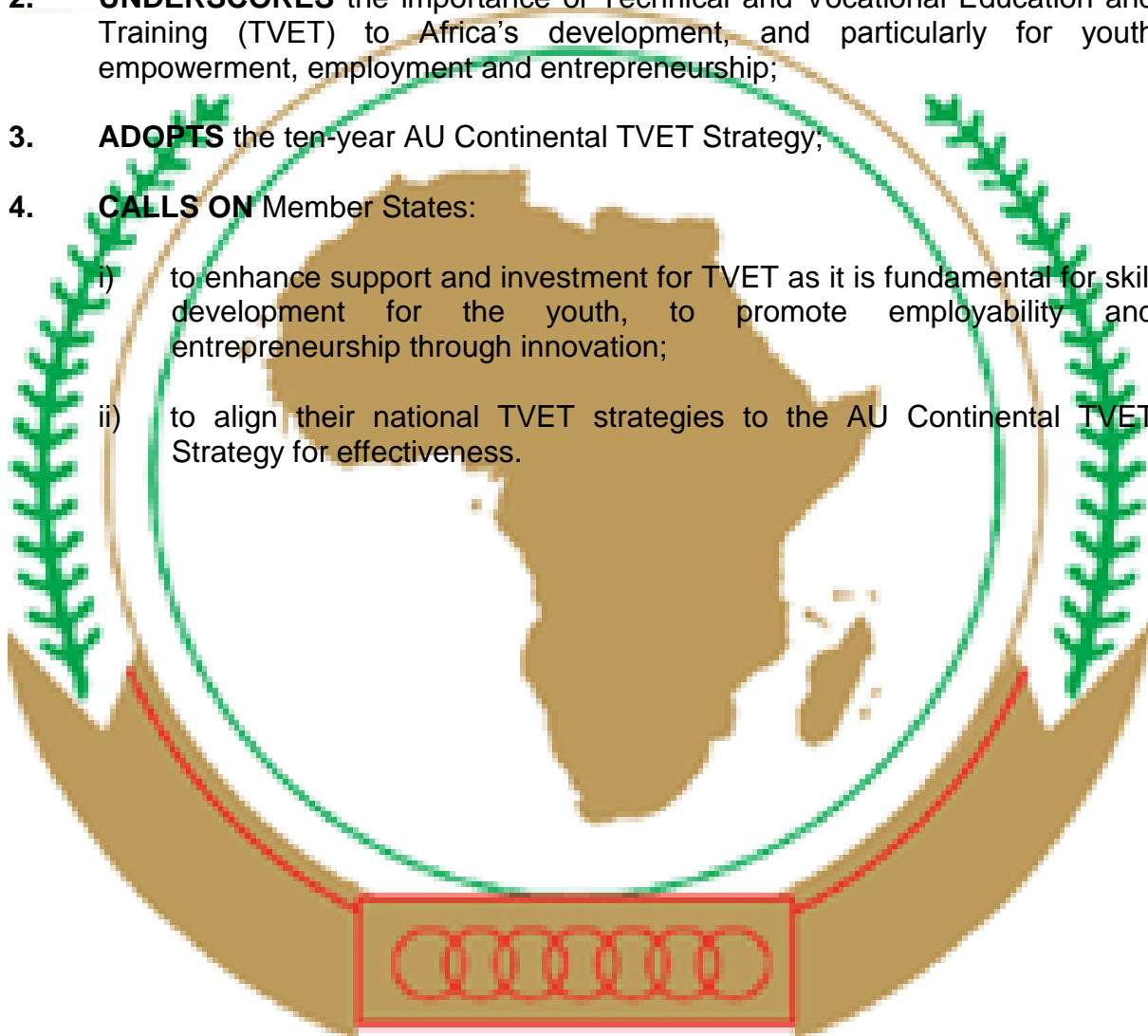
1. **TAKES NOTE** of the recommendations of the Executive Council on the Report and the recommendations of the Extraordinary Session of the African Union Conference of Ministers in charge of Science and Technology (AMCOST V) in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, from 15 to 18 April 2014;
2. **WELCOMES AND ENDORSES** the proposal by Republic of Congo to:
 - i) organize in Brazzaville every two years an International Salon on Invention and Innovation under the auspices of the African Union;
 - ii) host a high level Ethics and Bioethics Forum in Brazzaville.
3. **REQUESTS** the Commission to work with the Republic of Congo to prepare the terms of reference for the implementation of the International Salon Initiative and submit them for consideration by the AU Summit in January 2015 and to take the necessary steps to organize the first International Salon;
4. **COMMENDS** the progress made by the Republic of Congo, the Commission and the African Academy of science in the implementation of the Denis Sassou N'GUESSO Innovation Prize.



DECISION ON THE AU CONTINENTAL TVET STRATEGY
Doc. EX.CL/840(XXV)

The Assembly,

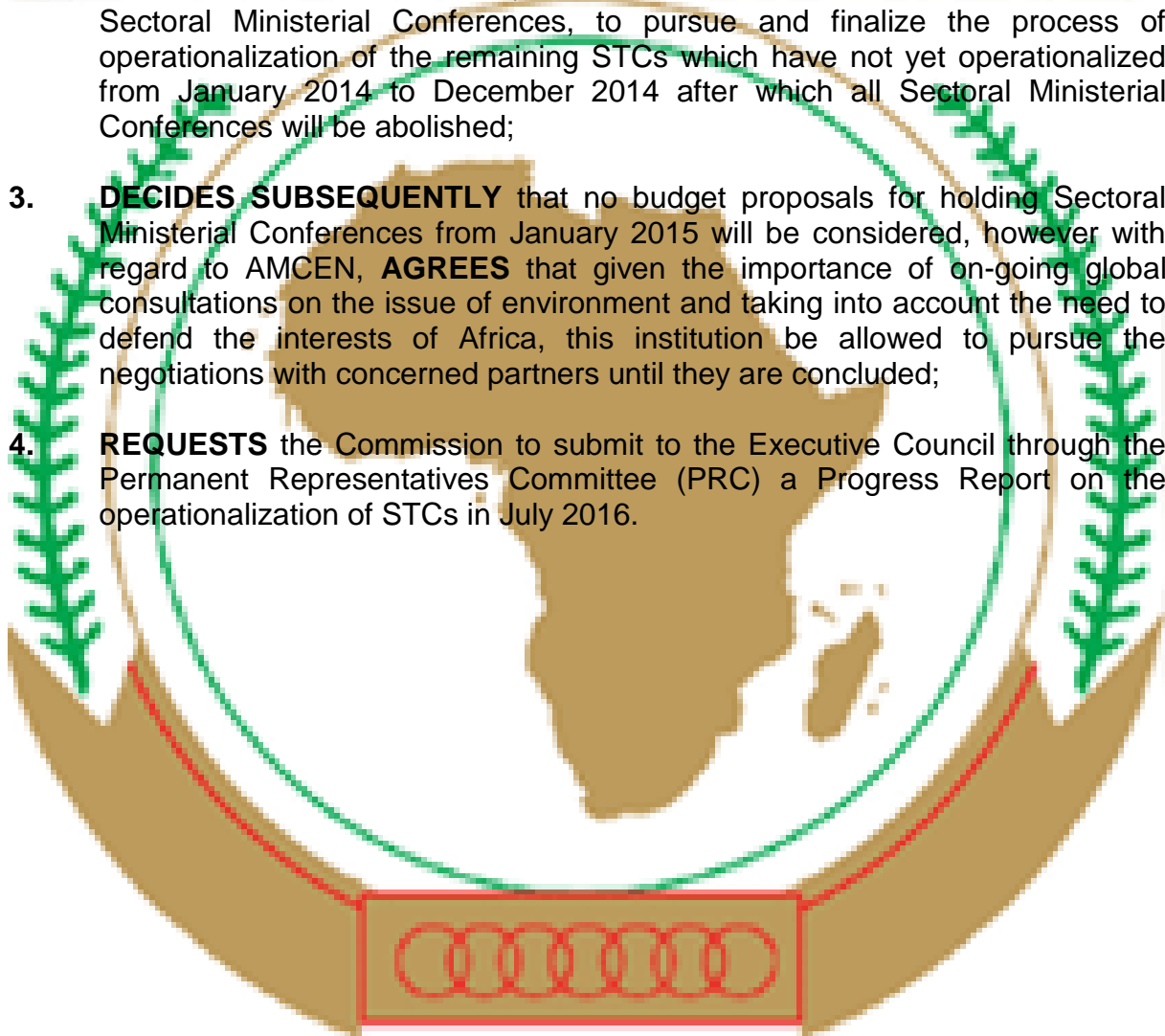
1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Executive Council recommendation on the Report of the Sixth Ordinary Session of the Conference of Ministers of Education of the African Union (COMEDAF VI), held from 22 to 25 April 2014 in Yaoundé, Cameroon;
2. **UNDERSCORES** the importance of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) to Africa's development, and particularly for youth empowerment, employment and entrepreneurship;
3. **ADOPTS** the ten-year AU Continental TVET Strategy;
4. **CALLS ON** Member States:
 - i) to enhance support and investment for TVET as it is fundamental for skill development for the youth, to promote employability and entrepreneurship through innovation;
 - ii) to align their national TVET strategies to the AU Continental TVET Strategy for effectiveness.



**DECISION ON THE OPERATIONALIZATION OF THE
SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL COMMITTEES
Doc.EX.CL/845(XXV)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Commission on the Status of Operationalization of the Specialized Technical Committees (STCs) and the recommendations of the Executive Council thereon;
2. **REQUESTS** the Commission, in collaboration with the Bureaus of various Sectoral Ministerial Conferences, to pursue and finalize the process of operationalization of the remaining STCs which have not yet operationalized from January 2014 to December 2014 after which all Sectoral Ministerial Conferences will be abolished;
3. **DECIDES SUBSEQUENTLY** that no budget proposals for holding Sectoral Ministerial Conferences from January 2015 will be considered, however with regard to AMCEN, **AGREES** that given the importance of on-going global consultations on the issue of environment and taking into account the need to defend the interests of Africa, this institution be allowed to pursue the negotiations with concerned partners until they are concluded;
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to submit to the Executive Council through the Permanent Representatives Committee (PRC) a Progress Report on the operationalization of STCs in July 2016.



**DECISION ON THE INTEGRATION OF THE
APRM INTO THE AFRICAN UNION
Doc. EX.CL/851(XXV)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the APRM Forum on the Integration of the APRM into the African Union structures;
2. **DECIDES** that the APRM shall be an autonomous entity within the AU system;
3. **REQUESTS** the African Union Commission and the APRM Secretariat to consult on the practical modalities involved in the integration of the APRM into the African Union system, taking into account the fact that:
 - i) it is a voluntary organisation of AU Member States;
 - ii) it exercises autonomy in its financial and budgetary processes;
 - iii) its legal personality, structure, administrative, human resources and financial management shall be based on the standard procedures of the African Union system.



**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE AFRICAN COMMITTEE
OF EXPERTS ON THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE OF
THE CHILD (ACERWC)
Doc. EX.CL/858(XXV)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC) and the Decision of the Executive Council on the Report [EX.CL/Dec. 843 (XXV);
2. **FURTHER TAKES NOTE** of the recommendation of the Executive Council contained in the abovementioned Decision EX. CL/ Dec 843 regarding the amendment of Article 37 (1) of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child on the possibility of the renewal of the term of office of the members of the ACERWC;
3. **ENDORSES** the recommendation of the Executive Council to amend Article 37 (1) of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child as follows:
“**The members of the Committee shall be elected for a term of five years and may *be re-elected only once*. However, the term of four of the members elected at the first election shall expire after two years and the term of six others, after four years**”
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to notify all States Parties to the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child of the amendment and to present the amendment for adoption during the January 2015 Summit in conformity with the provisions of Article 48 (1) of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child.



DECISION ON THE DRAFT LEGAL INSTRUMENTS
Doc. Assembly/AU/8(XXIII)

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the recommendations of the Executive Council for the consideration and adoption of the Draft Legal Instruments;
2. **ADOPTS** the legal instruments as follows:
 - a) Protocol on the Establishment of the African Monetary Fund;
 - b) African Convention on Cross-Border Cooperation (Niamey Convention);
 - c) Draft African Union Convention on Cyberspace Security and Protection of Personal Data;
 - d) African Charter on the Values and Principles of Decentralization, Local Governance and Local Development;
 - e) Protocol on Amendments to the Protocol on the Statute of the African Court of Justice and Human Rights;
 - f) Protocol to the Constitutive Act of the African Union on the Pan-African Parliament.
3. **CALLS ON** Member States to sign and ratify the said Legal Instruments as expeditiously as possible so as to enable them to enter into force.



**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE HIGH LEVEL COMMITTEE
ON THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA
Doc. Assembly/AU/12(XXIII)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** and **ADOPTS** the Report of the Chair of the High Level Committee (HLC) on the Post-2015 Development Agenda;
2. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** of the Strategy for Advocacy and Negotiation, and **REQUESTS** the HLC to adopt it after further consultations with the African Permanent Representatives in New York;
3. **COMMENDS** Heads of State and Government and members of the HLC for their commitment, dedication and leadership in crafting the Common African Position (CAP) out of the aspirations of the African people and embarking on advocacy, negotiation and promotional activities;
4. **REQUESTS** all Member States and other African stakeholders to champion and support the CAP and speak with one voice during the discussions at the UN General Assembly and any other relevant fora;
5. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the HLC to also explore the emerging issues of accountability and how to align it with the CAP framework to ensure consistency.



**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE HIGH LEVEL AFRICAN
TRADE COMMITTEE ON TRADE ISSUES
Doc. Assembly/AU/13(XXIII)**

The Assembly,

1. **RECALLS** the Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.394(XVIII) on Boosting Intra-African Trade/Continental Free Trade Area taken on 30 January 2012 at its Eighteenth Ordinary Session;
2. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the High Level African Trade Committee (HATC) held on 25 June 2014 and endorses its recommendations;
3. With regard to the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement:
 - i) **REAFFIRMS** its commitment to the Doha Development Agenda and to its rapid completion in accordance with its development objectives;
 - ii) **ALSO REAFFIRMS** its commitment to all the decisions the Ministers took in Bali which are an important stepping stone towards the conclusion of the Doha Round;
 - iii) To this end **ACKNOWLEDGES** that the Trade Facilitation Agreement is an integral part of this process;
 - iv) **REITERATES** in this regard that assistance and support for capacity building should be provided as envisaged in the Trade Facilitation Agreement in a predictable manner so as to enable African economies to acquire the necessary capacity for the implementation of the agreement;
 - v) Therefore **AGREES** that the Trade Facilitation Agreement should be implemented in line with the decision Trade Ministers took in Bali.
4. **ADOPTS** the revisions to the Terms of Reference of the High Level African Trade Committee arising from its meeting held on 25 June 2014;
5. **CALLS UPON** Member States to maintain the momentum to fast track the establishment of the CFTA as scheduled by providing necessary financial and technical resources at national, regional and continental levels;
6. Cognizant of the impact of the negotiations of bilateral, multilateral and mega trade agreements on the African integration agenda, **URGES** Member States and RECs once more to ensure that they do not compromise the African trade integration process, by transmitting through their respective RECs the draft texts under negotiation with their partners;
7. **DIRECTS** the Commission to prepare Draft Terms of Reference of the CFTA Negotiating Forum based on best practices in the RECs/Tripartite, refined draft Guiding Objectives and Principles as well as Institutional Arrangements to be submitted to the next AU Trade Ministerial Conference for adoption and to the

next AU Summit for endorsement towards the effective launch of the CFTA negotiations in June/July 2015;

8. **REQUESTS** the Commission to also prepare terms of reference for the negotiations on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) and Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs);
9. **CALLS UPON** the Ministers of Trade to meet separately from the STC meetings as often as needed to ensure the effective completion of the CFTA negotiations and related issues;
10. **DECIDES** that the next meeting of the HATC will be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in the margins of the January 2015 Summit and will be chaired by the President of the Republic of Ghana.



**DECISION ON THE DATE AND VENUE OF THE THIRTY-FIRST
ORDINARY SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF
STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE AFRICAN UNION
Doc. Assembly/AU/18 (XXIII) Add.1**

The Assembly,

1. **RECALLS** the Constitutive Act of the African Union, in its Article 6 on the holding of its Ordinary Sessions;
2. **RECALLS** the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly, in its Article 5 subparagraph 1, regarding the venue of its June/July Sessions;
3. **EXPRESSES SATISFACTION** with the offer of the Republic of Senegal to host the Thirty-First Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union in Dakar, Senegal in June/July 2018;
4. **FAVOURABLY WELCOMES** the offer of the Republic of Senegal and **REQUESTS** the Commission to conduct, for this purpose, the necessary consultations with Senegal with a view to holding this session in the best possible conditions;
5. **DECIDES** that the Thirty-First Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Union will be held in Dakar in June/July 2018.



**DECISION ON THE MANAGEMENT OF THE RADIO BROADCASTING
SPECTRUM IN AFRICA FOR TRANSITION FROM
ANALOGUE TO DIGITAL BROADCASTING
Doc. Assembly/AU/18(XXIII) Add.4**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the proposal of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria on establishment of enhanced cooperation between the Commission and the African Union of Broadcasting (AUB) for better management of the technical and technological evolution of digital broadcasting;
2. **UNDERScores** the strategic importance of offering national broadcasting operators the best possible migration from the analogue broadcasting spectrum to the digital spectrum, and thus address the specific needs of Africa's populations in the realm of information;
3. **DIRECTS** the Conference of Ministers in charge of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and the Conference of Ministers of Communication, with the participation of national and international regulatory entities for the broadcasting sector, to take up the issue of migration from the analogue radio/television broadcasting to digital transmission and work in concert to protect the interest of the public broadcasting services of Member States of the African Union;
4. **REQUESTS** the Conference of African Union Ministers in charge of ICTs to place this issue on its agenda on regular basis, and thus be able to constantly monitor progress in the transition from analogue to digital and have a firm grip on this process for the benefit of Africa's populations;
5. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission, in collaboration with the African Union of Broadcasting and the African Telecommunication Union (ATU) to expeditiously establish an African Technical Committee for the Information and Media Society to accompany Member States in their transition to full digital broadcasting while at the same time stimulating economic recovery in Africa;
6. **TASKS** the aforesaid African Technical Committee to develop a road map on the practical modalities of implementing the strategy for transition from analogue to digital, taking into account the preservation of the public services for the benefit of African citizens;
7. **REQUESTS** the Commission to present a report on regular basis to the Executive Council of the African Union on the progress of this issue.

DECISION ON MARITIME PIRACY
Doc. Assembly/AU/18(XXIII)Add.5

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of and **WELCOMES** the proposal of the Republic of Togo on the organization of a Regional Conference on Maritime Piracy and other Criminal Acts Committed at Sea and its offer to host the said Conference;
2. **RECALLS:**
 - i) Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.252(XIII) adopted by the 13th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union held in Sirte, Libya, in which the Assembly expressed its serious concern at the mounting insecurity in maritime spaces in Africa, and welcomed the initiatives undertaken by the Commission to develop a comprehensive and coherent strategy to address the challenges and opportunities linked to the African maritime space;
 - ii) the Communiqué of the 387th meeting of the African Union Peace and Security Council held in Addis Ababa on 29 July 2013 at ministerial level, by which the Council endorsed the Solemn Declaration of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), and the Gulf of Guinea Commission (GGC) on Maritime Safety and Security in the Gulf of Guinea proclaimed at the Summit held in Yaoundé, Cameroon, from 24 to 25 June 2013, and presented the Blue Ocean Economy as envisaged in the 2050 AIM Strategy as the «new frontline of Africa's renaissance»;
 - iii) Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.496(XXII) of the 22nd Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia by which the Assembly adopted the 2050 Africa's Integrated Maritime Strategy (2050 AIM Strategy) and its Plan of Action for Operationalization.
3. **REITERATES** the geo-strategic importance of seas and oceans in the socio-economic development of Africa, and their role in the Continent's sustainable development, as well as the crucial place they occupy in the Post-2015 Development Agenda and the formulation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG);
4. **ACKNOWLEDGES** that such as Conference is necessary in order to take adequate, coordinated and concerted measures to effectively combat maritime piracy and other criminal acts committed at sea;
5. **INVITES** Member States and their appropriate Administrations, Regional Economic Communities and Regional Mechanisms, African and International

Institutions specializing in maritime and related activities, as well as development partners, to participate actively in the Conference when it is convened;

6. **REQUESTS** the Commission to carry out consultations with the Government of the Republic of Togo, in collaboration with technical partners, to study the practical modalities for the organization of the Conference, and submit a report thereon to the Assembly at its 24th Ordinary Session in January 2015.



**DECISION ON THE INTERIM REPORT OF THE AFRICAN
UNION COMMISSION ON SOUTH SUDAN
Doc. Assembly/AU/19(XXIII)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Interim Report of the African Union Commission of Inquiry on South Sudan (AUCISS) and **ENDORSES** the recommendations contained therein;
2. **COMMENDS** H.E. Chief Olusegun Aremu Obasanjo, Chairperson of the AUCISS and the other Members for the work undertaken thus far within a short time and with the limited resources available;
3. **TAKES NOTE** of extension of the mandate of the AUCISS for an additional three (3) months in order to enable it complete its work;
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to mobilize funds under the budget year 2014 to finance the implementation of activities of the AUCISS.



**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/4(XXIII)**

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. **RECALLS** its earlier decisions on the reports of the PSC on its Activities and the State of Peace and Security in Africa, as well as the Declaration on the commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the PSC adopted by the PSC meeting at the level of the Heads of State and Government, in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, on 25 June 2014;
3. **REITERATES** the critical role of the PSC in the promotion of peace, security and stability on the continent and **COMMENDS** the PSC for the achievements made over the past decade. At the same time, the Assembly **NOTES** with deep concern the continued prevalence of the scourge of conflict and violence on the continent. Accordingly, the Assembly **CALLS FOR** renewed efforts by the AU Member States and the Commission, as well as by the Regional Economic Communities/Regional Mechanisms for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution (RECs/RMs) towards achieving the objective of a conflict-free Africa by 2020, as provided for in the Solemn Declaration adopted at its 21st Ordinary Session held in Addis Ababa, on 25 May 2013. In this respect, the Assembly:
 - i) **STRESSES THE NEED** for all concerned to redouble their efforts to prevent the occurrence of conflict and violence, including through the effective implementation of the relevant AU instruments on governance, democracy and human rights;
 - ii) **CALLS FOR** renewed efforts for the full operationalization of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA), and **WELCOMES** the steps taken to operationalize the African Capacity for Immediate Response to Crises (ACIRC), as a transitional arrangement. The Assembly **LOOKS FORWARD** to the successful conduct of the Amani Africa II Exercise, which is expected to validate the full operational capability of the African Standby Force (ASF), **EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** to the European Union (EU) for financially supporting the Exercise, and **CALLS UPON** Member States, in the spirit of African leadership and ownership, to provide resources to bridge the remaining financial gap;
 - iii) **STRESSES THE NEED** for continued efforts in the area of post-conflict reconstruction and development to consolidate peace where it has been established. In this respect, the Assembly **WELCOMES** the launching of the African Solidarity Initiative (ASI), in January 2014, and **URGES** both the

Commission and the AU Member States to spare no efforts to ensure the success of the ASI.

4. **TAKES NOTE WITH APPRECIATION** of the proposal made by H.E. Dr. Thomas Yayi Boni, President of the Republic of Benin, regarding the convening, in 2015, of an extraordinary session of the Assembly of the Union on the financing of AU-led peace support operations and other activities aimed at promoting peace, security and stability on the Continent. The Assembly **REQUESTS** the Commission to initiate consultations with the Benin authorities on the proposal, and report thereon at its next Ordinary Session;
5. **WELCOMES** the continued progress in post-conflict reconstruction and development and peace building processes in The Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia. The Assembly **ENCOURAGES** the authorities of these countries and other stakeholders to pursue and intensify their efforts, and **CALLS UPON** international partners to continue to extend the required support for the consolidation of the gains being made;
6. **TAKES NOTE WITH SATISFACTION**, of the continued positive evolution of the situation in Madagascar, including the appointment of a new Prime Minister and the formation of a new Government. The Assembly **ENCOURAGES** the Malagasy authorities and other stakeholders to continue to work together to build on the progress made, including in the promotion of national reconciliation and the deepening of democracy. The Assembly **WELCOMES** the transformation of the International Contact Group on Madagascar (ICG-M) into an International Support Group for Madagascar (ISG-M), as agreed during the 9th meeting of the ICG-M held in Antananarivo, on 28 March 2014;
7. **WELCOMES** the completion of the Transition and the restoration of constitutional order in Guinea-Bissau following the presidential and legislative elections held on 13 April and 18 May 2014, as well as the resumption of the participation of Guinea-Bissau in the activities of the AU, following the decision adopted by the PSC at its 442nd meeting, held on 17 June 2014. The Assembly **COMMENDS** the leadership and people of Guinea-Bissau for the achievements made, **ENCOURAGES** them to continue to demonstrate the same commitment to address the many challenges facing their country, including the required structural reforms, and **URGES** the Member States and partners to extend the much-needed financial and socio-economic support to Guinea-Bissau, including by actively participating in and pledging resources during the planned donors round table for the country;
8. **FURTHER WELCOMES** the restoration of constitutional order in Egypt following the constitutional referendum and the presidential election held in January and May 2014, respectively, **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the resumption of Egypt's participation in the activities of the AU. The Assembly **COMMENDS** the members of the AU High-Level Panel for Egypt, namely, former Presidents Alpha Oumar Konaré of Mali and Festus Mogae of Botswana, as well as former Prime Minister Dileita Mohamed Dileita of Djibouti, for the dedication and commitment

with which they fulfilled the mandate entrusted to them, **WELCOMES** the final report of the Panel and **CALLS FOR** the effective implementation of the recommendations contained therein, as endorsed by the PSC at its 442nd meeting held on 17 June 2014;

9. **WELCOMES** the positive developments that have taken place in Somalia, including the successful conduct, by AMISOM and the Somali National Army (SNA), of the joint military operation code-named Operation Eagle against Al Shabaab, and **ENCOURAGES** the Somali stakeholders to pursue and intensify their efforts in achieving national reconciliation, the formation of a cohesive Federation and the conduct of credible general elections in 2016. The Assembly **REITERATES ITS APPRECIATION** to the AMISOM troop and police contributing countries, IGAD and its Member States for their continued engagement and the sacrifices made, as well as to the United Nations and other international partners, including the EU, for their continued support to the efforts of the AU and those of the Federal Government of Somalia. The Assembly **CALLS FOR** the provision of adequate financial and socio-economic support to Somalia within the framework of the New Deal Compact, as well as for generous contributions to the UN-administrated Trust Fund for the SNA. The Assembly, noting with concern the looming humanitarian disaster in Somalia, **APPEALS** to the international community to provide adequate humanitarian support to Somalia;
10. **REITERATES THE NEED** for renewed efforts to assist Ethiopia and Eritrea in overcoming the impasse in the implementation of the peace process between the two countries and **ENCOURAGES** the Commission to take appropriate steps in this respect, in line with the relevant provisions of the PSC Protocol. The Assembly **REITERATES** its earlier pronouncements on the relations between Djibouti and the State of Eritrea, **WELCOMES** the commitments of the two countries to overcome the challenges at hand, as expressed by the two heads of state during the visit the AU Commissioner for Peace and Security undertook to Djibouti and Eritrea in April and May 2014;
11. **EXPRESSES CONCERN** over the continued conflict in Darfur and the resulting impact on the human rights and humanitarian situation, **STRESSES** the need for continued efforts to stabilize the situation on the ground and promote an inclusive political process, within the framework of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (DDPD). In this respect, the Assembly **ENCOURAGES** the Joint Special Representative and Joint Chief Mediator (JSR/JCM) to pursue and intensify his efforts to bring on board the holdout armed movements and **WELCOMES** the convening of a second support Umjaras meeting to the peace process at the initiative of President Idriss Deby Itno of Chad. The Assembly **EXPRESSES DEEP CONCERN** over the on-going fighting in the Two Areas of Blue Nile and South Kordofan, with the attendant serious humanitarian consequences and **APPEALS** to the parties, namely the Government of The Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/North (SPLM/N), to extend full cooperation to the AU High-Level Implementation Panel for The Sudan and South Sudan (AUHIP) in its facilitation efforts. The Assembly **WELCOMES** the National Initiative Dialogue announced by President Omar Hassan Al-Bashir in January 2014, and **CALLS**

UPON all stakeholders to work towards creating an enabling environment for the success of this Initiative. The Assembly **ENCOURAGES** the AUHIP to extend all necessary support to this Initiative;

12. **EXPRESSES ITS DEEP CONCERN** over the grave security and humanitarian situation in South Sudan and **ECHOES** the statement made by the 26th Extraordinary Summit of IGAD, held on 10 June 2014, expressing disappointment at the failures of both parties to honour their commitments to date, and **CALLS UPON THEM** to live up to their commitments and the expectations of their people. The Assembly **REITERATES AU'S DEEP APPRECIATION** to IGAD and its Chairperson, Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn of Ethiopia, the other leaders of the region, as well as to the IGAD Mediation Team, for their sustained efforts and the results achieved to date, including the signing, in Addis Ababa, on 9 May 2014, by President Salva Kiir Mayardit and Dr. Riek Machar, of the Agreement to Resolve the Crisis in South Sudan, the launching of a multi-stakeholders political process in Addis Ababa and the deployment of the IGAD Monitoring and Verification Teams (MVTs). The Assembly **WELCOMES** the adoption by the Security Council of resolution 2155 (2014), enhancing the strength and mandate of the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), including the deployment of three battalions with additional responsibility for protecting the MVTs, as well as contributing to the implementation of the Mission's overall mandate. The Assembly **NOTES WITH APPRECIATION** the work done by the AU Commission of Inquiry, **COMMENDS** former President Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria and other members of the Commission for their commitment, **CALLS UPON** all the concerned parties, in particular the Government and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) in opposition, to extend full cooperation to the Commission, and **LOOKS FORWARD** to its final report;
13. **WELCOMES** the continued commitment of The Sudan and South Sudan to implement the Cooperation Agreements they signed in Addis Ababa on 27 September 2012, with the support of the AUHIP, and **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the progress achieved to date. The Assembly **URGES** the two countries to make renewed efforts towards the resolution of the outstanding issues, notably the conclusive determination of the centre line of the Safe Demilitarized Border Zone (SDBZ), the demarcation of the border and the determination of the status of the five disputed border areas, as well as the resolution of the Abyei issue, including the urgent and full implementation of Temporary Arrangements for the Administration and Security of the Abyei Area, in line with the relevant PSC decisions and the commitments made by the two countries at various bilateral Summits. The Assembly **WELCOMES** the Joint Approach to the international community for assistance to The Sudan and South Sudan through transitional financial assistance to The Sudan, development support to South Sudan, comprehensive debt relief and lifting of economic sanctions imposed on The Sudan, **EXPRESSES SUPPORT** for the conclusions of the Tripartite Committee established in the context of the Cooperation Agreements, reached at its meeting, held in Addis Ababa, from 31 May to 3 June 2014, and **REQUESTS** the AUHIP to continue supporting the efforts of the two countries;

14. **REITERATES** its earlier decisions on the need for a regional and holistic approach to the challenges to peace, security and stability in the Horn of Africa, in support to IGAD, and **REQUESTS** the Commission, in line with the relevant PSC communiqué, to expedite its efforts, including consultations with the IGAD Chair, towards the implementation of this approach and the envisaged convening of a regional conference on peace, security, cooperation and development in the Horn of Africa;
15. **EXPRESSES SATISFACTION** at the progress made in the implementation of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of The Congo (DRC) and the Region, and **ENCOURAGES** the countries of the region, with the support of the international community, to pursue and enhance on-going efforts, especially in the area of socio-economic development. The Assembly **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the measures taken by the DRC and MONUSCO to neutralize the armed groups, but **CALLS FOR** continued and enhanced efforts, particularly with respect to the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR). The Assembly **EXPRESSES SATISFACTION** at the expressed commitment of the Burundian authorities to continue to work towards the consolidation of peace and reconciliation in their country, and **ENCOURAGES** all the stakeholders to work in the same direction and to create the requisite conditions for the successful conduct of the general elections scheduled in 2015;
16. **EXPRESSES CONCERN** about the persistent insecurity in the Central African Republic (CAR) and the resulting humanitarian and human rights consequences. The Assembly **EXPRESSES SATISFACTION** at the remarkable work accomplished by the African-led International Support Mission in the Central African Republic (MISCA), with the support of the Sangaris Operation and EUFOR-RCA, **EXPRESSES CONCERN** over attempts to undermine MISCA's contribution to the stabilization of the situation, and **TOTALLY REJECTS** such attempts. The Assembly **REITERATES ITS DEEP GRATITUDE** to the countries contributing troops and police personnel to MISCA and to the leaders of the region, especially President Idriss Deby Itno of Chad, current Chairman of ECCAS, as well as to President Denis Sassou Nguesso of the Republic of Congo, ECCAS Mediator in the CAR crisis, for their commitment. The Assembly **URGES** the political and other CAR stakeholders to demonstrate the required political will and determination for the promotion of lasting peace and reconciliation in their country, **UNDERScores** the urgent need to disarm the armed militia, **WARNS** all those seeking to undermine the on-going process and **CALLS UPON** the United Nations Security Council to impose sanctions against them. The Assembly **LOOKS FORWARD** to the planned transformation of MISCA into a UN peacekeeping operation and **EMPHASIZES** the crucial role that the region and AU should continue to play after the re-hatting of MISCA;
17. **RENEWS AU SUPPORT** for the efforts aimed at consolidating the progress made in the stabilization of Mali, the restoration of State authority over the entire national territory and the consolidation of peace in that country. The Assembly **PAYS TRIBUTE** to President Mohamed Ould Abdel Aziz of Mauritania for having

facilitated the conclusion, on 23 May 2014, of a Ceasefire Agreement between the Government of Mali and the armed movements after the regrettable incidents that took place in Kidal, in the north of the country. The Assembly **WELCOMES** the nomination by President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita of a High Representative to the Inclusive Talks provided for in the 18 June 2013 Ouagadougou Agreement, **PAYS TRIBUTE** to the neighbouring countries, notably Algeria and Burkina Faso, as well as to the regional and international partners, for the efforts they are deploying to facilitate these Talks and, in this regard, **EXPRESSES SATISFACTION** at the signing, by the armed movements, of the Algiers Declaration and Preliminary Platform, in Algiers on 9 and 14 June 2014, respectively. The Assembly **ENCOURAGES** all Malian stakeholders concerned to work towards the speedy convening of the Inclusive Talks. The Assembly **CONDEMNS** the attacks perpetrated by the terrorist and armed groups in northern Mali, and **DEMANDS** the immediate withdrawal of these groups from the public buildings and areas they are occupying and their return to the positions they held prior to 17 May 2014;

18. **REAFFIRMS** the need for sustained efforts to deal in a holistic, collective and coordinated manner with the multidimensional challenges facing the Sahel region. The Assembly **UNDERScores** the importance of the role of the Ministerial Platform set up in November 2013 and tasked to coordinate international efforts on the Sahel, and **WELCOMES** the elaboration by the AU of a Strategy for the Sahel and **ENCOURAGES** the AU Mission for Mali and the Sahel (MISAHEL) to pursue and intensify its efforts in support of the countries of the region. The Assembly **REAFFIRMS ITS SUPPORT** for the Nouakchott Process on the Enhancement of Security Cooperation and the Operationalization of APSA in the Sahelo-Saharan region;
19. **REITERATES** its earlier decisions on the situation in Western Sahara and the need for renewed efforts to facilitate an early resolution of the conflict which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara, as provided for in the relevant resolutions of the UN Security Council. The Assembly **WELCOMES** the consultations being undertaken by former President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique, as AU Special Envoy, with the permanent members of the Security Council and Spain, as the former administrative power, as well as with the UN Secretariat, as a follow-up to the relevant AU decisions and in support of the UN efforts, and **LOOKS FORWARD** to the submission, by the Commission, in due course, of a report on the situation;
20. **WELCOMES** the success of the democratic transition process in Tunisia, following the adoption of the new constitution and the electoral law, as well as the establishment of the High Independent Organ for Elections, opening up encouraging prospects regarding the organization of the forthcoming elections, and **PAYS TRIBUTE** to the role played by the PSC, through the Panel of the Wise, in the successful conclusion of the process;
21. **EXPRESSES CONCERN** about the prevailing situation in Libya and its impact on the conduct of the on-going transition and the cohesion of the country, as well as

on the regional security and stability. The Assembly **STRONGLY CONDEMNS** all acts of violence in Libya, and **APPEALS** to all Libyan stakeholders to put the interest of their country above any other consideration and to work together for the early completion of the current transition and **WELCOMES** the successful organization of the legislative elections on 25 June 2014. The Assembly **FURTHER WELCOMES** the appointment by the Chairperson of the Commission of a Special Envoy for Libya in the person of former Prime Minister Dileita Mohamed Dileita of Djibouti, and **LOOKS FORWARD** to his interactions with the Libyan authorities and other stakeholders, as well as with the relevant international partners. The Assembly **WELCOMES** the decision reached by Libya, the neighbouring countries and the Commission, following the consultative meeting held in Malabo, on the margins of the 23rd Ordinary Session of the Assembly, to put in place a ministerial level panel to enhance Africa's support for Libya to ensure the successful conclusion of the on-going transition,

22. **EXPRESSES DEEP CONCERN** over the continued threat of terrorism in Africa, particularly in the Sahelo-Saharan region, the Horn of Africa, including in Somalia, Kenya and Djibouti, as well as in the Central African region with the attacks carried out by the Lord Resistance Army (LRA). The Assembly **STRONGLY CONDEMNS** the attacks carried out by various terrorist groups, and **EXPRESSES OUTRAGE** at the cowardly kidnapping, by Boko Haram, of over two hundred young girls in northern Nigeria. The Assembly **WELCOMES** the on-going AU's efforts to address the scourge of terrorism, notably through the cooperative mechanisms being implemented by the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT), the Nouakchott Process, the Regional Cooperation Initiative for the Elimination of the Lord's Resistance Army (RCI-LRA) and AMISOM. The Assembly, in view of the seriousness of the threat posed by terrorism, **STRESSES THE URGENCY** of renewed efforts towards the effective implementation of the AU counter-terrorism framework, including the signing and ratification of the relevant instruments, notably the 1999 Algiers Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism and its 2004 Protocol, which entered into force on 26 February 2014. In this respect, the Assembly **REQUESTS** the PSC to devote a meeting, at summit level, to the issue of terrorism. The Assembly **FULLY SUPPORTS** the steps agreed upon by the Heads of Intelligence and Security Services of the countries of the Sahelo-Saharan region, at their 5th meeting held in Ouagadougou, on 20 and 21 May 2014, regarding Boko Haram, including the conduct of a study on the possible establishment of a Regional Task Force along the lines of the RCI-LRA, bearing in mind the initiatives underway within the framework of the Lake Chad Basin Commission, and **STRESSES THE NEED** for the urgent implementation of these measures. The Assembly **EXPRESSES** concern over the establishment of military bases on the continent that are designed to delay the operationalization of APSA and **STRESSES** the need for sustained support for the efforts being made by Africa to enhance its ownership and leadership in the fight against terrorism in Africa.

**DECISION ON THE FOURTEENTH REPORT OF
THE COMMITTEE OF TEN ON UN REFORMS
Doc. Assembly/AU/10(XXIII)**

The Assembly,

1. **RECALLS** Decisions Ext/Assembly/AU/Dec.1 (IV), Assembly/AU/Dec.430 (XIX) and Assembly/AU/Dec.485 (XXI);
2. **TAKES NOTE** of the Fourteenth Report of the Committee of Ten Heads of State and Government on the Reform of the United Nations Security Council;
3. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** of the recent developments in the intergovernmental negotiations on the United Nations Security Council reform;
4. **FURTHER TAKES NOTE** of the High-level meetings of the Committee of Ten Heads of State and Government in particular, the Summit of the Committee of Ten held in Oyo, Congo on 16 May 2014;
5. **COMMENDS** the Committee of Ten for its commitment at the highest level in canvassing and promoting the Common African Position on United Nations reforms, and **WHILST REAFFIRMING** its strong commitment to the Ezuwilni Consensus and Sirte Declarations containing the Common African Position; **ENDORSES** the Oyo Conclusions of the Committee of Ten Heads of State and Government;
6. **WELCOMES** the efforts of the African Permanent Representatives to the United Nations in promoting and defending the continent's interest in the UN Security Council Reform process and **UNDERSCORES** the overriding need to ensure that the interest of Africa continues to be maintained and safeguarded at all times in the on-going intergovernmental negotiations on Security Council reform;
7. **REITERATES ITS CALL** for Africa to continue to speak with one voice and cohesively on all issues relating to the United Nations Security Council reform and related matters;
8. **APPRECIATES** progress and developments recorded to date directed at building alliances, dialoguing and engaging other interest groups and Member States in the reform process in support of the African common position, **AND ENCOURAGES** the African Permanent Representatives of the Committee of Ten to the United Nations to continue intensifying efforts towards building alliances in support of the Common African Position with diverse interest groups engaged in the Intergovernmental Negotiations and advance progress so made;
9. **REQUESTS** the African Union 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;

10. **ALSO REQUESTS** that the African Union Commission should work with the Permanent Representatives Committee (PRC) to include a budget line in the Commission's budget for 2015 for the purposes of funding the activities of the Committee of Ten from the General Fund;
11. **FURTHER REQUESTS** Member States of the African Union to include the issue of the Reform of the Security Council among the priorities of their Foreign Policy while engaging with non-African Partners; in particular, to include in their statements at the United Nations General Assembly Debate the need to redress the historical injustice the continent continues to suffer;
12. **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 present a report to the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly in January 2015.



**DECISION ON THE HIGH LEVEL WORK PROGRAMME ON CLIMATE
CHANGE ACTION IN AFRICA (WPCCAA) AND PREPARATIONS
FOR THE GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE EVENTS IN 2014**

Doc. Assembly/AU/11(XXIII)

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. Dr. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, President of the United Republic of Tanzania on the High Level Work Programme on Climate Change Action in Africa; Preparations for the Global Climate Change Events; and **ENDORSES** the recommendations therein;
2. **FURTHER TAKES NOTES** with interest the Declaration of Oran adopted by the African Ministerial Conference on Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication held in Oran, Algeria from 22 to 23 February 2014;
3. **REITERATES** that international support for means of implementation in particular finance and technology in the context of the Climate Change Convention is key for Africa;
4. **COMMENDS** CAHOSCC on the provision of the necessary political guidance on emerging issues at the global negotiations that has enabled the African Group to devote unwavering support to defend the African Position and interests with one unanimous voice and unity of purpose;
5. **APPRECIATES** the tremendous efforts on the development of the CAHOSCC Framework Work Programme on Climate Change Action in Africa as a continental framework that will guide the African Union, its Regional Economic Communities and Member States in addressing climate change in the near future;
6. **REAFFIRMS** that Adaptation is a priority in all actions on Climate Change in Africa;
7. **STRESSES** the need for adequate means of implementation, that would provide adequate, predictable, new and additional finance; affordable technology development and transfer, capacity building, adaptation and also paying due attention to mitigation actions which would allow Africa the space for sustainable development;
8. **CONFIRMS** continued participation in global efforts for climate change mitigation actions that support Sustainable Development on the continent;
9. **FURTHER NOTES** the global events on the Climate Summit to be convened by the United Nations Secretary General, Mr. Ban Ki Moon, on 23 September 2014 in New York; and the Twentieth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Tenth Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to its Kyoto Protocol (COP 20/CMP 10) that is scheduled to take place in Lima, Peru from 1 – 12 December 2014;

10. **COMMENDS** the laudable work of the CAHOSCC Coordinator, H.E. Dr. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, President of the United Republic of Tanzania and the CAHOSCC for the quality of leadership and coordination in pursuit of the Assembly's Decisions for Africa to continue to advance its common position on climate change, speaking with one voice in climate change negotiations, including at the Climate Summit in September 2014 in New York, USA;
11. **ENDORSES** the High Level Work Programme on Climate Change Action in Africa;
12. **REQUESTS** the Commission, in collaboration with the relevant Specialized Technical Committees (STCs) and other relevant African institutions to:
 - i) Undertake study on identification of five African Regional Technology Centres, which possibly serve to link and network with National Designated Climate Technology Entities (NDEs) as well as with the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN); and report its proposal and recommendations to the of the Executive Council;
 - ii) Elaborate on the implementation of the CAHOSCC Youth Programme on Climate Change (CYPCC) including Youth participation in climate change negotiations; and continental wide youth competition on climate change aspects to enhance youth engagement in climate change actions;
 - iii) Develop a CAHOSCC Women and Gender Programme on Climate Change (CWGPCC) to engage women and gender in climate change related actions;
 - iv) Ensure Diplomatic Missions in Addis Ababa, New York, Brussels, Nairobi, Geneva, Paris, Washington D.C. and to incorporate the African Climate Change Agenda in strategic diplomatic issues to enhance Africa's interest on climate change;
 - v) Prepare an African Climate Resilient Agricultural Development Programme (ACRADP) in the context of Africa's Agricultural growth transformation Agenda by bring relevant sectors together;
 - vi) Put in place a Sustainable Forest Management Programme in Africa (SFMPA) in collaboration with African Ministers responsible for Forestry and Energy.

13. **URGES** Member States to urgently complete the development of their national Adaptation Plans (NAPs); put in place systems and structures for Africa to take full advantage of the global mechanisms in support of climate change mitigation and adaptation measures. In particular, Member States are urged to put in place National Designated Authorities (NDA) and those Member States that have not put in place the National Implementing Entities to do urgently. This is to facilitate access and utilisation of available resources;
14. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission, UNECA/ACPC, AfDB, UNEP, UN Women and other Partners to support the implementation of this Decision.



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

The Assembly,

1. **DECIDES** that the date of the Twenty Fourth Ordinary Session of the Assembly which will hold in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, under the theme ***“Year of Women Empowerment and Development towards Africa’s Agenda 2063”*** shall be the following:

- i) Twenty-Ninth Ordinary Session of the Permanent Representatives’ Committee: 23 and 24 January 2015;
- ii) Twenty-Sixth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council: 26 and 27 January 2015;
- iii) Twenty Fourth Ordinary Session of the Assembly: 30 and 31 January 2015.



**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT
ORIENTATION COMMITTEE (HSGOC) ON NEPAD
Doc. Assembly/AU/9(XXIII)**

The Assembly,

1. **NOTES WITH APPRECIATION** the report by the Chairperson of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC), H.E. Macky Sall, President of the Republic of Senegal;
2. **ENDORSES** the conclusions of the Thirty-First Session of the HSGOC;
3. **HIGHLIGHTS** the contributions of NEPAD to the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) in its decade of existence, **NOTING** that CAADP had matured into an agenda for socio-economic transformation and recognized global brand impacting on the continent's development through the strong expression of reclaimed ownership of agricultural policy by Member States and African citizens;
4. **ENDORSES** the CAADP Results Framework as a tool to enhance evidence-based planning, monitoring and learning by Member States in the pursuit of agricultural-led economic growth and inclusive development. **REQUESTS** the NPCA to support the capacity strengthening in Member States to internalize and use the CAADP Results Framework, and develop necessary programmes on afforestation, irrigation and post-harvest loss;
5. **NOTES** that in the face of globalization and its impact on food and nutrition security and livelihoods, Africa should embrace food sovereignty and regional trade preference strategies to attain food self-sufficiency and enhanced regional cooperation. **IN THIS REGARD, URGES** NPCA, AUC and RECs to work with Member States to develop the requisite national and regional strategies, policies and programmes;
6. **APPRECIATES** the programmatic work of NPCA in mainstreaming climate change into CAADP national investment plans and **REQUESTS** the Agency to increase technical and coordination support to Member States to build resilience and adaptive capacity in responding to the impacts of climate change and variability, as well as design climate smart agricultural investment programmes and support the sharing of best practices and lessons on climate smart agriculture;
7. **FURTHER ENDORSES** the NEPAD Programme on Agriculture Climate Change with its components on gender empowerment, support to small-holder farmers and the establishment of an African Climate Smart Agriculture Coordination Platform through which NPCA will collaborate with Partners including RECs and Non-Governmental Organisations targeting 25 million farm households by 2025;

8. **WELCOMES** the innovative partnership between NPCA and major International NGOs to strengthen grassroot adaptive capacity to climate change and boost agricultural productivity. **SPECIFICALLY REQUESTS** the NPCA in collaboration with FAO to provide technical assistance to Member States in the implementation of the NEPAD Climate Smart Agriculture programme and the African Development Bank and development partners to provide support to Member States for investments in climate smart agriculture;
9. **COMMENDS** the on-going implementation actions by the NPCA in promoting NEPAD programmes on food security and nutrition, gender empowerment, sustainable land and water management **WHILE EMPHASIZING** the need to ensure that Africa's growth trajectory provides opportunities for the youth and foster rural transformation. **DIRECTS** NPCA to upscale the implementation of the Rural Futures Programme with a stronger emphasis on youth employment. **FURTHER AGREES** that the AUC and NPCA should develop policies on labour-market relationship favourable to foster youth employment and invest in practical actions targeting skills development and making agriculture more attractive to the African youth;
10. **WARMLY WELCOMES** the announcement by the Director General of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of a grant of USD 4 million to support the NPCA in facilitating the implementation of the Agency's job creation programme for the youth in the agriculture sector;
11. **ACKNOWLEDGING** the multi-sectorial nature of Agriculture and its central role in driving rural transformation, **REQUESTS** NPCA through its Rural Futures Programme to provide technical support to strengthen alignment between agricultural and national development policies and rural development programmes;
12. **RECOMMITS** to the CAADP Maputo Decision and **IN RECOGNIZING** the continued need to support Member States to effectively monitor the 10% target in agriculture budget allocation, **REQUESTS** the NPCA in collaboration with FAO to undertake a study and develop guidelines to help Member States improve the quality of resource allocation to agriculture to determine the real value and relativity to the GDP size;
13. **RECALLS** the Decisions Assembly/AU/Dec.488(XXI) and Assembly/AU/Dec.508(XXII) and **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the outcomes of the Dakar Financing Summit for Africa's Infrastructure held in Dakar, Senegal on 15 June 2014 under the distinguished leadership of H.E. Macky SALL, President of the Republic of Senegal and Chairperson of HSGOC, which promoted the strengthening of innovative synergies between the public and private sectors to mobilize pan-African and global financial investments for infrastructure development in the continent;
14. **ACCORDINGLY ENDORSES** the Dakar Agenda for Action adopted by the Summit to move forward the financing for Africa's infrastructure and **VALIDATES** the policy

conclusions and recommendations of the NEPAD-ECA Study on Domestic Resource Mobilization (DRM) for implementing NEPAD programmes and projects which served as the basis for the Summit;

15. **WELCOMES IN PARTICULAR** the *Africa50* initiated by the AfDB as an investment platform designed significantly to narrow the infrastructure financing gap; the setup of the Continental Business Network (CBN) on Infrastructure Financing coordinated by NPCA and the Summit organizing partners; improvement measures to promote policy certainty, legal and fiscal stability towards enabling environment; the continued political determination of African Leaders to support the implementation of high impact national and cross-border projects and infrastructure project preparation and financing for the projects showcased at the Summit as a first step towards implementing the PIDA priority action plan by 2020;
16. **REAFFIRMS** the strong linkage between the Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative (PICl) and the priority projects presented at the Dakar Financing Summit as mutually reinforcing and impetus to further accelerate PIDA implementation. **URGES** Member States, development finance institutions and partners to increase funding support for infrastructure project preparation, especially the NEPAD Infrastructure Preparation Facility (IPPF) hosted by the African Development Bank;
17. **CONSEQUENTLY REQUESTS** the NPCA to design the appropriate modalities to implement the Dakar Agenda for Action and thereafter report regularly to the HSGOC on progress being made. **FURTHER URGES** the NPCA in conjunction with the RECs, AfDB, UNECA, UNDP, World Bank and the NEPAD Business Groups/Foundation to strengthen engagement with the private sector on taking forward the Dakar Agenda based on the conclusion to setup the Continental Business Network. **UNDERScores** the intrinsic linkages between skills development and modern infrastructure driven by science, technology and innovation, **NOTING** the need for the HSGOC to prioritize policy actions in this regard towards PIDA and PICl implementation;
18. **HIGHLY COMMENDS** the HSGOC Chairperson and the Government of Senegal for successfully hosting the Financing Summit and **EXTENDS DEEP APPRECIATION** for the high level participation of H.E Yayi Boni, President of the Republic of Benin; H.E Goodluck Jonathan, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; H.E Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, President of the Republic of Mali and H.E. Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, Chairperson of the AU Commission, with the support of NPCA Chief Executive Officer, Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy, President of African Development Bank; UNECA Executive Secretary and the World Bank Vice President for Africa;
19. Based on the assessment of reform of the Africa Partnership Forum (APF), **RECALLS** the Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.508(XXII) on the need to establish a new umbrella partnership formation and **APPRECIATES** the efforts by NPCA and NEPAD Steering Committee to this effect;

20. **APPROVES** the establishment of the proposed Africa Global Partnership Platform as a new partnership mechanism premised on Africa's regional integration agenda and a coalition-building forum comprising AU Member States represented in the NEPAD HSGOC, NPCA, AU Commission, RECs, lead regional institutions and Africa's major trade, investment and aid partners countries from the G8, G20 and OECD;
21. **IN RE-EMPHASIZING** the rationale for the partnership vehicle to reflect the changing global political and economic architecture, especially the pivotal role of the G20, **WELCOMES** the platform as an Africa-owned and led 'umbrella formation' bringing together the continent's existing international partners to concretely support Africa's transformation under the auspices of the AU, thereby fostering greater coherence in the continent's partnerships. **RE-AFFIRMS** that the new platform will not replace the existing bilateral partnership arrangements, but serve to complement them;
22. **ENDORSES** the terms of reference prepared by the NPCA and submitted through the NEPAD Steering Committee, highlighting the proposed rationale, objectives, format and membership of the platform, **WHILE NOTING** that the new platform will engage on issues of economic cooperation of strategic nature to Africa, globalization and the defined priorities embodied in the African Union, NEPAD and Agenda 2063;
23. **HEREBY MANDATES** the HSGOC Chairperson with the support of the NPCA Chief Executive Officer and NEPAD Steering Committee to formally approach the identified and potential partner governments and institutions to determine their interest and readiness to join and nominate appropriate senior level officials to the Platform. **ALSO REQUESTS** NPCA Chief Executive Officer to engage Germany as the current G7 Presidency on possibly revamping the G7-Africa partnership outreach during its term and **CALLS UPON** the Governments of Senegal, South Africa and Mauritania to approach Australia as the current G20 Presidency on the proposed G20-Africa partnership track possibly through the G20 Development Working Group;
24. **NOTES AND WELCOMES** the launch of the African Innovation Outlook-2 Report by the NPCA which captures the status of science, technology and innovation in the African Union Member States and requested Member States, the AU Commission, and NPCA along with the private sector and development partners to increase the roll-out of the surveys to all African countries.

**DECISION ON THE ELECTION OF JUDGES OF THE
AFRICAN COURT OF HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS
Doc. EX.CL/854(XXV)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the Election conducted by the Twenty-Fifth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, on 23 June 2014;
2. **DECIDES** to appoint the following persons as Judges of the African Court of Human and Peoples' Rights for a six (6)-year term:
 - i) Mrs. Solomy Balungui BOSSA (Uganda);
 - ii) Mr. Rafea BEN ACHOUR (Tunisia);
 - iii) Mr. Angelo Vasco MATUSSE (Mozambique);
 - iv) Mr. Sylvain ORE (Cote d'Ivoire).



**DECISION ON THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE
ORDINARY SESSIONS OF THE ASSEMBLY**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the programme during the official opening of the Ordinary Sessions of the Assembly;
2. **REQUESTS** the Commission to establish a Taskforce to review the programme of the official opening of the Sessions of the Assembly in order to make them efficient and effective and report during the January 2015 Summit.



**DECISION ON THE APPOINTMENT OF THE MEMBERS
OF THE PANEL OF THE WISE OF THE AFRICAN UNION**

The Assembly,

1. **RECALLS** the provisions of Article 11 of the Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU), which deals with the Panel of the Wise, as well as Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.310(XV) adopted at its 15th Ordinary Session held in Kampala in July 2011;
2. **TAKES NOTE** of the end of the term of the current members of the Panel of the Wise (the late former President Ahmed Ben Bella of Algeria, Dr. Salim Ahmed Salim of Tanzania, former President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, Mrs. Marie Madeleine Kalala-Ngoy of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Mrs. Mary Chinery Hesse of Ghana) and **PAYS TRIBUTE** to them for the dedication with which they discharged their mandate;
3. **REITERATES** the critical role of the Panel of the Wise in the overall efforts of the AU towards conflict prevention, in line with the relevant provisions of the PSC Protocol;
4. **ENDORSES**, in conformity with Article 11 (2) of the PSC Protocol, the recommendations made by the Chairperson of the Commission regarding the appointment of the new members of the Panel of the Wise. Accordingly, the Assembly **DECIDES** to appoint the following personalities as members of the Panel of the Wise for a period of three years:
 - i) for the Northern Africa region, Mr. Lakhdar Brahimi from Algeria. Mr. Brahimi held senior positions, notably as Ambassador to several countries, from 1963 to 1979, and Foreign Minister, from 1991 to 1993. He also held senior positions in the League of Arab States and the United Nations, including as Special Envoy;
 - ii) for the Western Africa region, Mr. Edem Kodjo from Togo. Mr. Kodjo has been Finance and Foreign Minister from 1976 to 1978, as well as Prime Minister, from 1994 to 1996. He also served as Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity from 1978 to 1983;
 - iii) for the Central Africa region, Eng. Albina Faria Assis Pereira Africano from Angola. Eng. Africano has been Minister of Petroleum from 1992 to 1999 and Minister of Industry from 1999 to 2000. She also held the position of Special Advisor to the President for Regional Affairs;
 - iv) for the Eastern Africa region, Dr. Speciosa Wandira Kazibwe from Uganda. Dr. Wandira Kazibwe has been Minister of Gender and Community Development from 1991 to 1994, Member of Parliament and, from 1994 to

2003, Vice-President of Uganda. She also chaired the African Women Committee on Peace and Development;

- v) for the Southern Africa region, Dr. Luisa Diogo from Mozambique. Dr. Diogo held several ministerial portfolios. She was Deputy Minister of Finance, then Finance Minister. From 2004 to 2010, she served as Prime Minister.

5. **FURTHER DECIDES** that the outgoing members of the Panel of the Wise shall become members of the Team of Friends of the Panel, in line with its decision Assembly/AU/Dec.310(XV) and the related report of the Chairperson of the Commission;

6. **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to ensure that the required support is availed to the Panel of the Wise to enable it fully discharge its mandate, particularly through proactive preventive engagement.



**DECISION ON THE BUDGET OF THE AFRICAN UNION
FOR THE 2015 FINANCIAL YEAR
Doc. Assembly/AU/3(XXIII)**

The Assembly,

1. **ADOPTS** a total budget of **US\$ 522,121,602** for the African Union for the year 2015, broken down into **US\$142,687,881** Operating Costs and **US\$379,433,721** Programmes to be financed as follows:
 - i) A total amount of **US\$131,471,086** assessed on Member States, and **US\$225,536,171** is secured from International Partners and further **US\$149,266,824** to be solicited from partners;
 - ii) Total amounts of **US\$10,912,046**, **US\$4,730,473** and **US\$205,000** are to be taken from the Reserves Fund, Acquisition of Properties Fund and Women's Fund respectively.
2. **ALSO ADOPTS** the Budget breakdown among the AU Organs as follows:

Organs	Operating Budget				Total Operating Budget	Programs				Total Programs	Total Budget for 2015
	Assessed on MS	Reserve Fund	Acquisition of Property	Partners-Secured		Assessed on MS	Women Fund	Partners-Secured	Gap		
AUC	93,232,027	5,000,000	4,730,473		102,962,500	7,880,271	205,000	175,049,156	148,884,554	332,018,981	434,981,481
PAP	10,897,648	841,749			11,733,397			17,788,440		17,788,440	29,521,837
AfCHR (The Court)	6,988,014	1,238,140			8,176,154			1,681,511		1,681,511	9,857,665
ACHPR (The Commission)	4,076,044	894,781			4,970,825			951,770		951,770	5,922,595
ECOSOCC	993,710	29,811			1,023,521						1,023,521
NEPAD	4,410,000	2,896,433		4,251,479	11,557,912			24,487,231		24,487,231	36,045,143
AUCIL	371,024	11,131			382,155			260,392		260,392	642,547
Advisory Board on Corruption	739,436				739,436			1,066,192		1,066,192	1,805,628
Peace & Security Council					-	759,253				759,253	759,253
ACERWC	241,724				241,724	37,681			382,270	419,951	661,675
AFREC	900,255				900,255					-	900,255
TOTAL	122,793,882	10,912,046	4,730,473	4,251,479	142,687,881	8,677,205	205,000	221,284,692	149,266,824	379,433,721	522,121,602

3. **FURTHER ADOPTS** the breakdown of sources of funding as follows:

Organs	Member States					Partners			Total Budget for 2015
	Assessed on MS	Reserve Fund	Acquisition of Property	Women Fund	Total Member States	Secured	Gap	Total Partners	
AUC	101,112,297	5,000,000	4,730,473	205,000	111,047,771	175,049,156	148,884,554	323,933,710	434,981,481
PAP	10,891,648	841,749			11,733,397	17,788,440		17,788,440	29,521,837
AfCHR (The Court)	6,938,014	1,238,140			8,176,154	1,681,511		1,681,511	9,857,665
ACHPR (The Commission)	4,076,044	894,781			4,970,825	951,770		951,770	5,922,595
ECOSOCC	993,710	29,811			1,023,521			-	1,023,521
NEPAD	4,410,000	2,896,433			7,306,433	28,738,710		28,738,710	36,045,143
AUCIL	371,024	11,191			382,155	260,392		260,392	642,547
Advisory Board on Corruption	739,436				739,436	1,066,192		1,066,192	1,805,628
Peace & Security Council	759,253				759,253			-	759,253
ACERWC	279,405				279,405		382,270	382,270	661,675
AFREC	900,255				900,255			-	900,255
TOTAL	131,471,087	10,912,046	4,730,473	205,000	147,318,607	225,536,171	149,266,824	374,802,995	522,121,602

4. **REQUESTS:**

- i) the Commission to solicit funds from Partners to close the funding gap of **US\$149,266,824** on the Programme Budget till the end of 2014; and drop all activities without funding from the budget;
 - ii) the Commission to report back on the status to the PRC before the January 2015 Summit.
5. **ENCOURAGES** Member States on voluntary basis to increase their contribution in order to reduce the dependence on partners and to strengthen the financial base of the Union;
 6. **ADVISES** the Commission to approach friendly countries to make contributions to the development of Africa;
 7. **URGES** Member States to pay their contributions on time;
 8. **REQUESTS** the Commission to operationalize the Budget Committee as contained in the revised Financial Regulations and Rules;
 9. **NOTES** the very low position of Reserves and **ENCOURAGES** systematic effort to gradually grow the Reserves to one-year coverage so as to provide the Union with a solid financial base to meet cases of emergency in the future;

10. **AGREES** to address the financial implications arising from the implementation of the recommendations of the PRC/Commission Retreat held in Hawassa through the supplementary budget.



**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF AIDS WATCH AFRICA (AWA)
Doc. Assembly/AU/14(XXIII)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of AIDS Watch Africa (AWA) and the recommendations contained therein;
2. **TAKES NOTE ALSO** of the progress report of the implementation of the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa (PMPA) business plan;
3. **URGES MEMBER** States to accelerate the effective implementation of all the Abuja Commitments on HIV/AIDS, TB & Malaria as well as all co-infections in particular viral Hepatitis and the African Union Roadmap on Shared Responsibility and Global Solidarity for AIDS, TB and Malaria in Africa and to report on progress made;
4. **REAFFIRMS** its commitment to accelerate domestic financing including innovative mechanisms with year on year increases in domestic funding and allocation to health;
5. **REAFFIRMS ALSO** its determination to be accountable and **CALLS UPON** Member States and all partners to promote accountability and implementation of high impact interventions for the resources available to control the three diseases and save lives;
6. **REQUESTS** the African Union Commission to:
 - a) Document and disseminate best practices amongst Member States in the prevention, treatment and control of HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria;
 - b) Review the AWA strategic frameworks due to expire in 2015.
7. **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of AWA to report on progress made to the next July 2015 Ordinary Session of the Assembly.

**MALABO DECLARATION ON ACCELERATED AGRICULTURAL
GROWTH AND TRANSFORMATION FOR SHARED
PROSPERITY AND IMPROVED LIVELIHOODS
Doc. Assembly/AU/2(XXIII)**

We, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, having met at our Twenty Third Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, from 26-27 June 2014, on the Theme of the African Year of Agriculture and Food Security: *“Transforming Africa’s Agriculture for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods through Harnessing Opportunities for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development, also marking the tenth Anniversary of the Adoption of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)”*.

Recalling our previous Decisions and Declarations on agriculture and food and nutrition security, in particular the 2003 Maputo Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security in Africa [Assembly/AU/Decl.7 (II)]; the 2004 Sirte Declaration on the Challenges Of Implementing Integrated and Sustainable Development in Agriculture and Water in Africa [Ex/Assembly/AU/Decl. 1 (II)]; the 2009 Sirte Declaration on Investing in Agriculture for Economic Growth and Food Security [Assembly/AU/12 (VIII)]; the 2007 Decision on Abuja Special Summit of the AU on Fertilisers [Assembly/AU/Dec.117 (VII)]; the 2007 Decision on the Abuja Summit on Food Security in Africa [Assembly/AU/Dec.135 (VIII)]; among others.

Acknowledging the persistent efforts made in implementation of the CAADP at national and regional levels, and the positive growth performance that our agricultural sector has been registering in recent years.

Also acknowledging the challenges faced in the implementation of many of those Decisions and Declarations, in particular on progress made in attaining the minimum targets of public investment in agriculture that should demonstrate Africa’s ownership and leadership to the achievement of goals as enshrined in the 2003 Maputo commitments.

Recognising the dire situations that obtain with regard to Africa’s capacity to generate analyse and manage data and information to facilitate evidence based policy development and tracking of progress of implementation, and hence **affirming** our commitment to enhance such a capacity.

Noting with Concern that the results of the Cost of Hunger Study in Africa (COHA) conducted by the AUC revealed the degree to which child under-nutrition influences health and educational outcomes; the additional barrier it has on children's ability to achieve their full potential; and the impact it has on national productivity.

Concerned that a significant proportion of our population still remains vulnerable to the challenges of economic marginalization, hunger and malnutrition, despite the positive achievements registered recently in agriculture and economic growth; and **reiterating** our resolve to ending hunger and improving nutrition consistent with our 2013 Decision

on Renewed Partnership for a Unified Approach to End Hunger in Africa by 2025 under the CAADP Framework [Assembly/AU/Dec.490-516(XXII)].

Reaffirming our resolve towards ensuring, through deliberate and targeted public support, that all segments of our populations, particularly women, the youth, and other disadvantaged sectors of our societies, must participate and directly benefit from the growth and transformation opportunities to improve their lives and livelihoods.

Reflecting that hunger and malnutrition are major causes of poverty and underdevelopment in Africa by causing poor health, low levels of energy, and mental impairment, all leading to low productivity and low educational attainment all of which can in turn lead to even greater hunger and malnutrition, thereby creating a viscous cycle.

Noting the progress made towards alignment, harmonisation and coordination of initiatives and activities of stakeholders and partners with our priorities as defined in the National and Regional Agricultural and Food Security Investment Plans that have been developed through the CAADP process, and **stressing** on the significance of sustaining this momentum.

Concerned that there is limited progress made in agro-industries and agribusiness development, which hampers value addition and competitiveness of our products in trade both local, regional, and international; and undermines the potential of the sector in transformation and generation of gainful employment opportunities for the growing African youth and women, hence **reaffirming** our resolve to the achievement of goals as provided in our Decision on 2010 Abuja Declaration on Development of Agribusiness And Agro-Industries In Africa [Assembly/AU/Decl.]

Also concerned over the heavy and growing dependence of our production systems and consumption patterns on external factors (weather, global markets, amongst others,) and their associated vulnerabilities to such external factors as climate variability and change as well as to global economic and political shocks.

Stressing the significance of enhancing conservation and sustainable use of all of our natural resources including land, water, plant, livestock, fisheries and aquaculture, and forestry, through coherent policies as well as governance and institutional arrangements at national and regional levels, to realise their huge potential to generate wealth, social benefits and contribute to the development of our economies.

Recognising the importance of multi-sectoral engagement and co-ownership of this agricultural transformation agenda within our public sectors, including infrastructure, energy, trade, industry, health, science and technology, education, hence the importance of putting in place a coherent inter-sectoral coordination of the efforts and initiatives for optimising resource use, synergy and maximising outcome and impact.

Further recognising the complementary roles and responsibilities that should be enhanced among the relevant stakeholders, including public, private, civil societies, farmers, pastoralists, fishers, in driving this agricultural transformation agenda.

Welcoming the Resolutions of the African Union Joint Conference of Ministers of Agriculture, Rural Development, Fisheries and Aquaculture, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 01 to 02 May 2014, endorsed by the Executive Council, and in particular their recommendations calling for our Assembly to consider adopting commitments along specific and concrete priorities.

We hereby adopt the following Declaration:

I. Commitment to the Principles and Values of the CAADP Process

1. We recommit to the key principles and values that define the CAADP process which include, among others:
 - a) the pursuit of agriculture-led growth as a main strategy to achieve targets on food and nutrition security and shared prosperity;
 - b) the exploitation of regional complementarities and cooperation to boost growth;
 - c) the application of principles of evidence-based planning, policy efficiency, dialogue, review, and accountability, shared by all NEPAD programs;
 - d) the use of partnerships and alliances including farmers, agribusiness, and civil society; and
 - e) support implementation at countries levels, and regional coordination and harmonisation.

II. Commitment to Enhancing Investment Finance in Agriculture

2. We commit to enhance investment finance, both public and private, to agriculture; and to this end we resolve:
 - a) to uphold our earlier commitment to allocate at least 10% of public expenditure to agriculture, and to ensure its efficiency and effectiveness;
 - b) to create and enhance necessary appropriate policy and institutional conditions and support systems for facilitation of private investment in agriculture, agri-business and agro-industries, by giving priority to local investors;
 - c) to fast-track the operationalization of the African Investment Bank, as provided for in the Constitutive Act of the African Union, with a view to

mobilizing and disbursing investment finance for priority agriculture related investment projects.

III. Commitment to Ending Hunger in Africa by 2025

3. We commit to ending hunger in Africa by 2025, and to this end we resolve:

a) to accelerate agricultural growth by at least doubling current agricultural productivity levels, by the year 2025. In doing so, we will create and enhance the necessary appropriate policy and institutional conditions and support systems to facilitate:

- sustainable and reliable production and access to quality and affordable inputs (for crops, livestock, fisheries, amongst others) through, among other things, provision of 'smart' protection to smallholder agriculture;
- supply of appropriate knowledge, information, and skills to users;
- efficient and effective water management systems notably through irrigation;
- suitable, reliable and affordable mechanization and energy supplies, amongst others.

b) to halve the current levels of Post-Harvest Losses, by the year 2025;

c) to integrate measures for increased agricultural productivity with social protection initiatives focusing on vulnerable social groups through committing targeted budget lines within our national budgets for:

- strengthening strategic food and cash reserves to respond to food shortages occasioned by periodic prolonged droughts or other disasters/emergencies;
- strengthening early warning systems to facilitate advanced and proactive responses to disasters and emergencies with food and nutrition security implications;
- targeting priority geographic areas and community groups for interventions;
- encouraging and facilitating increased consumption of locally produced food items, including the promotion of innovative school feeding programs that use food items sourced from the local farming community.

- d) to improve nutritional status, and in particular, the elimination of child under-nutrition in Africa with a view to bringing down stunting to 10% and underweight to 5% by 2025.

IV. Commitment to Halving Poverty by the year 2025, through Inclusive Agricultural Growth and Transformation

4. We resolve to ensure that the agricultural growth and transformation process is inclusive and contributes at least 50% to the overall poverty reduction target; and to this end we will therefore create and enhance the necessary appropriate policy, institutional and budgetary support and conditions:

- a) to sustain annual agricultural GDP growth of at least 6%;
- b) to establish and/or strengthen inclusive public-private partnerships for at least five (5) priority agricultural commodity value chains with strong linkage to smallholder agriculture;
- c) to create job opportunities for at least 30% of the youth in agricultural value chains;
- d) to support and facilitate preferential entry and participation for women and youth in gainful and attractive agri-business opportunities.

V. Commitment to Boosting Intra-African Trade in Agricultural commodities and services

5. We commit to harness markets and trade opportunities, locally, regionally and internationally, and to this end we resolve:

- a) to triple, by the year 2025, intra-African trade in agricultural commodities and services;
- b) to create and enhance policies and institutional conditions and support systems:
 - to simplify and formalize the current trade practices;
 - to fast-track the establishment of Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) and transition to a continental Common External Tariff (CET) scheme;
 - to increase and facilitate investment in markets and trade infrastructure;
 - to promote and strengthen platforms for multi-actors interactions;

- to strengthen and streamline the coordination mechanism that will facilitate the promotion African common position on agriculture-related international trade negotiations and partnership agreements.

VI. Commitment to Enhancing Resilience of Livelihoods and Production Systems to Climate Variability and other related risks

6. We commit to reduce vulnerabilities of the livelihoods of our population through building resilience of systems; and to this end we resolve:
- a) to ensure that, by the year 2025, at least 30% of our farm, pastoral, and fisher households are resilient to climate and weather related risks;
 - b) to enhance investments for resilience building initiatives, including social security for rural workers and other vulnerable social groups, as well as for vulnerable ecosystems;
 - c) to mainstream resilience and risk management in our policies, strategies and investment plans.

VII. Commitment to Mutual Accountability to Actions and Results

7. We commit to a systematic regular review process, using the CAADP Results Framework, of the progress made in implementing the provisions of this Declaration; and to this end we resolve:
- a) to conduct a biennial Agricultural Review Process that involves tracking, monitoring and reporting on progress;
 - b) to foster alignment, harmonization and coordination among multi-sectorial efforts and multi-institutional platforms for peer review, mutual learning and mutual accountability;
 - c) to strengthen national and regional institutional capacities for knowledge and data generation and management that support evidence based planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

VIII. Strengthening the African Union Commission to support delivery on these commitments

8. We will strengthen the capacity of the African Union Commission to help it fulfil the growing roles and mandates we have been ascribing to it, through this Declaration as well as other relevant previous Declarations and Decisions; and to this end we invite the Chairperson of the Commission to submit a proposal with a view to enhancing the institutional capacity of the lead Department as well as other relevant units, for consideration and approval by the January 2015 Ordinary Session of the Executive Council.

IX. A Call for Action

9. We commit to an expedient process of translation of these commitments into results; and to this end we call upon:
- a) the AU Commission and NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) to develop an implementation strategy and roadmap that facilitates translation of the 2025 vision and goals of Africa Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation into concrete results and impacts, and report to the January 2015 Ordinary Session of the Executive Council for its consideration;
 - b) the AU Commission to fast-track the operationalization of the African Investment Bank;
 - c) the AU Commission and RECs to facilitate the acceleration of economic integration to boost intra-Africa trade in food and agriculture;
 - d) the AU Commission and NPCA, in collaboration with partners:
 - to develop mechanisms that enhance Africa's capacity for knowledge and data generation and management to strengthen evidence based planning and implementation;
 - to institutionalize a system for peer review that encourages good performance on achievement of progress made in implementing the provisions of this Declaration and recognize biennially exemplary performance through awards;
 - to conduct on a biennial basis, beginning from year 2017, Agricultural Review Process, and report on progress to the Assembly at its January 2018 Ordinary Session.
 - e) the African stakeholders, including farmers, pastoralists, fishers, private sector operators in agriculture, agribusiness and agro-industries, civil society organisations, and financial institutions, to rally behind the realization of the provisions of this Declaration and take advantage of the huge opportunities that it presents;
 - f) the African Agricultural Research and Knowledge Institutions to vigorously support the realization of this agenda through an integrated and coherent manner, building on national systems and capacities;
 - g) the Development Partners to rally and align their technical and financial support in a harmonized and coordinated manner to support the implementation of the provisions of this Declaration.

**DECLARATION ON ENDING PREVENTABLE CHILD
AND MATERNAL DEATHS IN AFRICA
Doc. Assembly/AU/18(XXIII)Add.3**

WE, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, meeting at our 23rd Ordinary Session in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea;

Recalling the outcome of the Ministerial Meeting on “A Promise Renewed: African Leadership for Child Survival” which was held in January 2013 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;

Noting that the call for “A Promise Renewed for Child Survival” emerged from the Global Call to Action for Child Survival Conference convened in Washington, D.C. in June 2012;

Recalling that the Maputo Plan of Action for the Operationalization of the Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Continental Policy Framework seeks to take the continent forward towards the goal of universal access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services in Africa by 2015;

Noting with concern that the Maputo Plan was a short term plan built on nine critical action areas: Integration of sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services into PHC, repositioning family planning, developing and promoting youth-friendly services, unsafe abortion, quality safe motherhood, resource mobilization, commodity security and monitoring and evaluation and there is a need to have a second round plan;

Recalling the launching of the African Union Campaign for Accelerated Reduction of Maternal Mortality in Africa (CARMMA) in May 2009;

Aware of the fact that the African continent shares a significant global burden of newborn, child and maternal mortality;

Cognizant that most of the deaths are preventable and that some African countries have achieved MDG 4 and some are on track to achieve MDG 4 and 5;

Emphasizing the need for a renewed commitment and stronger efforts to accelerate the progress on maternal and child health;

Convinced that preventable maternal and child deaths can be significantly reduced through concerted actions;

Hereby Declare our:

1. **COMMITMENT** to End Preventable Child and Maternal Deaths by the year 2035 in line with Post 2015 Framework on Sustainable Development ; and in this connection **COMMEND** our Member States especially those that successfully

achieved MDGs, for the exemplary efforts they made and for the commitments of their leadership in achieving the difficult task;

2. **RESOLVE** to achieve Universal access to quality MNCH services by developing and implementing a Pan-African MNCH Road Map incorporating the second round renewed Maputo Plan of Action and strengthening the implementation of the Campaign for Accelerated Reduction of Maternal Mortality in Africa (CARMMA);
3. **ACKNOWLEDGMENT** of the need of scaling-up access for underserved populations, such as high burden, rural and low income groups;
4. **CONVICTION** that our priorities should be directed towards high impact solutions focusing on the primary causes of child and maternal death;
5. **READINESS** to go beyond the health sector and effectively invest on multi-sectoral programs such as the education of girls and boys; the empowerment of women and men; climate change and water and sanitation;
6. **CALL UPON** all countries, donors and stakeholders to consolidate their efforts around a shared goal and common metrics to ensure mutual accountability and financing;
7. **READINESS** to support the development and adoption of a Pan-African MNCH Score Card which helps the African Union gauge and rate countries' progress on MNCH;
8. **COMMITMENT** to develop and implement country-led roadmaps that integrate on-going efforts to accelerate progress to end preventable deaths among children and mothers: In this connection, we **REQUEST** the Commission, in collaboration with the RECs, to follow-up the implementation of country roadmaps and report on the achievements to the Assembly.



DECLARATION IN SUPPORT OF SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES AHEAD OF THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES TO BE HELD IN SAMOA FROM 1 TO 4 SEPTEMBER 2014

We the Heads of State and Government of the African Union meeting in our Twenty-Third Ordinary Session in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, from 26 to 27 June 2014;

Reaffirming the spirit of pan-Africanism and the aspirations of all Africans as expressed through the Constitutive Act of the African Union;

Recognizing that the sustainable development of Africa's Islands is indivisible from the African Union's goal of transforming Africa's development as per the objectives of its Agenda 2063 which aims to mobilize the potential of the blue ocean economy and build resilient economies for all its Member States;

Recognizing both the environmental and economic vulnerability of Small Island Developing States (SIDS), and that Africa and its islands are particularly vulnerable to climate change;

1. **UNDERLINE** our profound support and solidarity to the development of Small Island Developing States ahead of the Third International Conference on SIDS to be held in Samoa from 1 to 4 September 2014 aimed at improving the development framework available for the sustainable development of islands;
2. **CALL FOR** improved mechanisms towards building resilience of all Small Island Developing States at a global level and **MANDATE** the Commission to consult with a view to establishing a mechanism to better support Small Island Developing States.



DECLARATION ON NUTRITION SECURITY FOR INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

We, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, having met at our Twenty Third Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, from 26 to 27 June 2014, on the Theme of the African Year of Agriculture and Food Security: *“Transforming Africa’s Agriculture for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods through Harnessing Opportunities for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development”*;

Recalling the OAU Resolution AHG/Res.224 (XXIX) of 1993 that recognised the seriousness of the African Food and Nutrition Situation and the efforts of Member States towards alleviating the challenge;

Further Recalling the Maputo Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security in Africa [Assembly/AU/Decl.7(II)] of 2003 that called for increased stakeholder collaboration and increased food production;

Mindful that food security without improved nutrition will not deliver the desired inclusive socio-economic outcomes; as the number of those affected by hunger and malnutrition has continued to increase over the past few years;

Stressing that Agriculture and Food Security are key determinants of child nutrition that require coordinated and comprehensive responses from other sectors, including health, education, labour, social protection, and coordinated collaboration with the development partners, private sector, the academia, civil society and communities;

Noting that human capital is the engine for the economic and structural transformation of Africa, and that the first 1000 days provide the window of opportunity for children which can influence the cognitive and physical capacity of all children, with life-long consequences;

Recognizing that as a continent efforts need to be enhanced to address childhood under-nutrition, in order to continue to reduce the prevalence of childhood stunting, but also in order to reduce the absolute numbers of stunted children in Africa;

Noting the multi-country study on the Cost of Hunger in Africa (COHA) being led by the African Union Commission and the Economic Commission for Africa, in collaboration with the World Food Programme, to quantify the aggregate social and economic impacts of chronic hunger in Africa;

Noting With Concern that the results of the study on the Cost of Hunger in Africa (COHA) revealed the degree to which child under-nutrition influences health and educational outcomes; the additional barrier it has on children's ability to achieve their full potential; and the impact it has on national productivity;

Acknowledging the current efforts being made by stakeholders such as: (i) coordination of efforts through the African Task Force on Food and Nutrition Development (ATFFND) (ii) generation of evidence through the Cost of Hunger Study; (iii) Africa's Renewed Initiative for Stunting Elimination (ARISE 2025), a direct outcome of the COHA study; and (iv) nutrition advocacy initiatives by the African Nutrition Champion, His Majesty King Letsie III of Lesotho;

WE hereby:

1. **REAFFIRM** our commitment to end hunger by 2025 through strengthening our development policies as an effective investment in the human capital of our countries;
2. **COMMIT** to ending child stunting bringing down stunting to 10% and underweight to 5% by 2025 and in particular, focusing on the first 1000 Days as the only window of opportunity during which permanent and irreversible physical and mental damage would be avoided; and **COMMIT** to positioning this goal as a high-level objective in national development plans and strategies, and to establish long-term targets that give all children equal chance for success, by eliminating the additional barriers imposed by child under-nutrition;
3. **CALL UPON** Member States, who have not yet done so, to consider participation in the study on the Cost of Hunger in Africa and **REQUEST** the Commission, UNECA, WFP, UNICEF and other Development Partners to expedite the successful completion of the study, including wide dissemination of the results at country and regional levels;
4. **REQUEST** the Commission, the REC and Development Partners to facilitate the establishment of a continental-wide mechanism to monitor progress towards the elimination of child under-nutrition in Africa;
5. **COMMIT** to continue the dialogue and strengthen advocacy efforts in support of improved nutrition including through supporting the AU Champion.

**RESOLUTION ON THE LIFTING OF THE ECONOMIC AND TRADE
EMBARGO IMPOSED ON THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA BY
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

We, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union meeting in our Twenty-Third Ordinary Session in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, from 26 to 27 June 2014;

Recalling Resolution Assembly/AU/Res.1(XV) adopted by our Assembly at its 15th Ordinary Session held in Kampala, Uganda, on 27 July 2012, Resolution Assembly/AU/Res.(XVII) adopted at its 17th Ordinary Session held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, on 1 July 2011, Resolution Assembly (AU/Res.1(XIX) adopted at its 19th Ordinary Session held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in July 2012 and Resolution Assembly/AU/Res.1(XXI) adopted at its 21st Ordinary Session held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in May 2013, in particular the calls made to the Government of the United States of America to lift the unjustifiable and long-standing economic and trade embargo imposed on the Republic of Cuba to enable it enjoy all the legitimate prospects for sustainable development;

Reaffirming our commitment to further strengthen Africa-Caribbean relations as expressed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government in Kampala, Uganda in June 2010;

Also Reaffirming our full support for the Resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations on the: "Necessity of ending the economic, financial and commercial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba":

REITERATE our call and, once again **INVITE** the Government of the United States of America to lift long-standing and unjustifiable economic and trade embargo imposed on the Cuban people.



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