

AFRICAN UNION

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ASSEMBLY OF THE UNION

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Assembly/AU/Commitment(XXIV)

**DECISIONS, DECLARATIONS
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DECISION ON THE HISSENE HABRE CASE
Doc. EX.CL/866(XXVI)

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of Report of the Commission on the steps taken for the organization of the Hissene Habré trial in Senegal as outlined in the Annual Activity Report of the Chairperson of the Commission;
2. **REITERATES** its commitment to fight impunity in conformity with the provisions of Article 4(h) and (o) of the Constitutive Act of the African Union;
3. **WELCOMES** all steps taken for the organization of the Hissene Habré trial including the establishment of the African Extraordinary Chambers within the Courts of Senegal (AEC) with the view to prosecuting the person or persons who bear the greatest responsibility for the most serious violations of international humanitarian law and human rights committed on the territory of Chad during the period from 7 June 1982 to 1 December 1990;
4. **COMMENDS** the Republic of Chad, the Republic of Senegal and the Commission for the steps taken towards the organization of the Hissene Habré trial including financial and technical support granted to the African Extraordinary Chambers;
5. **ALSO COMMENDS** the AU Partner Countries and Institutions for their financial support to the AEC, namely: Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg, Netherlands, USA, European Union and the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights;
6. **CALLS ON** Member States, Partner Countries and Institutions to continue supporting Senegal through the African Extraordinary Chambers in the execution of AU mandate to prosecute and try Mr. Hissene Habré, on behalf of Africa, with guarantees for a fair trial;
7. **TAKES NOTE OF AND SUPPORTS** the initiative of the Chairperson of the Commission to set up at Ministerial Level a Consultative Mechanism between the AU, Chad and Senegal in order to address challenges/difficulties which might have negative impacts on the smooth organization of the Hissene Habre trial;
8. **REQUESTS** the Commission to follow-up and to report regularly on the implementation of various Decisions of the Assembly on the Hissene Habré Case.

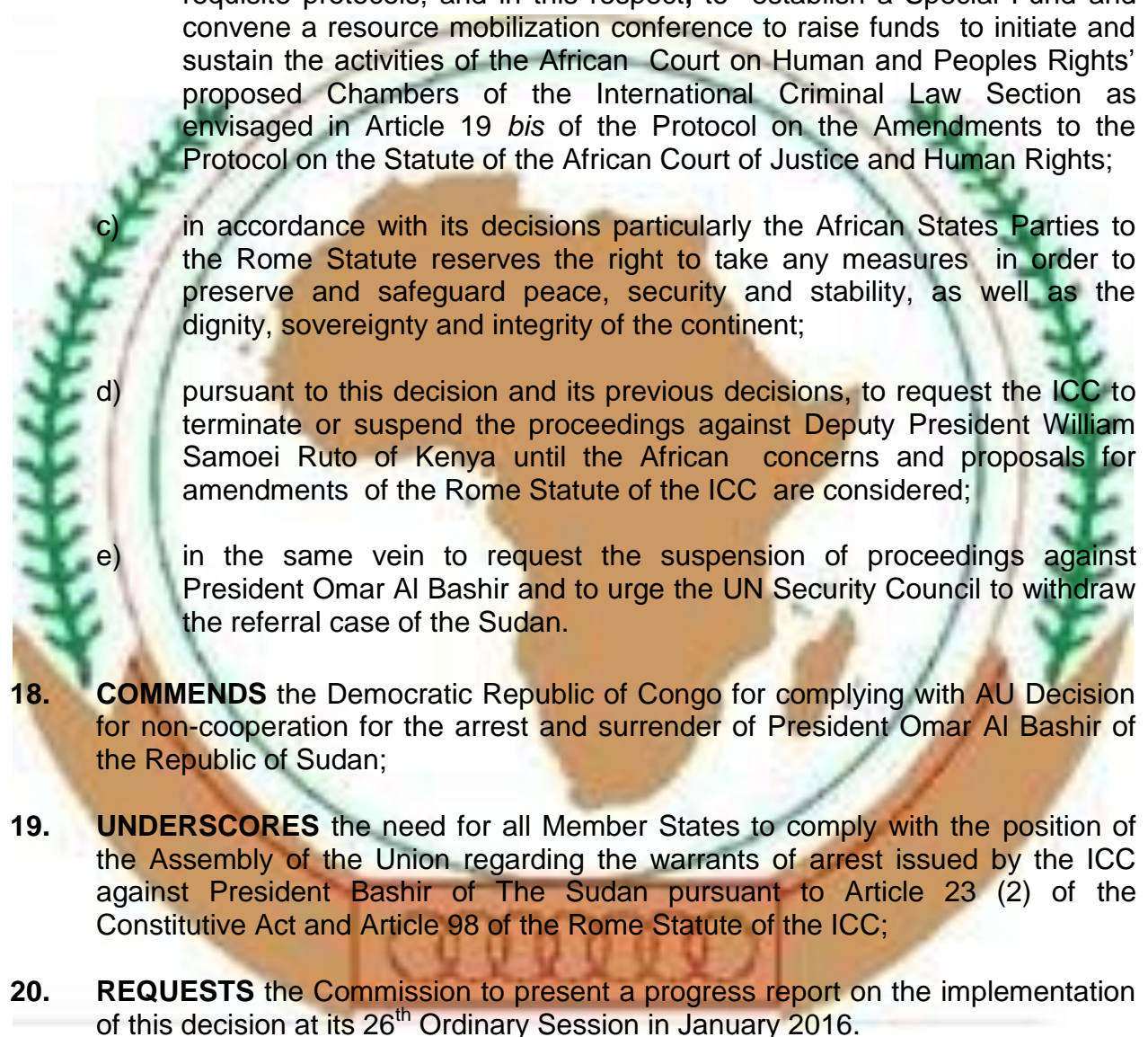
**DECISION ON THE PROGRESS REPORT OF THE COMMISSION
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PREVIOUS DECISIONS ON
THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT (ICC)
Doc. Assembly/AU/18(XXIV)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Commission on the progress made in the implementation of Decisions on the International Criminal Court (ICC);
2. **REITERATES**, the commitment of the African Union and its Member States to fight impunity in accordance with the Constitutive Act;
3. **ALSO REITERATES** its previous decisions for the deferral of the proceedings initiated by the ICC against the President of the Sudan and the Deputy President of Kenya in accordance with Article 16 of the Rome Statute which allows the UNSC to defer cases for one year;
4. **EXPRESSES**
 - a) its deep concern following the summoning of President Uhuru Kenyatta through a decision of the Trial Chamber V (b) of the ICC which did not take cognizance whatsoever of the amendments of the Rules of Procedure and Evidence of the ICC adopted by the 12th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute held in the Hague, the Netherlands in November 2013;
 - b) its deep concern regarding the conduct of the Office of the Prosecutor and the Court and the wisdom of the continued prosecution against African Leaders.
5. **COMMENDS** President Uhuru Kenyatta for the leadership demonstrated and the unprecedented act of appointing the Acting President so as to respect the Court Summons and protect the Sovereignty of Kenya;
6. **REITERATES** the imperative need for all African States Parties (ASP) to ensure that they adhere and articulate commonly agreed positions at the African Union in line with their obligations under the constitutive Act of the Union;
7. **REAFFIRMS** the principles deriving from national and International Customary Law by which sitting Heads of State and other senior officials are granted immunities during their tenure in office;
8. **WELCOMES** the decision made by the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court on 5 December, 2014 to withdraw the charges against President Uhuru

Kenyatta while regretting the period it took the Office of the Prosecutor to arrive at the decision and the continued prosecution through disclosure of alleged evidence available to the ICC against him;

9. **NOTES WITH CONCERN** that the case against the Deputy President William Samoei Ruto is still proceeding before the International Criminal Court and **REITERATES** to the ICC the imperative need to terminate its prosecution against the Deputy President as per the previous decisions;
10. **RECALLS** its decision Ext/Assembly/AU/Dec.1 particularly 12(i) that African States Parties should comply with African Union decision on ICC and continue to speak with one voice to ensure that African proposals to the amendments to articles 16 and 27 of the Rome Statute of the ICC are considered by the ASP Working Group on amendments as well as by the forthcoming sessions of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute;
11. **EXPRESSES** its concern on the failure by the ASP to consider the concerns and proposals for amendments by African Union of the Rome Statute of the ICC during the 13th Session of the ASP held in New York from 8 to 17 December, 2014;
12. **THANKS** Member States, African Group in New York and at the Hague ,the Contact Group and other like-minded States Parties to the Rome Statute for their work and continued support in fast-tracking the consideration of African concerns and amendment proposals to the Rome Statute;
13. **REGRETS** that the AU's endorsement of one person as a sole candidate for the post of judge of the ICC was not respected by some African States Parties;
14. **RECALLS** its decision Assembly/AU/Dec.529(XXIII) during the 23rd Ordinary Session of the Assembly held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea in June, 2014 adopting the Protocol on Amendments to the Protocol on the Statute of the African Court of Justice and Human Rights to try international crimes;
15. **UNDERScores** the need to expeditiously operationalize the exercise of the jurisdiction of the African Court of Justice and Human Rights to try international crimes through signing and ratification of both the Protocol on the Statute of the African Court of Justice and Human Rights and the Protocol on the Amendments to the Protocol on the Statute of the African Court of Justice and Human Rights by Member States of the African Union and **UNDERLINE** the need to ensure predictable and sustainable funding;
16. **REITERATES** its commitment to fund all AU Organs and Institutions including the African Court of Justice and Human Rights;
17. **DECIDES** as follows:

- 
- a) to request all concerned to fast track consideration by the ASP Working Group on amendments and by Assembly of States Parties of the African proposals for amendments of the Rome Statute of the ICC;
 - b) to operationalize the exercise of jurisdiction of the African Court of Justice and Human Rights to try international crimes by signing and ratifying the requisite protocols; and in this respect, to establish a Special Fund and convene a resource mobilization conference to raise funds to initiate and sustain the activities of the African Court on Human and Peoples Rights' proposed Chambers of the International Criminal Law Section as envisaged in Article 19 *bis* of the Protocol on the Amendments to the Protocol on the Statute of the African Court of Justice and Human Rights;
 - c) in accordance with its decisions particularly the African States Parties to the Rome Statute reserves the right to take any measures in order to preserve and safeguard peace, security and stability, as well as the dignity, sovereignty and integrity of the continent;
 - d) pursuant to this decision and its previous decisions, to request the ICC to terminate or suspend the proceedings against Deputy President William Samoei Ruto of Kenya until the African concerns and proposals for amendments of the Rome Statute of the ICC are considered;
 - e) in the same vein to request the suspension of proceedings against President Omar Al Bashir and to urge the UN Security Council to withdraw the referral case of the Sudan.
18. **COMMENDS** the Democratic Republic of Congo for complying with AU Decision for non-cooperation for the arrest and surrender of President Omar Al Bashir of the Republic of Sudan;
 19. **UNDERScores** the need for all Member States to comply with the position of the Assembly of the Union regarding the warrants of arrest issued by the ICC against President Bashir of The Sudan pursuant to Article 23 (2) of the Constitutive Act and Article 98 of the Rome Statute of the ICC;
 20. **REQUESTS** the Commission to present a progress report on the implementation of this decision at its 26th Ordinary Session in January 2016.

**DECISION ON THE AMENDMENT OF ARTICLE 37 (1) OF THE AFRICAN
CHARTER ON THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE OF THE CHILD
Doc. EX.CL/870(XXVI)**

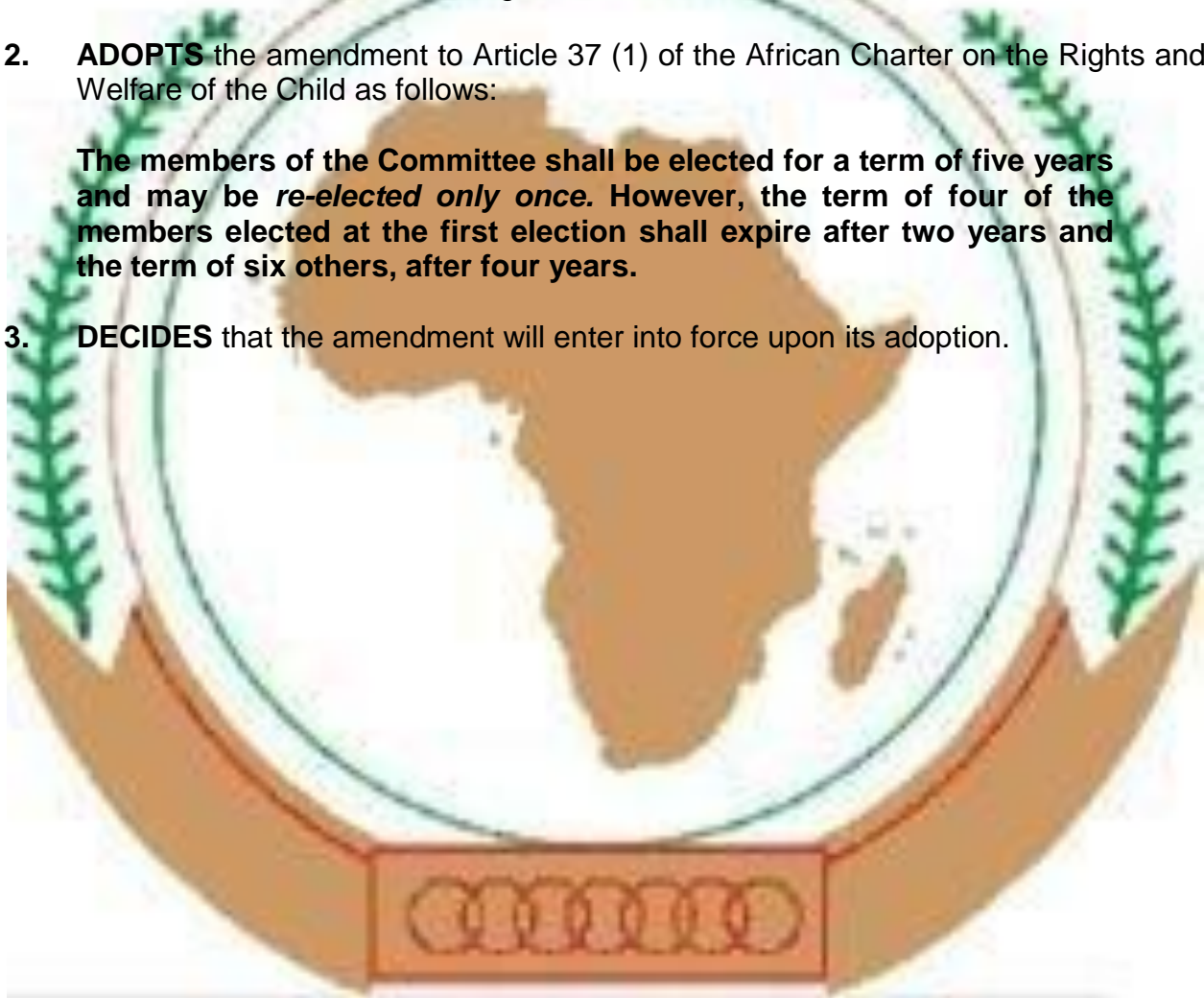
The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the Implementation of Previous Decisions and the recommendations of the Executive Council on the implementation of Assembly decision Assembly/AU/Dec. 528 (XXIII) concerning the amendment of article 37 (1) of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child;

2. **ADOPTS** the amendment to 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.

3. **DECIDES** that the amendment will enter into force upon its adoption.



**DECISION ON THE ELECTION OF ELEVEN MEMBERS OF THE
AFRICAN UNION ADVISORY BOARD ON CORRUPTION
Doc. EX.CL/883(XXVI)**

The Assembly,

- 1. TAKES NOTE** of the election of eleven (11) Members of the African Union Advisory Board on Corruption (the Board) by the Executive Council;
- 2. APPOINTS** the following Members of the Board **for a two (2)-year term:**

No	Name	Country
1	Mr. Jacques III ACHIAOU	Cote d'Ivoire
2	Mrs. Akossiwa Antoinette AYENA	Togo
3	Mrs. Angèle BARUMPOZAKO	Burundi
4	Mr. Daniel BATIDAM	Ghana
5	Mr. Jean-Baptiste ELIAS	Benin
6	Mr. Joseph Fitzgerald KAMARA	Sierra Leone
7	Mr. Ekwabi Webster Tekere MUJUNGU	Tanzania
8	Mr. Alhaji Isa Ozi SALAMI	Nigeria
9	Mr. Sefako Aaron SEEMA	Lesotho
10	Mr. John Kithome TUTA	Kenya
11	Mrs. Florence ZIYAMBI	Zimbabwe

**DECISION ON THE ELECTION OF SEVEN (7) MEMBERS OF THE AFRICAN
UNION COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL LAW (AUCIL)
Doc. EX.CL/884(XXVI)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the election of seven (7) Members of the African Union Commission on international Law (AUCIL) by the Executive Council;
2. **APPOINTS** the following six (6) Members of the AUCIL **for a five (5)-year term:**

No	Name	Country
1	Mr. Ebenezer APPREKU	Ghana
2	Mr. Mohamed BARAKAT	Egypt
3	Mr. Abdi Ismael HERSI	Djibouti
4	Mr. Sebastião Da Silva ISATA	Angola
5	Mrs. Juliet Semambo KALEMA	Uganda
6	Mr. Cheikh Tidiane THIAM	Senegal

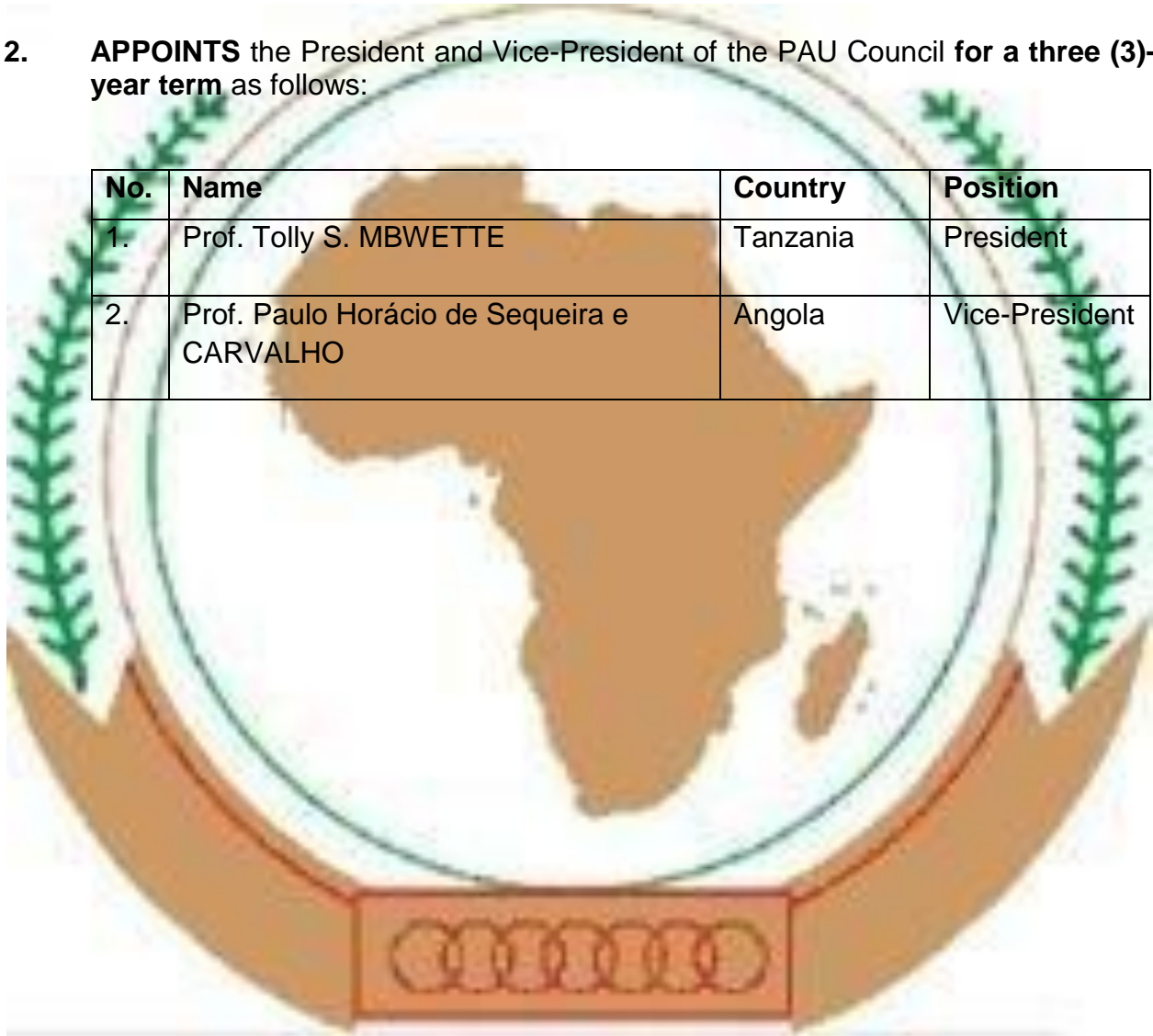
3. **FURTHER APPOINTS** Mrs. Hajer GUELDICH (Tunisia) **for the remainder of the term** of Mr Rafâa BEN ACHOUR (Tunisia) who was elected for a five (5)-year term by the Twenty-Second Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 21 to 25 January 2013 but recently resigned from the AUCIL.

**DECISION ON ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT
OF THE PAN AFRICAN UNIVERSITY (PAU) COUNCIL
Doc. EX.CL/885(XXV)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the election of the President and Vice President of the Pan African university (PAU) Council by the Executive Council;
2. **APPOINTS** the President and Vice-President of the PAU Council **for a three (3)-year term** as follows:

No.	Name	Country	Position
1.	Prof. Tolly S. MBWETTE	Tanzania	President
2.	Prof. Paulo Horácio de Sequeira e CARVALHO	Angola	Vice-President



**DECISION ON THE DESIGNATION OF THE HOST COUNTRY OF
THE PAN-AFRICAN UNIVERSITY RECTORATE
Doc. EX.CL/886(XXVI)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the selection of the Host Country of the Pan-African University Rectorate by the Executive Council;
2. **DESIGNATES** the **Republic of Cameroon** as host country of the Pan-African University Rectorate;
3. **REQUESTS** the African Union Commission in collaboration with the selected Host Country for the immediate installation of the Rectorate and report back to it during the June 2015 Summit.



DECISION ON EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE (EVD) OUTBREAK
Doc. Assembly/AU/3(XXIV)

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Commission's Report on the Ebola Virus Disease Outbreak (EVD) and the Report on the Socio-Economic Impacts of the EVD on Africa prepared by the UN Economic Commission for Africa and the recommendations therein;
2. **COMMENDS** the Commission and its Chairperson for their invaluable efforts to deal with the crisis of Ebola in West Africa, including:
 - i) the implementation of the ASEOWA and the subsequent deployment of health volunteers from Member States to help countries affected by Ebola and **RECOMMENDS** the extension of ASEOWA's mandate;
 - ii) the mobilization of financial support and human and material resources;
 - iii) the solidarity of the Member States, partners and the private sector;
 - iv) the initiative undertaken at the level of mobilization of funds through the SMS with the cooperation of operators of companies of mobile.
3. **ALSO COMMENDS** the health volunteers who have provided heroically eminent services to our brothers and sisters in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone;
4. **CALLS UPON** Member States, who have not yet done so, to lift all restrictions imposed on Ebola affected countries in accordance with the decision of the Extraordinary Session of Executive Council of 8 September 2014, which advocated inter alia the non-closure of borders, and non-stigmatization of affected countries and their nationals;
5. **INVITES** the Member States that have accumulated rich experience in the fight against Ebola to share their knowledge with affected countries;
6. **REQUESTS** the international financial institutions and partner countries to cancel the debt of the three affected countries (Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone) to alleviate the impact of the Ebola crisis on the economies of these countries and assist in their economic recovery and development;
7. **APPROVES** the recommendation to urgently convene a Global Conference on the Ebola epidemic in 2015 in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea and **REQUESTS** the Commission to liaise with all stakeholders in this regard towards the implementation of this Decision;

8. **REQUESTS** the Commission to submit regularly to Member States status reports on the Ebola epidemic, including relevant statistics and all contributions received, as well as their use;
9. **URGES** Member States and all stakeholders to continue their assistance to the affected countries;
10. **APPEALS** to the scientific community to accelerate the search for a vaccine against Ebola;
11. **CONGRATULATES** the Republic of Equatorial Guinea for having generously accepted to host AFCON 2015, despite the Ebola Outbreak, and for the excellent organization and facilities provided to this important event and **EXPRESSES ITS HIGH APPRECIATION** in this regard;
12. **REQUESTS** the Commission to pay directly to Member States affected by Ebola (Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone) US\$ 500,000 as originally agreed;
13. **DECIDES** to remain seized of the matter and **REQUESTS** the Commission to report on progress and the implementation of this decision to the 27th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council in June 2015.



**DECISION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AFRICAN
CENTRE OF DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (AFRICAN CDC)
Doc. Assembly/AU/4(XXIV)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Commission on the establishment of the African Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (African CDC) and the recommendations contained therein;
2. **ENDORSES** the establishment of the African CDC;
3. **WELCOMES** the fruitful cooperation between the Commission and Ethiopia towards the rapid establishment of the Centre, through their active participation in the work of the Multinational Taskforce in charge of the project;
4. **EXPRESSES IMMENSE SATISFACTION** for efforts made by the Commission to speed up the process for the establishment of the Centre by mid-2015, pursuant to the relevant Executive Council and Assembly decisions;
5. **APPROVES** that the Coordination Office should initially be at the Headquarters of the African Union in Addis Ababa, and should work closely with already existing Centres in the different regions of the Continent and **REQUESTS** the Commission in collaboration with Member States to put in place necessary arrangements and coordination towards mechanisms of the operationalization of existing regional centers for mounting rapid response to emergency public health crisis such as the Ebola outbreak;
6. **TAKES NOTE** of the proposed structures and the financial implications which amount to approximately 5 million US dollars to cover the expenses for the establishment and operation of the Centre for the initial 18-month period;
7. **AUTHORIZES** the Commission to undertake the mobilization of funds from Member States, and development partners and the private sector who have already indicated an interest and with experience in the domain;
8. **REQUESTS** the Commission, in close collaboration with the Multinational Taskforce, to consider the practical modalities for the operationalization of the Centre and report thereon to the Assembly in June 2015;
9. **REQUESTS** the STC on Justice and Legal Affairs to consider the statute of the African CDC and submit it to the 25th Ordinary Session of the Assembly.

**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE HIGH LEVEL AFRICAN
TRADE COMMITTEE (HATC) ON TRADE ISSUES
Doc. Assembly/AU/11(XXIV)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the High Level African Trade Committee held in January 2015 and **ENDORSES** the recommendations contained therein;

On the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA)

2. **TAKES NOTE** of the progress towards the establishment of the Tripartite Free Trade Area involving the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the East African Community (EAC) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the launch of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Common External Tariff (CET) with effect from January 2015;
3. **URGES** Member States to expedite the accession and ratification to the regional free trade agreements;
4. **REQUESTS** the Ministers of Trade to propose options on levels of trade liberalization to serve as an indicative basis on which to start CFTA negotiations;
5. **EMPHASISES** the importance of involving various stakeholders such as the Private Sector, Parliamentarians, Civil Society, Academia, etc. in the process of establishing the CFTA through appropriate mechanisms so as to ensure ownership of CFTA by the peoples of Africa;
6. **MANDATES** the Chairperson of the HATC in collaboration with the Chairperson of the Commission to engage in High Level consultations for the establishment of the CFTA;
7. **REQUESTS** the Commission, in collaboration with UNECA and RECs, to undertake technical work, required studies and preparation in advance of the negotiations including the preparation of the draft negotiating texts;
8. **REAFFIRMS** the commitment to launch CFTA negotiations in June 2015 and in this regard **MANDATES** Ministers of Trade to meet and finalise preparations for the launch;

On the World Trade Organisation (WTO)

9. **WELCOMES** the breakthrough in the WTO Doha negotiations and **REITERATES** the importance of African countries speaking in one voice to ensure that Africa's interests are adequately addressed within the multilateral trading system;

10. **URGES** Member States to identify key issues in the post-Bali work programme that facilitate the achievement of Africa's strategic structural transformation and regional integration agenda;

On African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA)

11. **NOTES WITH APPRECIATION** the announcement made by President Obama on the occasion of the Africa-US Summit held in August 2014 expressing commitment towards the reauthorization of AGOA;
12. **CALLS UPON** the US Congress to preserve AGOA as the cornerstone of Africa-US trade and investment partnership by ensuring the timely reauthorization of AGOA co-terminus with the Third Country Fabric Provision;
13. **FURTHER CALLS UPON** AGOA-eligible countries to enhance the advocacy to complement the efforts of the African Group of Ambassadors in Washington, USA towards the reauthorization of AGOA.



**DECISION ON AFRICA'S ENGAGEMENTS AT THE UN CLIMATE SUMMIT AND
LIMA GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE (COP20/CMP 10)
Doc. Assembly/AU/12(XXIV)**

The Assembly,

1. TAKES NOTE of the:

- i) Report of the Coordinator of the Committee of the 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 Outcomes of the global Climate Change negotiations at the United Nations Climate Summit and the Twentieth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and Tenth Meeting of the Parties serving as the Conference of the Parties to Its Kyoto Protocol (COP 20/ CMP10); and **ENDORSES** the recommendations contained therein;
- ii) Dar es Salaam Joint meeting of the African Ministers of Environment and Foreign Affairs from the CAHOSCC members convened by the CAHOSCC Coordinator, H.E. Dr. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, President of the United Republic of Tanzania on 29 August 2014 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania that facilitated the African Ministers to exchange views and interact on the global climate change negotiations;
- iii) Conclusions of the CAHOSCC preparatory meeting on the adoption of the CAHOSCC Key Political Messages as the basis for Africa's engagements at the UN Climate Summit and the Global Climate Change Conference (COP 20/CMP10) held in New York in September 2014 and Lima, Peru in December 2014 respectively;

2. COMMENDS the leadership of the CAHOSCC Coordinator, H.E. Dr. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, President of the United Republic of Tanzania in steering the work of CAHOSCC from January 2013 to December 2014 and at COP 19/ CMP 9 in Warsaw, Poland and COP 20 / CMP 10 in Lima, Peru, and the achievement by the CAHOSCC including the adoption by the AU of the High Level Work Programme on Climate Change Action in Africa (WPCCAA), a blue print for climate action on the Continent;

3. ENCOURAGES the CAHOSCC Members to participate at all meetings at Heads of State level;

4. URGES Member States to implement the CAHOSCC High Level Work Programme on Climate Change Action in Africa (WPCCAA) at the national level and, as appropriate, in partnership with all relevant stakeholders;

5. **REQUESTS** the Commission to facilitate the implementation of the WPCCAA and put in place a mechanism for follow up and regular reporting to the Summit on its implementation; and the AMCEN and AGN to take into account the WPCCAA in their negotiations and engagement with other partners in the climate change processes and fora.



**DECISION ON FAST TRACKING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMITMENTS
FOR ACCELERATING THE ACHIEVEMENT OF WATER AND
SANITATION GOALS IN AFRICA
Doc. Assembly/AU/16(XXIV)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of His Excellency Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda, on the Kigali Action Plan for Fast Tracking the Implementation of the July 2008 Assembly Declaration, and actualising the Africa Water Vision 2025; and **ENDORSES** the Action Plan, the Strategy for Resources Mobilisation and Implementation, and the Roadmap;
2. **REQUESTS** the Commission to coordinate the implementation of the Action Plan, and to report on the progress of implementation of Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.516(XXII) to the January 2016 Ordinary Session of the Assembly.



DECISION ON THE ITEMS PROPOSED BY MEMBER STATES

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the following items proposed by Member States;
 - A. **ON THE DATE AND VENUE OF THE THIRTY-THIRD, THIRTY-FIFTH AND THIRTY-NINTH ORDINARY SESSIONS OF THE AFRICAN UNION**
2. **TAKES NOTE** of the offers of the Republic of Niger, the Kingdom of Swaziland and the Republic of Zambia to host the Thirty-Third, Thirty-Fifth and Thirty-Ninth Ordinary Sessions of the Assembly of the African Union in Niamey, Niger, Ezulwini, Swaziland and Lusaka, Zambia in June/July 2019, June/July 2020 and June/July 2022 respectively, and **EXPRESSES ITS HIGH APPRECIATION** to the above countries for their offers;
3. **APPROVES** the three offers and **REQUESTS** the Commission to conduct, for this purpose, the necessary consultations with the three Member States with a view to holding these sessions in the best possible conditions;
 - B. **ON THE CREATION OF AN AFRICAN CENTRE FOR INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES IN N'DJAMENA - Doc. Assembly/AU/19(XXIV)Add.4**
4. **TAKES NOTE** of the proposal by the Republic of Chad to establish an African Centre for Information Technologies (ACIT) with Headquarters in N'djamena, Chad;
5. **COMMENDS** the Republic of Chad and its President for this crucial initiative and for the funds already mobilized towards the construction of ACIT with a view to promoting information technologies in Africa, which are critical in the continent's development process;
6. **UNDERScores** the need to conduct an in-depth study on the ways and means to integrate this project into African Union programmes with a precise definition of the inputs expected from the African Union based on an evaluation of the legal, structural and financial implications, and thus submit appropriate recommendations to the competent organs of the African Union;
7. **REQUESTS** the Commission and the Republic of Chad to carry out appropriate consultations with a view to evaluating legal, structural and financial implications, and report to the Assembly through the relevant structures.

C. ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MEDIATION SUPPORT AND CONFLICT PREVENTION UNIT - Doc. Assembly/AU/19(XXIV)Add.5

8. **TAKES NOTE** of Egypt's initiative to strengthen the use of preventive diplomacy within the African Union through the establishment of Mediation Support and Preventive Diplomacy Unit;
9. **REQUESTS** Peace and Security Council to consider this issue at its sessions and come up with appropriate recommendations together with an evaluation of the legal, structural and financial implications of establishing such a Unit and submit for the consideration by the relevant structures;
10. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission, in consultation with the Arab Republic of Egypt, to submit a report thereon to the next Summit in June 2015.

D. ON THE STATUS OF PREPARATIONS FOR THE 11TH AFRICAN GAMES DUE TO TAKE PLACE IN BRAZZAVILLE, REPUBLIC OF CONGO IN SEPTEMBER 2015 - Doc. Assembly/AU/19(XXIV)Add.6

11. **COMMENDS** the Republic of Congo for the arrangements made to host the African Games in the best possible conditions;
12. **ENCOURAGES** all Member States of the African Union to actively participate in the African Games in Brazzaville as a demonstration of solidarity with Congo for and a testimony to continental unity.

E. ON THE CONTINENT-WIDE SOLIDARITY AGAINST BOKO HARAM – Doc. Assembly/AU/19(XXIV) Add.7

13. **TAKES NOTE** of the proposal by Niger on Continent-Wide Solidarity against Boko Haram and the Draft Declaration submitted on this subject;
14. **STRONGLY CONDEMNS** the abduction of Chibok girls, women, children and all other persons in the northern part of Nigeria by insurgents and Reiterates the call on Heads of State, the International Community to continue its support to the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, in its efforts to ensure the release of the abducted people and to facilitate a lasting solution to the threat of Boko Haram;
15. **WELCOMES AND SUPPORTS** the efforts deployed by Member States of the Lake Chad Basin Commission and the Republic of Benin for having agreed to deploy national contingents and establish a Joint Military Staff Headquarters for conduct of military operations against Boko Haram terrorist group;
16. **SUPPORTS** the activities carried out under the Nouakchott Process to prevent and combat terrorism in the continent with the support of the Peace and Security

Council and the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT) and that of the international community at large;

17. **FURTHER SUPPORTS** the proposal to get the United Nations Security Council to adopt a resolution authorizing Member States of Lake Chad Basin Commission and the Republic of Benin to deploy a Multinational Joint Task Force for an initial period of twelve months and the establishment by the United Nations Secretary General of a Special Fund to provide requisite financial and logistics support for the operations to the Task Force;
18. **EXPRESSES** its high appreciation to the Republic of Chad for the timely intervention to assist the Republic of Cameroon in combating the Boko Haram Terrorist Group;
19. **CALLS UPON** all Member States to render every possible assistance towards defeating the dangerous Boko Haram Group;

F. ON THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE SCHOOL OF AFRICAN HERITAGE INTO A REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOL - Doc. Assembly/AU/19(XXIV)Add.8

20. **NOTES** that this is a commendable initiative and **ENCOURAGES** the Government of Benin to pursue it, and **FURTHER ENCOURAGES** Member States, RECs, African and international partners to render the necessary support towards the achievement of the objectives;
21. **REQUESTS** the Commission and the Republic of Benin to carry out appropriate consultations with a view to evaluating legal, structural and financial implications, and report to the Assembly through the relevant structures..

G. ON A CULTURE OF PEACE IN AFRICA - Doc. Assembly/AU/19(XXIV)Add.9

22. **REQUESTS** the Commission to:
 - i) take all appropriate measures in consultation with UNESCO and Government of Republic of Angola to co-organize a biannual Pan-African Forum for a Culture of Peace in Africa, “Biennale of Luanda”, foreseen to take place in September 2015;
 - ii) explore with UNESCO and the Government of Côte d’Ivoire the possibility of creating a “School of Peace”,

H. ON THE AFRICAN EDUCATION INITIATIVE FOR PEACE THROUGH INTERRELIGIOUS AND INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE - Doc. Assembly/AU/19(XXIV)Add.10

23. **CALLS UPON** Member States, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), and African and international partners engaged in the promotion of international peace and security, to actively participate in the Meeting being organized by the Republic of Benin on inter-religious and inter-cultural dialogue.



**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/7(XXIV)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) on its activities and the state of peace and security in Africa;
2. **WELCOMES** the steps that continue to be taken towards the full operationalization of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA). In particular, **COMMENDS** the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) on the successful conduct of Exercise Loango 2014 held in Pointe Noire, Republic of Congo, from 19 to 29 October 2014, and the East African Standby Force Coordinating Mechanism (EASFCOM) for having attained full operational capability as confirmed by Exercise Mashariki Salaam 2014, which took place in Nazareth, Ethiopia, from 13 to 22 November 2014; **REQUESTS** the Commission, the concerned Regional Standby Brigades and Member States and to take all necessary steps to ensure that the African Standby Force (ASF) is fully operational by the end of 2015, as planned, including the holding, in course of this year, in South Africa, of the Amani Africa II Field Training Exercise; **FURTHER WELCOMES** the steps taken towards the operationalization of the African Capacity for Immediate Response to Crises (ACIRC) including Command Post Exercise Utulivu Africa, held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, from 25 to 29 November 2014;
3. **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the steps taken by the Commission in follow-up to Decision EX.CL/Dec.820(XXV) adopted by the 25th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, from 20 to 24 June 2014 on the establishment of the AU Police Cooperation Mechanism (AFRIPOL), notably the holding of two meetings of AFRIPOL Ad Hoc Committee on 2 July and 2 October 2014, in Addis Ababa and Kampala, respectively, to elaborate the draft statutes of AFRIPOL and other relevant legal texts, as well as identifying the modalities of its funding; **LOOKS FORWARD** to the finalization of the process and the on-going process and the submission to the Executive Council, in June 2015, of a comprehensive report on the operationalization of AFRIPOL;
4. **NOTES WITH DEEP CONCERN** that despite the progress made, Africa continues to face serious challenges in the field of peace and security, which undermine socio-economic development efforts, cause catastrophic humanitarian consequences and contribute to project a negative image of the continent; **STRESSES** the need for increased efforts towards achieving a conflict-free Africa in 2020, as agreed by the Heads of State and Government on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of OAU/AU in May 2013. In this regard, **REITERATES** the vital importance of conflict prevention, through the scrupulous implementation of

the relevant AU instruments and PSC communiqués, as well as through the exercise by that body of all the responsibilities entrusted to it; **ALSO REITERATES** the crucial role of the Panel of the Wise and **ENCOURAGES** the latter to intensify its conflict prevention efforts;

5. **NOTES** that in 2015 and 2016, a high number of elections will be organized on the continent and **STRESSES** that the polls offer a critical window of opportunity to enhance democracy in the concerned Member States. The Assembly calls on the concerned Member States, the Regional Economic Communities/Regional Mechanisms for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution (RECs/RMs) and the relevant AU organs, including the PSC and the Panel of the Wise, to take all necessary steps to ensure that these elections take place peacefully and in the required conditions of fairness and transparency, in line with the relevant AU instruments, notably the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance, bearing in mind that democracy and the rule of law are preconditions for sustainable peace, stability and socio-economic development; **URGES ONCE AGAIN** all Member States that have not yet done so to urgently sign and ratify the Charter;
6. **REITERATES THE DEEP CONCERN OF THE AU** at the continued worsening of the scourge of terrorism and violent extremism in Africa, as Demonstrated by the cowardly and dastardly attacks perpetrated by different terrorist groups across the continent, including Al Shabaab, the Lord's Resistant Army (LRA), Boko Haram, Al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), the Movement for Oneness and Jihad in the West Africa (MOJWA), al-Murabitun and the Ansar al-Sharia groups; **ONCE AGAIN UNDERLINES** the need for renewed African and international efforts to address of the prevailing conditions and, in this respect, **URGES** the Member States, the RECs/RMs and the Commission to take all steps necessary towards the effective implementation of all the provisions of the communiqué adopted by the 469th meeting of the PSC held at Summit level, in Nairobi, Kenya, on 2 September 2014; **EXPRESS FULL SUPPORT** to the efforts of the member countries of the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) and Benin in particular the establishment of the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) to combat the Boko Haram terrorist group, **ENCOURAGES** the Commission to continue to support these efforts, in line with the relevant PSC communiqués, and **CALLS ON** the international community to extend all the assistance required; **WELCOMES** the convening by the Commission, in Algiers, from 27 to 28 October 2014, of a symposium on victims of acts of terrorism, and **URGES** for the full implementation of the recommendations made on that occasion, looking forward to regular updates in this respect;
7. **WELCOMES** the progress that continues to be made in terms of peace-building and post-conflict reconstruction in The Comoros, Madagascar, with the continuation of the reconciliation process in Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea-Bissau; **URGES** all stakeholders concerned to pursue the efforts undertaken and **CALLS**

for continuous mobilization of African and international support for these countries, including within the framework of the African Solidarity Initiative (ISA);

8. **REITERATES** Africa's solidarity with countries in West Africa affected by the Ebola epidemic (Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone), **WELCOMES** the deployment by the Commission of ASEOWA, as mandated by the PSC, **CALLS FOR** continued African and international mobilization to contain the Ebola crisis; **STRESSES THE NEED** for additional efforts at peace-building and post-conflict reconstruction in the three countries;
9. **WELCOMES** the completion of the transition in Tunisia, with the holding, in November and December 2014, of presidential election; **COMMENDS** all Tunisian social and political actors for the sustained efforts they have made and for their maturity, which allowed for a peaceful and consensual transition, and **UNDERScores** the exemplary nature of the Tunisian experience; **APPEALS** to the international community to provide Tunisia with economic and financial support necessary for the consolidation of democracy;
10. **WELCOMES** the positive developments in Burkina Faso, and **REITERATES** AU's commitment to assist the transitional authorities in their efforts to bring the Transition to its logical conclusion, with the organization of presidential and legislative elections in October 2015; **CALLS ON** Member States of the AU and the international community as a whole, to provide all necessary support to this end; **WELCOMES** the establishment of the International Support Group for the Transition in Burkina Faso (GISAT-BF), under the joint auspices of the AU, ECOWAS and the UN, and the conclusions of its inaugural meeting in Ouagadougou on 13 January 2015;
11. **URGES** the Government of Mali and the Armed Movements in the North to rapidly conclude a Comprehensive Peace Agreement in full respect of the unity and territorial integrity of Mali, as well as of the secular nature of the Malian government and **LOOKS FORWARD** to the resumption in February 2015, within the framework of the Algiers process, of inter-Malian peace talks. The Assembly **REITERATES** the full support of the AU mediation spearheaded by Algeria, with the participation of the countries in the region, the AU, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the United Nations, the European Union (EU) and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC);
12. **EXPRESSES ITS FULL SUPPORT** to the conclusions of the ministerial meeting of the African troop contributing countries to the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) on the capacity of MINUSMA held in Niamey, Niger, in November 5, 2014, and **REQUESTS** the Commission to expedite consultations with the UN on the follow up of these conclusions, including the establishment of an intervention force modelled on the United Nations Force Intervention Brigade for Stabilization in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUSCO), as agreed by the region at the Summit of Member

Countries of the Nouakchott Process on Enhancing Security Cooperation and Operationalization of APSA in the Sahelo-Saharan Region held in the Mauritanian capital on 18 December 2014;

13. **REITERATES ITS SUPPORT** to the Nouakchott Process on Enhancing Security Cooperation and Operationalization of APSA in the Sahelo-Saharan Region, **WELCOMES** the holding of the Summit of Member Countries of the Nouakchott Process, on 18 December, 2014 and **ENCOURAGES** the Commission and countries concerned, with the support of international partners, to effectively implement the Declaration adopted on that occasion; **FURTHER WELCOMES** the adoption by the PSC on 11 August 2014, of the AU Strategy for the Sahel region, and **CALLS ON** the countries of the region and the Commission, with the support of international partners including the EU, the OIC and the UN, to work towards its effective implementation;
14. **WELCOMES** the progress that continues to be made in Somalia, and **URGES** the Somali stakeholders to stay on course and action to demonstrate the required unity of purpose and action, in order to expedite the implementation of Vision 2016 and fulfill the aspirations of their people to peace, security and stability; **PAYS TRIBUTE** to the AU Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and the Troop and Police Contributing Countries (T/PCCs) for their commitment and the sacrifices made, and **REITERATES** the AU's appreciation to those partners extending support to the Mission; **APPEALS** for the provision of adequate financial, economic and humanitarian assistance to Somalia, as well as for enhanced support for the building of capable and effective defense and security forces;
15. **REITERATES** the support of the AU to the implementation process of the Framework Agreement for Peace, Security and Cooperation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and the region and **URGES** all stakeholders to redouble their efforts in this regard; **STRESSES** the crucial importance of neutralizing the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) and other armed groups operating in eastern DRC, in accordance with the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions, and with the decisions taken by the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) and the African Union. The Assembly, noting with regret the FDLR refusal to disarm voluntarily before the expiry of the deadline of January 2, 2015 set by the countries of the region, **CALLS ON** the Armed Forces of the DRC (FARDC) and MONUSCO to immediately implement the mandate entrusted to them by resolutions 2098 (2013) and 2147 (2014) to neutralize the armed group; **URGES** all stakeholders to accelerate the implementation of the Nairobi Declaration of December 2013 that marked the conclusion of the dialogue between the Government of the DRC and the former M23; **STRESSES** the need for greater efforts to translate into reality the socio-economic aspects of the Framework Agreement;

16. **EXPRESSES ITS DEEP APPRECIATION** to the International Support Mission to the Central African Republic (MISCA) and troops and police contributing countries for the excellent work done in the Central African Republic (CAR), as well as to Member States and international partners who have provided logistical, technical and financial support to the Mission and **WELCOMES** the successful transformation, on 15 September, 2014, of MISCA into a United Nations operation – Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA; **URGES** the Central African Republic stakeholders to commit themselves resolutely to achieving the national reconciliation process and the completion of the transition within the newly agreed time frame; it **CONDEMNS IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS** the acts of violence perpetrated by armed groups and **CALLS FOR** scrupulous compliance with the Agreement on the Cessation of Hostilities reached at the national Reconciliation Forum, held in Brazzaville from 21 to 23 July 2014; **REITERATES ITS APPRECIATION** to the International Mediation, ECCAS and the international partners for their continued commitment; **CALLS FOR** increased humanitarian, financial and economic support for CAR;
17. **UNDERScores** the need for renewed Efforts to overcome the current impasse in the peace process between Eritrea and Ethiopia and, in this respect, **ENCOURAGES** the Commission and the PSC to take appropriate initiatives in line with the provisions of the PSC Protocol **ALSO ENCOURAGES** the Commission and to the PSC to continue to support as appropriate the process aimed at normalizing the relations between Djibouti and Eritrea and promoting good neighbourliness between the two countries; **REITERATES ITS SUPPORT** for the proposed regional and holistic approach to the challenges of peace, security and development in the Horn of Africa, in line with its earlier decisions on the matter;
18. **REITERATES** the support of the AU to the national dialogue initiative in Sudan aimed at addressing in a holistic and inclusive fashion the multifaceted challenges confronting the country and, in this respect, **CALLS ON** all Sudanese stakeholders to demonstrate the required political will and commitment; **REITERATES ITS FULL SUPPORT** to the AU High-Level Implementation Panel (AUHIP), **COMMENDS** its members for their untiring efforts and commitment and **URGES** the Sudanese stakeholders to extend full cooperation to the Panel; **APPEALS** to the international community to extend the necessary support, including the provision of economic and financial assistance and debt relief to help stabilize the economy of the country;
19. **EXPRESS DEEP CONCERN** at the prevailing situation in South Sudan, marked by continued conflict and a disastrous humanitarian situation; **CALLS ONCE AGAIN** on the parties to demonstrate the necessary commitment to end the bloodshed in their country and respond to the aspirations of their people; **REITERATES THE AU'S APPRECIATION** to the Intergovernmental Authorities on Development (IGAD) for its relentless efforts and commitment to the search for a lasting solution to the conflict and **WELCOMES** the establishment, by the PSC,

of the AU High-Level ad hoc Committee and **ENCOURAGES** it to take all necessary steps in order to enhance the IGAD-led mediation; **EXPRESS ITS DETERMINATION** to support the measures contemplated by the IGAD Summit of 7 November 2014 and **REQUESTS** the PSC to take the necessary follow-up action; **LOOKS FORWARD** to the consideration in due course, by the PSC of the report of the AU Commission of Inquiry established to investigate human rights violations committed in the course of the conflict in South Sudan and make recommendations on how best to promote accountability, healing and reconciliation;

20. **ENCOURAGES** Sudan and South Sudan to expedite their efforts towards the full implementation of the September 2012 Cooperation Agreement; **APPEALS** to the two countries to take the necessary steps to address the issue of Abyei, both through the effective implementation of the Temporary Arrangements and renewed efforts to resolve the issue of the final status of the area and **COMMENDS** the UN Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA) for its invaluable contribution to the stabilization of the Abyei Area; **ALSO APPEALS** to the international community to extend the necessary support to the Joint Approach agreed upon by the two countries to address their socio-economic challenges; **COMMENDS** the AUHIP for its tireless efforts, and **ENCOURAGES** it to continue availing its support to Sudan and South Sudan;
21. **EXPRESS, ONCE AGAIN, AU'S DEEP'S CONCERN** at the prevailing situation in Libya and its far-reaching consequences for the country, as well as for regional peace, security and stability; **STRONGLY CONDEMNS** all acts of violence in Libya and **REITERATES AU'S CONVICTION** that there is no military solution to the current crisis; **CALLS ON** the Libyan stakeholders to put the interest of their country above narrow partisan considerations and to work in earnest towards bringing the violence to an end and initiating a genuine national reconciliation process; **EXPRESS FULL SUPPORT** to the on-going UN-led mediation efforts and **WELCOMES** the outcome of the first round of the UN facilitated dialogue held in Geneva, from 14 to 15 January 2015; **FURTHER WELCOMES** the untiring efforts of the countries of the region, through the ministerial committee of Libya's neighbours, under the overall coordination of Algeria and Libya, **ENCOURAGES** their continued involvement and, in this respect, **LOOKS FORWARD** to the early convening of the reconciliation conference being planned by Algeria;
22. **REITERATES** the UN Security Council repeated calls to the parties to the conflict in Western Sahara, to continue negotiations without preconditions and in good faith, with a view to achieving a just, lasting, and mutually acceptable political solution, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara in the context of arrangements consistent with the principles and purposes of the UN Charter and International Legality. In this respect, **EXPRESSES AU'S FULL SUPPORT** to the efforts of the UN Personal Envoy; **WELCOMES** the steps taken by the Chairperson of the Commission to follow-up

on the relevant decisions of the Executive Council, including the appointment of a Special Envoy and the consultations she undertook with relevant international partners, and **REQUESTS** her to pursue her efforts, notably through continued interaction with the UN and other key international stakeholders, in order to mobilize the necessary support to the UN-led efforts;

23. **WELCOMES** the announcement by the UN Secretary-General in November 2014, of the establishment of a High-Level Panel to review UN peace operations. In this respect, **REQUESTS** the Commission to develop a common African position on the issue at hand, to be adopted by the PSC, prior to the discussions to take place within relevant UN organs, taking into account the need to further promote an innovative and forward looking partnership between the AU and the UN in the promotion of peace, security and stability in Africa; **LOOKS FORWARD** to the interaction between the AU and the Panel scheduled to take place in Addis Ababa from 9 to 13 February 2015, and **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to provide an update on this issue in June 2015;
24. **RECALLS ONCE AGAIN** the urgency and imperative of mobilization of increased resources at the continental level, commensurate with the challenges, to help finance the AU Peace and Security Agenda **STRESSES** that the ownership and leadership of the peace efforts to which the continent and its people so legitimately aspire cannot be achieved as long as the bulk of financial burden relating thereto is supported by international partners;
25. **STRONGLY CONDEMNS** the armed terrorist attacks on the State House of The Gambia on 30 December 2014 and **REAFFIRMS** the AU's rejection of all forms of violent attempts at coming to power through unconstitutional means or the use of force; **AND EXPRESSES** its solidarity with the Government and people of The Gambia;
26. **STRONGLY CONDEMNS** the attack conducted on 30 December 2014 by armed elements in Burundi in order to disturb peace and security in the election process and **RECALLS** the AU statement on Burundi supporting the organisation of the upcoming elections in a fair, free and transparent manner;
27. **DECIDES** to name the new Peace and Security Building after "Mwalimu Julius Nyerere.

**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE HIGH LEVEL COMMITTEE
ON THE POST 2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA
Doc. Assembly/AU/13(XXVI)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the report of the High Level Committee (HLC) on the Post 2015 Development Agenda;
2. **COMMENDS** the Heads of State and Government serving on the HLC for their commitment, dedication and leadership in facilitating evidence generation, advocacy, negotiation and mobilization activities to articulate Africa's input into the Post-2015 Development Agenda;
3. **ACKNOWLEDGES** that negotiations by the global community has entered a critical phase and that continued strategic engagement is necessary to facilitate the evolution of a Post-2015 Development Agenda that is compatible with Africa's development objectives;
4. **SUPPORTS** the decision to use the proposal from the OWG on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as the main basis for negotiations as it captures the essential elements of the Common African Position (CAP) priorities and should not be reopened for further discussion;
5. **ENDORSES** the formation and the Terms of Reference of the African Group of Negotiators on the Post 2015 Development Agenda which shall be the single negotiating body acting on behalf of the continent;
6. **REAFFIRMS** that the CAP remains the sole negotiating document for Africa and **CALLS UPON** all African Member States to adhere to its provisions during all negotiations relating to the Post-2015 Development Agenda;
7. **REQUESTS** the HLC to ensure Africa's participation in the 3rd International Conference on Financing for Development to be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in July 2015 as informed by the outcomes of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning, and Economic Development (STC) and **CALLS UPON** all Member States to participate at the highest possible level to ensure that Africa's voice is heard;
8. **REAFFIRMS** full support to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and commends this sister country for the ongoing preparations towards the successful hosting of the 3rd International Conference on Financing for Development in Africa for the first time;
9. **RECOMMENDS** the convening of a special session of the HLC during the next Summit for stocktaking and to provide strategic guidance to deepen Africa's political leadership and stakeholder engagement to ensure both the Financing for

Development and Post-2015 Development Agenda outcomes reflect Africa's priorities;

10. **REQUESTS** the HLC to report to the June 2015 Assembly on the progress of negotiations.



**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF ALTERNATIVE SOURCES
OF FINANCING THE AFRICAN UNION
Doc. Assembly/AU/6(XXIV)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report and **EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION** for the efforts put in by the Conference of the AU Ministers of Economy and Finance (CAMEF), the Ministerial Working Group of the CAMEF and the Commission working in close collaboration with the UNECA, towards the implementation of the pertinent decisions of the Assembly on the issue; in this regard, **AGREES** on the urgent need to find a solution to this long-standing issue;
2. **STRESSES** the critical need to ensure that the AU becomes financially autonomous;
3. **URGES** all Member States that have not yet done so, to honour as soon as possible their contributions and arrears to the Union;
4. **REAFFIRMS** the principle of Alternative Sources of Financing the Union by its Member States, provided that Member States are given the flexibility of its implementation, in accordance with their national imperatives, laws and regulations and constitutional provisions as appropriate;
5. **REQUESTS** the Ad-hoc Ministerial Committee on the Scale of Assessment to pursue consultations in an open-ended manner, with a view to proposing modalities for the implementation of the Alternative Sources of Financing the Union by Member States with particular emphasis on:
 - i) The determination of an appropriate scale of assessment for contribution so that the AU can take charge of its budget in line with the following principles:
 - a) Member States to fund the operational budget at 100%;
 - b) Member States to fund the programme budget at 75%;
 - c) Member States to fund the Peace support operations budget at 25%.
 - ii) Proposing a non-exhaustive and non-binding basket of options, at national, regional and continental levels, by building on the reports of H.E. President Obasanjo and the ministerial Working Group of the CAMEF from which Member States may choose from, in view of the implementation of the Alternative Sources of Financing the African Union, on the understanding that Member States preserve their sovereign rights of adding new options/measures deemed convenient to them; and

- iii) Devising an accountability mechanism to ensure sound, effective and efficient financial management of the Union's budget.
- 6. **REQUESTS** the Commission to provide all necessary assistance and resources to facilitate the discussions on the above;
- 7. **REQUESTS** the Ad-hoc Ministerial Committee on the Scale of Assessment to submit its report on the matter at the June 2015 Summit.¹



¹¹ Reservation by the Republic of Tunisia on paragraph 7

DECISION
ON THE DATE AND VENUE OF THE 25TH ORDINARY SESSION
OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE AFRICAN UNION IN JUNE 2015

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the communication by the Republic of Chad on the withdrawal of its offer to host the 25th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union in June 2015;
2. **WELCOMES AND EXPRESSES** its high appreciation to the Republic of South Africa for its offer to host that Session;
3. **ACCEPTS** the offer of the Republic of South Africa to host the 25th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union in June 2015 to be held as follows:
 - i) 30th Ordinary Session of the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC): 8-9 June 2015;
 - ii) 27th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council: 11-12 June 2015;
 - iii) 25th Ordinary Session of the Assembly; 14-15 June 2015;
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission in close consultation with the Republic of South Africa to make all the necessary arrangements for the holding of that Session and communicate the venue to the Member States as soon as possible.



**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT
ORIENTATION COMMITTEE (HSGOC) ON NEPAD
Doc. Assembly/AU/10(XXIV)**

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 Second Session of the HSGOC.
3. **REITERATES** that NEPAD represents the inclusive ownership of Africa's development programmes which attract international recognition and serves as a robust model of implementation in solving Africa's multi-dimensional challenges.
4. **APPRECIATES AND ENDORSES** the NPCA Results-based Performance Report for January-December 2014 on the status of NEPAD programmes being implemented towards achieving integrated and inclusive impact in the context of reinforcing regional integration. **ENCOURAGES** the continued sharing of lessons and experiences on NEPAD implementation amongst NPCA, NEPAD National Offices, RECs and partners under the auspices of the NEPAD Coordinating Structures and Focal Points Platform.
5. **SPECIFICALLY NOTES** the elaboration of the Malabo CAADP Implementation Strategy and Roadmap (IS&R) to translate the 2025 vision and goals of the Africa Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation into concrete results and impact in response to the Assembly/AU/1(XXIII) Declaration of June 2014. **REQUESTS** the NPCA to develop a coherent Programme of Work to operationalize the IS&R and monitor implementation performance based on the CAADP Results Framework, with emphasis on enhanced support to small-holder farmers, women, youth and promoting inclusive agricultural value-chains, preference for regional markets and strengthening natural resources governance.
6. **CALLS ON** the NPCA to accord greater importance to Africa's structural economic transformation by building knowledge and extend technical support to Member States to appropriately put in place robust planning and evidence-based analytical capacity in African institutions to foster spatial inclusion and economic growth.
7. **RECALLS** the Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.540(XXIII) and **WELCOMES** the set-up of the NEPAD Climate Change Fund as an innovative mechanism to accelerate action in support of Member States to build resilience and adaptive capacity to climate change. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the NPCA to mobilize new and additional resources towards converting the existing Fund into a Multi-Partner Pool Fund.

8. **NOTING** the Decision Assembly/AU/2(XXIII) which re-affirmed support for the Abuja Declaration on Agribusiness and Agro-Industries in Africa, **ALSO WELCOMES** the Women in Agribusiness Platform convened by the NPCA in Durban, South Africa in October 2014 and **URGES** the NPCA to support the continued sharing of experiences and the capacity building efforts amongst African women agricultural entrepreneurs.
9. In implementing the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA): 2014-2024, **COMMENDS** the programmatic efforts of the NPCA to increase technical support for health research as means of addressing the continent's health challenges and help in translating the political commitments made by African Leaders into transformative approaches for effective healthcare delivery.
10. **ACCORDINGLY REQUESTS** the NPCA in partnership with the African Academy of Sciences to establish and operationalize the Alliance for Accelerating Excellence in Science in Africa (AESA) as a platform to stimulate breakthrough innovations in health to improve the livelihoods of marginalized and stigmatized communities. **CALLS UPON** Member States, regional and global partners as well as private foundations to support the Alliance in order to strengthen health research and innovation in Africa.
11. **NOTES** the contributions of the NPCA to combating the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) in collaboration with the AUC and **DIRECTS** the NPCA to support the acceleration of the evaluation of promising treatment options and vaccine candidates against EVD based on the African Medicines Regulatory Harmonization (AMRH) Initiative as a platform for establishing Regional Expert Working Groups on Clinical Trials using Ebola vaccines and other therapies as pathfinder for scaling up regulatory oversight capacity to cover the current and future public health threats.
12. **COMMENDS** the efforts of the RECs, NPCA and AUC in partnership with UNDP, UNECA and ACBF under the AU Multi-agency Capacity Development Programme for RECs (M-CDP) to advance coherence and coordination in enhancing results-oriented capacities of RECs towards accelerating regional integration in Africa.
13. **WELCOMES AND ENDORSES** the AU RECs Capacity Development Implementation Plan: 2015-2025 based on the NEPAD Capacity Development Strategic Framework (CDSF) resulting from the scoping and capacity needs assessment exercise in the eight (8) AU RECs. **REAFFIRMS** the important alignment of the Implementation Plan with the RECs Medium Term Strategic Plans, Agenda 2063 and the Common African Position on the Post-2015 Development Agenda. **MANDATES** the NPCA, AUC and the RECs in conjunction with the UNDP, UNECA, ACBF and potential M-CDP partners to roll-out the Implementation Plan to realize the institutional effectiveness of RECs and the prompt coherent delivery of regional programmes and projects.

14. **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the impressive progress recorded under the Dakar Agenda for Action and the Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative (PICI). **GRATEFULLY NOTES** the report presented by H.E. Jacob G. ZUMA, President of the Republic of South Africa and the Chairperson of the HSGOC PICI High-Level Sub Committee including the key outcomes of the PICI Ministerial and Technical meetings hosted by the Government of the Republic of South Africa in Pretoria in January 2015.
15. In the context of PICI, **HIGHLIGHTS** the successful completion of the East African Community Regional ICT project and the launch of the construction of the missing link of the Trans-Saharan Highway in November 2014. **AGREES** to include new high-impact energy projects in the PICI portfolio and **ADOPTED** the manufacturing of rail rolling stock to be championed by the Republic of South Africa to support the deepened drive towards industrialization and the Lamu Port, South Sudan, Ethiopian Transport (LAPSSET) Corridor to be championed by H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta, President of the Republic of Kenya.
16. **EQUALLY RECOGNIZES** the progress made under the SMART Africa championed by H.E. Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda within the framework of PICI and **WELCOMES** the ONE Africa Network Initiative aimed at reducing the costs of electronic communications within regions and ultimately across the continent. **IN THIS RESPECT, RECOMMENDS** Member States to adopt and roll-out this initiative in furtherance of Africa's socio-economic integration.
17. **HIGHLY COMMENDS** H.E. Jacob G. ZUMA, President of the Republic of South Africa and Champion Leaders for their firm commitment in promoting PICI projects as well as the NPCA, AUC, AfDB, ECA and RECs for their technical support to the Initiative.
18. **ENDORSES** in the context of the Dakar Agenda for Action, the PIDA Implementation Acceleration Strategy (PAS) and the PIDA Service Delivery Mechanism (SDM) developed by the NPCA and AUC in conjunction with AfDB, ECA, RECs to implement the Dakar Agenda for Action, focusing on early infrastructure project preparation and increased bankability of the PIDA Priority Action Plan (PAP): 2020 projects. **ALSO NOTES** the Infrastructure Skills for Development (IS4D) Initiative to enhance the capacity of the RECs and relevant agencies for the implementation of PIDA projects.
19. **RECALLS** the Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.540(XXIII) validating the findings of the NEPAD-ECA Study on Domestic Resource Mobilization and the related outcomes of the Dakar Financing Summit. **REQUESTS** the NPCA, ECA, RECs and relevant organizations to develop a common regional framework for the harmonization of policies, laws and regulations to enhance private sector financing specific to the 16 identified PIDA projects and **DIRECTS** the NPCA to

submit the proposed framework to the HSGOC by January 2016 for consideration.

20. **WELCOMES** the finalization of the Africa Power Vision (APV): From vision to action with its Implementation Plan by the NPCA, AUC, UNECA and the Government of Nigeria through the USA Power Africa initiative, as a continental vehicle to advance Africa's position on increased access to clean, reliable and affordable energy sources and promote national and regional energy impact based on the PIDA PAP. **URGES** the NPCA to mobilize political support, project bankability, financial closure and overall implementation for the APV prioritized projects.
21. **FURTHER RECALLS** the Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.540(XXIII) approving the setup of the Africa Global Partnership Platform (AGPP) as the new umbrella formation and **SPECIALLY NOTES** the demarche through formal invitations to the Heads of State and Government of potential AGPP partner countries under the direction of H.E. Macky SALL, President of the Republic of Senegal and HSGOC Chairperson to advance the effective take-off of the Platform.
22. **APPRECIATES** the growing positive response of partner countries for the AGPP and the joint efforts to convene the Platform's First Plenary Session during 2015. **REQUESTS** the NPCA in consultation with the NEPAD Steering Committee, to develop a common position on Africa's outreach in 2015 within the context of the AGPP, based on stronger partnership with Germany and Turkey as the current G7 and G20 chairs, respectively.
23. **IN THIS REGARD COMMENDS** the Governments of Senegal, Mauritania and South Africa along with the NEPAD Steering Committee, NPCA CEO and AUC for their committed efforts on the Platform.
24. **ALSO NOTES** the main outcomes of the Brisbane G20 Summit in November 2014 and the Africa-NEPAD Week during the 69th UN General Assembly in October 2014, **WHILE REAFFIRMING** the renewed commitment to the shared principles of equality, transparency, mutual accountability and African ownership in promoting meaningful partnerships to realize the continent's development goals.
25. **WELCOMES** the finalization of the NPCA Stakeholders and Partnership Strategy as an institutional framework to guide partnership building and resource mobilization for NEPAD programmes. **APPROVES** the NEPAD Goodwill Ambassadors initiative as an integral part of the Strategy and **NOTES** the collaboration between the NPCA and Mo Ibrahim Foundation (MIF) on the Ibrahim Index of African Governance (IIAG) **ALSO REFERS** to the Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.508(XXII) and **URGES** the NPCA to expedite the monitoring and evaluation of Africa's major partnerships and report to the HSGOC in due course.

26. **IN RECALLING** the Rules of Procedure of the NEPAD governance structures adopted by Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.442(XIX), **REITERATES** the critical need to continue to promote inclusiveness and national ownership within the NEPAD process to fast-track the implementation of NEPAD by Member States.
27. In line with the said Rules of Procedure and after due consultations by the HSGOC Leaders, **ENDORSES** the re-election of H.E. Macky Sall, President of the Republic of Senegal as HSGOC Chairperson, and H.E. Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt and H.E. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, President of the Peoples' Democratic Republic of Algeria as Vice Chairpersons for the second term of two (2) years.
28. **FURTHER ENDORSES** the membership of the five (5) initiating countries and the re-election of the 15 rotating HSGOC members by the 32nd HSGOC Session as follows:

Central Africa	East Africa	North Africa	Southern Africa	West Africa
CAMEROON	ETHIOPIA	ALGERIA	SOUTH AFRICA	NIGERIA
CHAD	RWANDA	EGYPT	MALAWI	SENEGAL
CONGO (Republic)	TANZANIA	LIBYA	ZAMBIA	BENIN
GABON	UGANDA	MAURITANIA	ZIMBABWE	MALI

a. *Note: *SUDAN inclusive*

29. **CONGRATULATES** the re-elected HSGOC Chairperson, Vice Chairpersons and the Member States for their consistent political support and commitment in spearheading the strategic orientation towards consolidating the implementation of NEPAD.
30. **IN GENERAL EXTOLS** the enriched quality of the technical work of the NPCA under the leadership of the Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Ibrahim Mayaki.

**DECISION ON THE FIFTEENTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF TEN
HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT ON THE REFORM OF
THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL
Doc. Assembly/AU/14(XXIV)**

The Assembly,

1. **RECALLING** Decisions Assembly/AU/Dec.573 (XXIII), Ext/Assembly/AU/Dec.1 (IV), Assembly/AU/Dec.430 (XIX) and Assembly/AU/Dec.485 (XXI), **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;
2. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** of the recent developments in the Intergovernmental Negotiation on the United Nations Security Council reform; including the high level meetings of the Committee of Ten held in Nairobi on 17 November 2014;
3. **WHILST TAKING NOTE with APPRECIATION** the progress made so far in engaging Member States of the United Nations in garnering support for the Common African Position; **COMMENDS** the Committee of Ten for its commitment at the highest level in canvassing and promoting the Common African Position on United Nations Security Council reform and related matters;
4. **REAFFIRMS** its strong commitment to the Ezulwini Consensus and Sirte Declaration containing the Common African Position;
5. **WELCOMES** the efforts of the Permanent Representatives of the African Union Member States to the United Nations in promoting and defending the continent's interest in the United Nations Security Council reform process **AND ENCOURAGES** the 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 Negotiation and advance progress so made;
6. **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; 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 Negotiation on Security Council reform;
7. **FURTHER UNDERScores** the need for the Committee of Ten to continue to intensify efforts in advocating, canvassing and promoting the Common African Position and to reach out at the highest political levels for the purpose of garnering and galvanizing the necessary political will in support thereof, and to continue holding high level meetings outside the margins of the Summit of the African Union, with a view to further promoting the Common African Position and building on the gains made so far;

8. **REQUESTS** the Commission to continue to facilitate the activities of the African Permanent Representatives of the Committee of Ten to the UN in the Intergovernmental Negotiation on UN Security Council reform and related consultations thereon;
9. **DECIDES** to include an allocation in the Commission's regular Budget for the purpose of funding the activities of the Committee of Ten from the General Fund;
10. **REITERATES** its call that Member States of the African Union 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;
11. **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 June 2015.



**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON DEVELOPMENT OF THE
AFRICAN UNION AGENDA 2063 AND THE REPORT OF THE MINISTERIAL
FOLLOW-UP COMMITTEE ON THE BAHR DAR RETREAT
Doc. Assembly/AU/5(XXIV)**

The Assembly,

1. TAKES NOTE of:

- i) the Report of the Commission on the development of the African Union Agenda 2063, as well as the **Agenda 2063 Framework Document; Agenda 2063 Popular Version; and the Agenda 2063 First Ten Year Implementation Plan;**
- ii) the presentations of the Report of the Follow-Up Ministerial Committee on Agenda 2063.

2. ONCE AGAIN WELCOMES the consultative nature of the Agenda 2063 Development Process;

3. EXPRESSES its appreciation to the Commission for the excellent work accomplished;

4. ALSO EXPRESSES its high appreciation to the Ministerial Follow up Committee for its proactive work towards the smooth implementation of the Bahr Dar Ministerial Retreat conclusions of January 2014;

5. RECALLS Decision EX.CL/Dec. 832(XXV) taken at the 25th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in June 2014 in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, requesting Member States to conduct national consultations on the Agenda 2063 Framework Document and Popular Version, and to provide inputs to the Commission by 31 October 2014 as well as Decision EX.CL/855(XXVI) adopted at the 26th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in January 2015;

6. ADOPTS the Agenda 2063 Framework Document and Popular Version;

7. REQUESTS:

- i) the Commission to intensify measures aimed at popularizing the fifty-year continental agenda;
- ii) Member States and the RECs to accelerate the domestication of Agenda 2063 and integrating it into their respective Development Initiatives and Plans;

- iii) the Commission to finalize all necessary consultations on the First Ten Year Implementation Plan of Agenda 2063 with a view to submitting it at the June 2015 meetings of the AU Policy Organs.

8. TAKES NOTE of the commendable progress made in the formulation and development of the following Agenda 2063 Flagship projects and promoting reconciliation in Africa:

- i) Integrated High Speed Train Network;
- ii) Great Inga Dam;
- iii) Single African Aviation Market;
- iv) Outer Space;
- v) The Pan African E-Network;
- vi) Creation of an Annual African Consultative Platform;
- vii) Establishment of the Virtual University;
- viii) Free Movement of Persons and the African Passport;
- ix) The Continental Free Trade Area;
- x) Silencing the Guns by 2020;
- xi) Development of a Commodity Strategy;
- xii) Establishment of the Continental financial Institutions, including the African Central Bank by 2030.

9. REQUESTS the Commission to:

- i) present detailed road maps for the implementation of each of the flagship projects for consideration by the AU Policy Organs in June 2015;
- ii) ensure that the issues and concerns of African Island and Landlocked States are adequately mainstreamed into all continental frameworks for political, social, cultural and economic development, including the addition of a representative of Island States to the Bahr Dar Ministerial Follow-up Committee;
- iii) facilitate access to funds required by Island States, including under the Agenda 2063 Resource Mobilization Strategy, as well as Climate funds by 2020.

10. AUTHORISES the convening of a Ministerial Retreat as proposed by the Commission and the Ministerial Follow-Up Committee in between the two summits to brainstorm on the draft 1st 10 year Implementation Plan of Agenda 2063 as well as other relevant issues including all flagship projects, and those pertaining to agricultural transformation and eradication of poverty, so as to report at the next Summit in June 2015. In the same vein **REQUESTS** the Commission to pursue consultations with the RECs and other stakeholders so as to gather all contributions from all concerned partners in this process;

11. **UNDERScores** the need to undertake the restructuring of the Commission to enable it to carry out the critical mandate linked with the implementation of Agenda 2063 with requisite human and financial resources and institutional capacity. In this regard, **CALLS UPON** the Commission to pursue its efforts in ensuring prudent management of its financial resources and on Member States to fulfil their financial obligations to the AU and **CALLS ON** Partners to release the pledged funds in a timely manner to enable the AU carry out its programmes in predictable and sustainable manner. In the interim, **REQUESTS** the Commission to establish a temporary structure to oversee the conclusion of the First Ten-Year Plan, and coordinate finalisation of the identified fast track projects;
12. **ALSO CALLS UPON** Member States to take necessary measures for the effective implementation of the 1999 Yamoussoukro Decision on the Liberalisation of Air Transport Markets in Africa and adopt its regulatory texts in this respect;
13. **UNDERScores** the need for the continent to fully integrate the Blue Ocean Economy and its great opportunities within the framework of Agenda 2063 through development of requisite expertise;
14. **STRESSES**, at continental and regional levels, the need to ensure smooth division of labour on the basis of the principles of subsidiarity and complementarity among all stakeholders, particularly the AUC, the RECs and the NPCA in Agenda 2063;
15. **TAKES NOTE** of the budgetary requirement of the Pan African E-Network amounting to USD 230,000.00 and **AUTHORISES** the Commission to mobilize resources in this regard;
16. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** of the offer by the Arab Republic of Egypt to host the proposed African Space Agency after the conclusion of the draft space policy that is being developed by the AU Space Working Group as articulated in AU Agenda 2063.

**DECISION ON THE COMPOSITION OF THE BUREAU
OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE UNION FOR 2015**

The Assembly,

- 1. ELECTS** members of the Bureau of the Assembly of the Union for 2015 as follows:

- | | | |
|------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| i) | Chairperson: | Zimbabwe; |
| ii) | 1st Vice-Chairperson: | Democratic Republic of Congo; |
| iii) | 2nd Vice-Chairperson: | Niger; |
| iv) | 3rd Vice- Chairperson: | Kenya; |
| v) | Rapporteur : | Mauritania. |

- 2. ALSO ELECTS** the following Member States as members of the Drafting Committee from the five regions:

- | | |
|------|---|
| i) | Central Africa: Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo and Equatorial Guinea |
| ii) | East Africa: Eritrea, South Sudan and Uganda |
| iii) | North Africa: Algeria and Egypt |
| iv) | Southern Africa: Botswana, South Africa and Swaziland |
| v) | West Africa: Ghana, Niger, Nigeria and Togo |



DECISION ON THE STREAMLINING OF THE SUMMITS

The Assembly,

1. **RECALLS** the Malabo Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.542(XXIII) on the Official Opening of the Ordinary Sessions of the Assembly adopted in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea in June 2014;
2. **STRESSES** the need to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of Summits and maximize the use of time and resources;
3. **REQUESTS** the Commission to make proposals on the Streamlining of AU Summits, including but not limited to:
 - i) The number of Invitees;
 - ii) The length of agenda and opening ceremony;
 - iii) The number of Decisions and parallel events;
 - iv) The methods of work as well as Rules of Procedure.
4. **REQUESTS** the Executive Council to consider proposals from the Commission during their retreat and make appropriate recommendations to the June 2015 Summit.



DECISION ON DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION IN TUNISIA

The Assembly,

1. **CONGRATULATES** Tunisia on the successful democratic transition crowned by the progress of the legislative and presidential elections in a conducive environment and **CONSIDERS** the successful of the Tunisian experience as possible model for democratization process in Africa.
2. **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the enabling climate that favored the holding of transparent, peaceful and credible election and **ENCOURAGES** the Tunisian stakeholders to maintain the momentum of the democratization process which will enable them to address the challenges of the new phase;
3. **CONGRATULATES** the Tunisian people for fully participating in the recently concluded presidential and legislative elections which will strengthen the democratic process in their country;
4. **ENCOURAGES** the Tunisians to continue the practice of inclusive and consensual politics which is one of the pre-conditions for representative and participatory democracy at this critical juncture in the history of their country;
5. **WELCOMES** the initiatives undertaken by the African Union Commission throughout the transition process in Tunisia and encourages the Commission to continue supporting democratization processes;
6. **REITERATES** its unwavering solidarity and support to Tunisia in its efforts to nurture and consolidate democratic and participatory governance under conditions of peace, security and political stability all of which are critical for development and prosperity.



**DECLARATION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SINGLE
AFRICAN AIR TRANSPORT MARKET
Doc. EX.CL/871(XXVI)**

WE, African Heads of State and Government, meeting in, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 30th and 31st January 2014, on the occasion of the 24th Ordinary Session of the Assembly;

Considering:

- i) the Constitutive Act of the African Union, adopted on 11 July 2000 in Lomé, Togo, in particular Articles 14, 15 and 16, which entrust the African Union Commission with a coordination mission in the Transport, Communication and Tourism sectors;
- ii) the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community, adopted in Abuja, Nigeria in June 1991;
- iii) the Declaration **Assembly/AU/Decl.2(XVIII)** of the Eighteenth Ordinary Session of the Assembly held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in January 2012, which adopted the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) as the single policy and strategic framework for the development of infrastructure in Africa;
- iv) the Executive Council Decision **EX.CL/Dec.826(XXV)** endorsing the report of the Third Session of the Conference of African Ministers of Transport (CAMT);
- v) the Executive Council Decision **EX.CL/Dec.821(XXV)** placing the implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision on the Liberalisation of Air Transport Markets in Africa, i.e. the establishment of a single African aviation market in the context of the African Agenda 2063.

Mindful of the Decision **Assembly/AU/Dec.394 (XVIII)** adopted by the Assembly during its 18th Ordinary Session held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 29th and 30th January 2012 on boosting Intra-African Trade and Fast Tracking the Continental Free Trade Area;

Concerned by the slow pace in implementing the Yamoussoukro Decision on the liberalisation of air transport markets in Africa;

Aware of the political will show by a number of States in spearheading the liberalisation of the air transport markets throughout the continent and the need to encourage others to follow suit;

DECLARES TO:

1. Ensure the establishment of a Single African Air Transport Market for African airlines by 1st January 2017;
2. Support the initiative of Championing States to open their respective air transport markets immediately and without conditions;
3. Develop binding guidelines for negotiation of air services agreements between African States and Third Parties;
4. Encourage African airlines to enter into cooperation agreements amongst themselves;
5. Accelerate the ratification of the Constitution of the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC);
6. Eliminate all obstacles that may hinder the achievement of the objectives of the AU Agenda 2063 on boosting Intra-African Trade and Fast Tracking the Continental Free Trade Area as regard to air transport industry;
7. Provide resources to AFCAC to adequately carry out its activities as a Specialised Agency on aviation matters and as an Executing Agency of the Yamoussoukro Decision;
8. Promote the development of regional and continental aviation infrastructure and services in a holistic manner based on the policies and programmes of Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and through the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA);
9. Facilitate air connectivity by implementing the regulatory texts of the Yamoussoukro Declaration;
10. Harmonise legislation, promote free movement, remove all barriers and improve safety and security in air transport operations;
11. Encourage the establishment of regional safety and security oversight, strengthen search and rescue as well as accident investigation organisations;
12. Integrate in all national civil aviation programmes activities to combat and prevent pandemics;
13. Take specific measures to ensure the sustainable financing and appropriate management of the air transport sub sector and to create enabling conditions for national and foreign private investments;

14. Ratify and speed up, the implementation of international conventions relating to aviation safety, security and the protection of the environment as well as regional agreements on market access, facilitation of transport of passengers and cargo by air;
15. Promote and facilitate establishment of regional training institutions for technical and professional staff in the different civil aviation;
16. Pursue the creation of a Human resources development fund for the civil aviation sector in Africa on the basis of the joint endeavour between AFCAC and ICAO;
17. Promote research and development programmes for aviation infrastructure and air transport services in Africa;
18. Ensure that Member States of the African Union and Regional Economic Communities strengthen inter-African and continental cooperation in the air transport sub sector; and
19. Call upon the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, the African Development Bank, the European Union, the World Bank and other development partners to support the implementation of the Single African Air Transport Market under the AU Agenda 2063.



DECLARATION ON THE SITUATION IN PALESTINE AND THE MIDDLE EAST
Doc. Assembly/AU/9(XXIV)

We, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, having met at our Twenty Fourth Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 30 to 31 January 2015;

Taking Note of the Report on the Situation in the Middle East and Palestine; and **Recalling** all resolutions and decisions adopted by the OAU/AU on the Situation in Palestine and the Middle East;

Reiterating our full support to the Palestinian people in their legitimate struggle against Israeli occupation, under the leadership of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people;

Reaffirming our support for the peaceful resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict in accordance with the principles of international law and all United Nations relevant resolutions, which guarantees the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on the borders of June 1967, and its capital, East Jerusalem;

Further Reaffirming the right of the Palestinian people to establish their own Palestinian Independent State, and supporting full membership of the State of Palestine at the United Nations and in the international agencies and accession to international conventions and protocols;

Welcoming the Decision of the Swedish National Assembly, Spanish Parliament, the British House of Commons and the French National Assembly to recognize the independent State of Palestine;

Commending the efforts exerted by President Mahmoud Abbas to achieve comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East, and supports his efforts in achieving the Palestinian reconciliation;

Condemning all Israeli measures on the city of Jerusalem, through the policy of Judaization, the demolition of houses, the expulsion and destruction of historic monuments of the Islamic and Christian holy sites and the expansion of settlements in the city;

Further Condemning Israel for withholding Palestinian funds, which constitute a cornerstone of the Palestinian economy, and calling on the international community to put pressure on Israel to release withheld Palestinian tax funds;

Hereby:

1. **CALL UPON** the international community to exert pressure on Israel to stop all settlement activities, release Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails and, **DEMAND**

that Israel refrains from arbitrary arrests of Palestinians including children and women, which is a violation of international laws and human rights norms including the Geneva Convention on the Rights of Women and Children;

2. **FURTHER CALL** upon the international community to exert pressure on Israel to lift the blockade on Gaza Strip, open the crossings, and allow the construction of the seaport and the rebuilding of the airport and the entry of building materials to restore what has been destroyed by the recent Israeli war on Gaza Strip;
3. **REQUEST** the United Nations and the Quartet to shoulder their responsibilities and put pressure on Israel to commit to the process of serious peace negotiations;
4. **URGE** the UN Security Council to discharge its responsibilities in maintaining international peace and security, and to take the necessary steps to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict in all its aspects, to achieve a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region based on the principle of two-state solution, according to the 1967 borders, and apply the provisions of relevant international law and previous decisions of the UN Security Council in this regard;
5. **REITERATE** that a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East, demands a full withdrawal of Israel from the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories to the line of June 1967, including the Syrian Golan Heights and territories still occupied in southern Lebanon.



**DECLARATION OF SUPPORT TO THE COUNTRIES OF
LAKE CHAD BASIN COMMISSION (LCBC) AND BENIN IN
THE FIGHT AGAINST BOKO HARAM
Doc. Assembly/AU/19(XXIV) Add.7**

WE, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union (AU) meeting in our Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 30 and 31 January 2015;

Reaffirming the aspirations of all Africans to peaceful coexistence and the spirit of Pan-Africanism, as enshrined in the Constitutive Act of the African Union;

Recalling the relevant sections of Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.536(XXIII), adopted at the 23rd Ordinary Session of our Assembly held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, in June 2014, and the Communiqué of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism and Violent Extremism in Africa issued at the end of its meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, in September 2014;

Recalling also the conclusions of the 436th Meeting of the Peace and Security Council held on 23 May 2014 and its 469th Meeting held on 25 November 2014 on the fight against Boko Haram, particularly the recognition of the progress made towards coordinated and collective efforts against terrorism and transnational organized crime within the framework of the Nouakchott Process on the Enhancement of Security Cooperation and the Operationalization of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) in the Sahel-Saharan region;

Welcoming the conclusions of the Extraordinary Summit of the Heads of State and Government of Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC), comprising Cameroon, Niger, Nigeria and Chad, as well as Benin held in Niamey, Republic of Niger on 7 October 2014, with focus on assessment of the security situation and the common strategy to adopt in the immediate term as part of measures to combat the terrorist group Boko Haram in the region;

In solidarity with LCBC Member States and Benin in their determination to strengthen their operational and intelligence capacities, and the coordination of the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) in Lake Chad Basin, as expressed at the 46th Ordinary Session of the Authority of Heads of State and Government of Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) held on 15 December 2014;

Approving the engagement of LCBC Member States and Benin for a common and coordinated response to the security challenges posed by Boko Haram in Nigeria and in neighbouring States;

1. **APPEAL** to all Member States of the Union and other international players, including the United Nations, to support the efforts being exerted by LCBC Member States and Benin to establish an appropriate legal framework to govern cross-border military operations against Boko Haram;

2. **INVITE** Member States of the African Union (AU), particularly African members of the UN Security Council to back the adoption of relevant resolutions on the Decision of Heads of State and Government of Lake Chad Basin Commission to support the Multinational Joint Task Force for the conduct of cross-border military operations against Boko Haram.



SPECIAL DECLARATION ACKNOWLEDGING THE ROLE OF AFRICAN VOLUNTEERS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST EBOLA

We, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, meeting in our Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, from 30 to 31 January 2015;

1. **EXPRESS DEEP CONCERN** about the outbreak of the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD), the number of deaths and its socio-economic impact on the continent;
2. **ALSO EXPRESS CONCERN** about the particular impact of the EVD outbreak on women and children;
3. **EXPRESS OUR PROFOUND APPRECIATION** for the Commission and its Chairperson for the invaluable efforts deployed to tackle the grave Ebola crisis in the West Africa Region, particularly with the establishment of ASEOWA and the subsequent deployment of numerous spontaneous health volunteers from several African countries in aid of the Member States affected by Ebola;
4. **NOTE WITH SATISFACTION** the presence of numerous young spontaneous volunteers who responded to African Union Commission's call to join in ASEOWA mission ;
5. **ALSO NOTE WITH SATISFACTION** the contributions of ASEOWA, which has made significant difference in the on-going fight against Ebola;
6. **COMMEND and EXPRESS PROFOUND APPRECIATION** for the young people of the continent who put their lives at risk and answered the Commission's call for medical volunteers to assist the affected countries;
7. **HAIL** the spirit of sacrifice of all the health professionals, especially those from Liberia, Guinea, Sierra Leone and Nigeria who have lost their lives in the fight against the Ebola Virus Disease;
8. **REQUEST** the Commission together with the partners and Civil Society Organizations to build a database of all health workers who lost their lives for the purpose of honouring them after the epidemic is declared over;
9. **ALSO REQUEST** the Commission to put in place a mechanism for honouring all ASEOWA volunteers and personnel who have served creditably;
10. **FURTHER REQUEST** the Commission to submit progress report on the implementation of this Declaration at our 26th Ordinary Session in January 2016;
11. **DECIDE** that the Global Conference on Ebola will be held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea in 2015.

ASSEMBLY SPECIAL DECLARATION ON ILLICIT FINANCIAL FLOWS
Doc. Assembly/AU/17(XXIV)

We, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, having met at our Twenty Fourth Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 30 to 31 January 2015;

Recognizing the Conference of Ministers Resolution 886 (XLIV) which established the high-level panel on Illicit financial flows from Africa,

Concerned with the increasing scale and extent of Illicit Financial flows from Africa, particularly from our extractive industries and natural resources which constitute a drain on the resources required for Africa's development. Whereby, it is estimated that Africa has lost up to US\$ 1.8 trillion between 1970 to 2008 and continues to lose extensive finances estimated up to US\$150 billion annually through Illicit Financial Flows (IFF) or "Illicit Capital Flight" mainly through tax evasion, mispricing of trade and services by multi-national companies;

Aware that the problem of illicit financial flows is exacerbated by corrupt tendencies of government agencies, lack of or weak African institutions both at national and continental levels in all sectors, governance challenges, political instability and conflicts, weak tax administration, and lack of capacity to monitor and curb such criminal activities among others;

Realising the growing need for domestic resource mobilisation for the attainment of our continental development visions and goals particularly Agenda 2063 and the Common African Position on the post 2015 Development agenda, which both call for inclusive growth, sustainable development and social and economic structural transformation of Africa through optimal utilization of our natural resource endowments;

Conscious that the amount of illicit financial flows from Africa is greater than the inflow of Overseas Development Assistance;

Convinced that curtailing illicit financial flows through, *inter alia*, institutionalizing prudent legal and regulatory regimes, including fiscal policies that disallow financial secrecy, fight corruption, institute and/or strengthen African institutions, build African member states capacity for contract negotiation, tax administration and identify and return the resources lost through illicit financial flows can greatly contribute to the alternative sources of financing Africa's development agenda;

Further Convinced that the time is now for Africa's Renaissance, for the continent to regain ownership of its natural resources and to implement sound, prudent management and good governance, with a view to optimizing the benefits derivable from its natural resources in particular extractive sectors and mineral resources for present and future generations while limiting negative environmental and macroeconomic impacts;

Noting the diligence manifested and extensive amount of work undertaken by the High-level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows from Africa, involving extensive consultations with a range of stakeholders in Africa and partners in the United States of America and Europe,

Acknowledging the report of the High Level Panel, and taking note of its findings and recommendations,

Expressing appreciation to the chair H.E. Mr. Thabo Mbeki, Former President of the Republic of South Africa and members of the High Level Panel for the rigorous and comprehensive report produced,

Further Expressing Appreciation to African Governments and organizations and to Africa's partners and development agencies for their overwhelming support for the work of the Panel,

We hereby:

1. **ENDORSE** the findings and recommendations of the High Level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows from Africa;
2. **DECLARE** our **COMMITMENT** to end the chronic illicit financial flows from Africa which is a huge hindrance to sustainable social and economic development of our continent;
3. **RESOLVE** to ensure that all the financial resources lost through illicit capital flight and illicit financial flows are identified and returned to Africa to finance the continent's development Agenda. In this regard **DIRECT** AUC, supported by member states, to mount a diplomatic and media campaign for the return of illicitly outflow assets.
4. **FURTHER DECLARE** our **COMMITMENT** to adopt and implement the findings and recommendations of the High Level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows from Africa and in this connection, we **REQUEST** the Commission, in collaboration the Economic Commission for Africa, African Development Bank and the RECs to follow-up on the implementation of the recommendations of the High Level Panel report and submit progress reports on the achievements to the Assembly annually
5. **CALL UPON** the International community to adopt and implement the findings and recommendations of the High Level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows from Africa
6. **DIRECT** the Commission, the Economic Commission for Africa, and African Development Bank, to disseminate the findings and recommendations of the

Panel and undertake further research and capacity-development activities in this regard within the continent and at the global level;

7. **REQUEST** the continued engagement of the chair H.E. Mr. Thabo Mbeki, Former President of the Republic of South Africa and the Panel in carrying out advocacy work to disseminate the Panel's findings and to galvanize support from a broad coalition of partners including civil society and private sector to implement the Panel's recommendations;
8. **FURTHER REQUEST** the Commission, Economic Commission for Africa, African Development Bank, African Capacity Building Foundation and other development partners to build capacities of African Union member States and institutions, particularly in *contract negotiation, tax management, regulatory and legal frameworks, policies, money laundering, asset recovery and repatriation, and resource governance* for effective and optimal Management and Governance of our Natural resources.
9. **EXPRESS** the need to ensure that Illicit Financial Flows and their impact on domestic resources mobilization is given the necessary attention by the 3rd International Conference on Financing for Development, and in this regard, stress the need for robust international cooperation to address the problem.



**DECLARATION
ON EMPLOYMENT, POVERTY ERADICATION,
INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA
Doc. Assembly/AU/20(XXIV)**

The Assembly,

Recalling the objectives of the Constitutive Act of the African Union as well as the Vision and Mission of the African Union, the African Common Position on post-2015 Development Agenda for Africa and the AU 2063 Agenda;

Recalling all relevant declarations, decisions and policy guidelines that we adopted in the area of poverty eradication and political and socio-economic development since 2004 in particular instruments such as the Migration Policy Framework for Africa (2006), the Social Policy Framework for Africa (2008), the Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development Policy-PCRD (2006); the African Youth Decade Plan of Action, 2009-2018, the African Women Decade 2010-2020;; the African Charter on Statistics, the Productivity Agenda for Africa (2010), the Yaoundé Declaration on Social Protection (2010), the Social Protection Plan for the Informal Economy and Rural Workers-SPIREWORK (2011), the Malabo Declaration on Creating Employment for Accelerating Youth Development and Empowerment (2011), the Action Plan for Industrial Development in Africa (AIDA), the Labour Market Information Harmonization and Coordination Framework (2012);

Recognizing that the last two decades Africa experienced sustainable and high growth rates that did not translate into proportionate job creation, thereby contributing to significantly reduce unemployment, underemployment and poverty;

Acknowledging that high political engagement in some countries complemented by increased commitment of international partners, Social Partners and other Non-State Actors, has yielded significant progress in the implementation of the 2004 Ouagadougou Agenda, while **Recognizing** the imperative to scale up the political leadership and commitment;

Affirming the private sector as engine for jobs and wealth creation, and **Mindful** that productive investment, micro, small and medium size enterprises (MSMEs), the rural sector and social economy are the main sources to create jobs;;

Noting with Concern the very high level of structural underemployment associated with limited social protection coverage, low productivity and income generating capacity and poor occupational health and safety conditions which affect particularly women and youth in the informal economy and rural sectors, and the most vulnerable groups, people living with HIV&AIDS and persons with disabilities.;

Noting with Concern that the high levels of unemployment, underemployment and poverty are among the principal factors fuelling conflict and civil strife in the continent;

Noting with Concern the inadequate appropriate legal and policy and measures to protect workers from unacceptable forms of work in compliance with relevant legal instruments to promote fundamental principles and rights;

Noting with Concern discrimination against women as well as the inadequacy of legal and institutional arrangements to cater for their work and life responsibilities; **while appreciating** the increase of their participation in the labour market;

Noting with concern the insufficient appropriate internal budgetary resources allocation for the implementation of the Declaration and Plan of Action on Employment, Poverty Eradication and Inclusive Development;

Conscious that the acceleration of widespread labour migration within Africa contributes to development and poverty eradication;

Conscious of the importance of beneficiation from the continent's endowed natural and human resources which open up sustainable development opportunities;

Having Taken Cognizance of the assessment of the implementation of the 2004 Ouagadougou Declaration, Plan of Action on Employment and Poverty Alleviation and after having drawn the lessons;

DO HEREBY SOLEMNLY:

1. **RE-AFFIRM** our determination to place employment creation as an explicit and central objective of our economic and social policies at national, regional and continental levels, with a view to improving the living conditions of our people;
2. **RE-AFFIRM** our determination to reduce unemployment in our countries, in particular of Youth and Women, by at least two (2%) percent annually over the next decade; and also to halve the huge underemployment rate over the next decade;
3. **RE-AFFIRM** our willingness to speed up transitioning of the informal economy to the formal economy and promote decent work in all economic activities sectors;
4. **REAFFIRM** our determination to step up our regional cooperation for smooth labour migration in the continent, including through effective implementation of our treaties, charters, protocols and other relevant policy instruments in view of free movement of people and workers while combatting its negative impact on human trafficking; **WE FURTHER REAFFIRM** our resolution to enhance our cooperation with other regions of the world for better and more responsible management of labour migration flows for mutual development benefits while emphasizing the importance of adequate protection of the rights of migrant workers and their families;

5. **FINALLY RE-AFFIRM** our determination to end with the challenge of high levels of unemployment, underemployment and poverty, in particular among the youth and women, over the next decade, through a speedy, measurable and well-resourced implementation of the following Key Priority Areas:
 - a. Political Leadership, Accountability and Good governance;
 - b. Youth and Women Employment;
 - c. Social Protection and Productivity for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth;
 - d. Well-functioning and inclusive Labour Market Institutions;
 - e. Labour Migration and Regional Economic Integration;
 - f. Partnership and Resource Mobilization.

TO THIS END WE COMMIT TO:

6. **EFFECT** reforms at national, regional and continental levels to address structural constraints in view of improving governance, in particular fighting against corruption, improving the TVET Systems, and accelerating creation of sustainable enterprises;
7. **TAKE** urgent measures to improve the level of growth inclusiveness, productivity and competitiveness of our economies, targeting the SMEs, Micro Enterprises in the Informal Economy, the rural sector;
8. **ENHANCE AND DEVELOP** labour market institutions governance; **AND EMPOWER** local collectivities to actively participate in local development, including local entrepreneurship;
9. **IMPLEMENT** the relevant African and international instruments to protect all people in their relation to the labour market; and **ENSURE** equal opportunities and employment conditions for all, particularly the vulnerable and marginalized groups;
10. **FACILITATE** effective and productive labour migration, free movement of workers to promote regional economic integration and cooperation;
11. **INCREASE** significantly and appropriately the budgetary resources allocated to employment policies financing and put employment among our development priorities with international partners in the true spirit of the Paris Declaration and Accra Call for Action;
12. **IMPLEMENT** the commitments in the present Declaration, its Plan of Action and Follow-Up Mechanisms, as well as **ADOPT** for implementation: (a) the Labour Migration Governance for Development and Integration; (b) and the Public-Private Partnerships Framework for Jobs Creation and Inclusive Development annexed herewith;

TO THIS EFFECT WE:

13. **SHALL INCLUDE** employment creation, social protection and social security, social inclusion and poverty eradication as indicators in the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) and in the RECs' Macroeconomic Convergence Frameworks;
14. **REQUEST** the Commission in collaboration with the AfDB, ILO, ECA, UNDP and other key international partners to develop a Five Year Priority Programme to ensure the implementation of the Declaration, its Plan of Action and Follow-Up Mechanism, the Labour Migration Governance Strategy with international partners and the Public-Private Partnerships Framework for Jobs Creation and Inclusive Development;
15. **REQUEST** the Commission, in collaboration with the African Development Bank and international development partners, to consider the establishment of the Employment and Social Cohesion Fund as financing mechanism for the Declaration and its Plan of Action
16. **ENCOURAGE** the UN, international financial institutions, bilateral and multilateral institutions, regional and continental development banks to adopt policies in coherence with the present Declaration and its Plan of Action, including UNDAF processes the Decent Work Country Programme at country level.



DECLARATION ON THE ORGANIZATION OF CRANS MONTANA FORUM IN THE OCCUPIED CITY OF DAKHLA, WESTERN SAHARA²

We, the Heads of States and Governments of the African Union, having met at our Twenty Fourth Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 30 to 31 January 2015;

Taking Note of the recommendation of the Executive Council to issue a declaration on the organization of Crans Montana Forum in the occupied city of Dakhla (Western Sahara) on 12-14 March 2015;

Recalling all decisions and resolutions adopted by the OAU/AU and UN on the Situation in Western Sahara;

Bearing in mind the efforts undertaken by the UN and AU to achieve a just and lasting solution of the question of Western Sahara in accordance with the UN Charter and Resolution 1514 adopted in 1960 related to the decolonisation;

Hereby:

1. **REAFFIRM** Decision **EX.CL/Dec.758(XXII)** endorsed by the Assembly of the Union which inter alia “Requests the Commission to take all the necessary measures for the organization of a referendum for self-determination of the people of Western Sahara in compliance with the relevant OAU/AU Decisions and UN Resolutions” and the Assembly Decision (**Assembly/AU/Dec.536(XXIII)**), adopted by the 23rd Ordinary Session of the Assembly held in Malabo on June 2014;
2. **EXPRESS** support to the efforts made by the Chairperson of the AUC and the AU Special Envoy, the former President of Mozambique, H.E Joaquim Chissano, in coordination and complementarity with the efforts made by the UNSG Personal Envoy on Western Sahara, H.E. Ambassador Christopher Ross;
3. **CONSIDER** that the organisation of any international conference in the current circumstances in Western Sahara is in contradiction with the efforts made by the International Community to resolve the conflict in Western Sahara, and can only create an atmosphere of confrontation in the territory;
4. **URGE** the Swiss International Organization “Crans Montana” and all other organizers to cancel the meeting planned in the occupied city of Dakhla (Western Sahara), as it is a grave violation of the International Law;

² Reservations by Burundi, the Comoros, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Guinea and Senegal

5. **CALL UPON** the AU Member States, African Civil Society and all Organisations not to participate in this Forum, scheduled from 12th to the 14th March 2015 in the occupied city of Dakhla (Western Sahara);
6. **REQUEST** the Commission to take all necessary measures to ensure the follow up of this declaration.





RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION ON DEBT CANCELLATION OF COUNTRIES AFFECTED BY EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE

We, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union meeting in our Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 30 to 31 January 2015;

Recognizing that the Ebola virus is a global public health issue that threatens the entire planet and Africa in particular with regard to its human impact and consequences on the social and economic prospects of the continent, particularly for the three directly affected countries (Guinea , Liberia and Sierra Leone);

Considering the negative impact of the epidemic on economic activities, foreign direct investment flows, tourism revenues, export earnings, tax revenues and macroeconomic stability;

1. **AWARE** that the mechanisms of debt constitute an obstacle to the achievement of Post-2015 Development Agenda expressed in our Common African Position with a view to building a democratic, peaceful and prosperous continent where growth is inclusive and sustainable for the benefit of our people;
2. **EXPRESS** our profound solidarity to the governments and people of countries hardly affected with regards to the deterioration of their economic, financial and social conditions;
3. **REITERATE** our call to bilateral and multilateral creditors for the complete and unconditional cancellation of the external debt that impedes the progress of affected countries towards inclusive and sustainable growth trajectory in support of the effective expression of human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural aspects of their people;
4. **URGE** the Commission to work closely with the concerned countries for a comprehensive assessment of their external debts in order to estimate its amount and identify their creditors;
5. **URGE** the Commission to set up a High Level Contact Group composed of Member States, the Commission, the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and to work closely with creditors for the negotiation of the terms of the debt cancellation in affected countries;
6. **REQUEST** the High Level Contact Group to submit its report in our Twenty-Fifth Ordinary session;
7. **DECIDE** to remain actively seized of the matter.

RESOLUTION ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN CUBA-UNITED STATES OF AMERICA RELATIONS

The Assembly,

1. **WELCOMES** the historic decision adopted to re-establish diplomatic relations between the Governments of the Republic of Cuba and the United States of America;
2. **CALLS FOR** the lifting of the long-standing and unjust economic, commercial and financial blockade on Cuba
3. **FURTHER URGES** the President of the United States to take all the necessary measures within his wide executive powers to deal with all outstanding issues regarding the embargo.



**ASSEMBLY OF THE UNION
Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session
30 – 31 January 2015
Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA**

Assembly/AU/Commitment(XXIV)

**SOLEMN COMMITMENT BY AFRICAN UNION MEMBER STATES TO
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE YAMOUSSOUKRO DECISION
TOWARDS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SINGLE AFRICAN
AIR TRANSPORT MARKET BY 2017**



**SOLEMN COMMITMENT BY AFRICAN UNION MEMBER STATES TO THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE YAMOUSSOUKRO DECISION TOWARDS THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF A SINGLE AFRICAN AIR TRANSPORT MARKET BY 2017**

WE, the Heads of States and Governments of the Member States of the African Union (AU) meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on January 2015 to deliberate on the establishment of a single air transport market and commit on the modalities for the pursuit and acceleration of its implementation,

Considering the Constitutive Act of the African Union, adopted on 11 July 2000 in Lomé, Togo, in particular Articles 14, 15 and 16 which entrust the African Union Commission with a coordination mission in the Transport, Communication and Tourism sectors;

Further Considering the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community (Abuja Treaty) in particular Article 61 relating to the integration of air transport and Article 10 relating to the Authority of the Assembly of Heads of States and Government to adopt decisions;

Recognising the relevance of the objective of the Yamoussoukro Declaration on a new African civil aviation policy adopted on 7 October 1988 whose primary purpose was to create a conducive environment for the development of intra-African and international air services;

Noting the Executive Council Decision Relating to the Implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision Concerning the Liberalisation of Access to Air Transport Markets in Africa (the Yamoussoukro Decision) adopted by the Council Decision CM/2178 (LXX11) of 8 July 2000 as endorsed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government by Decision AHG/OAU/AEC/Dec.1 (IV) of 12 July 2000 in Lomé, Togo and which entered into force on 12 August 2000 calling for full implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision within two years by 2002;

Recalling the African Ministers Responsible for Air Transport, meeting in Sun City, South Africa, from 18 to 19 May 2005 expressing serious concerns about the delay in the implementation of the Decision, and taking note of progress some states have made in that regard, called for measures that will ensure effective implementation including the establishment of the African Air Transport Executing Agency (Executing Agency) provided for in the Yamoussoukro Decision under the auspices of the African Union;

Respectful of the Assembly Decision /AU/Dec.394 (XVIII) adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government during its 18th Ordinary Assembly held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 29 and 30 January 2012 on boosting Intra-African Trade and Fast Tracking the Continental Free Trade Area;

Bearing in Mind of the Executive Council Decision **EX.CL/Dec.821(XXV)** of 26 June 2014 placing the implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision on the Liberalisation

of Air Transport Markets in Africa and more particularly the establishment of a single African aviation market in the context of the African Agenda 2063;

Cognisant of the outcome of the Africa-wide meeting on air transport organised jointly by the AUC, AFCAC and AFRAA in Nairobi, from 29 to 31 October 2014 which completed the validation of the regulatory and institutional texts for the implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision and recognising their endorsement by the Executive Council Decision, **EX.CL/Dec.857(XXVI)** 28 January 2015 ;

Mindful of the globalisation of the world economy and the need to create a conducive environment for the development and provision of safe, reliable and affordable air transport services necessary for the free movement of persons, goods and services in Africa;

Taking into Account the importance of enhancing cooperation among African airlines in order to stimulate the development of inter-African air transport and the need to improve the quality of service to consumers through full liberalisation of African air transport markets;

Recognising the necessity to adopt measures with the aim of establishing a liberalised intra-African aviation market concerning the Single African Air Transport Market;

Convinced that, given the different levels of air transport development in Africa, it is necessary to endorse the Pretoria Communiqué issued by the Ministerial Working Group on Air Transport on 21 January 2015 which will lead towards full continental open sky intra-African operations by Africa airlines in January 2017;

Determined to accelerate the implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision on the liberalisation of air transport markets in Africa,

Aware of the strong commitment already shown by a number of Member States in spearheading the liberalisation of the air transport markets throughout the continent and encourage others to follow suite.

We hereby,

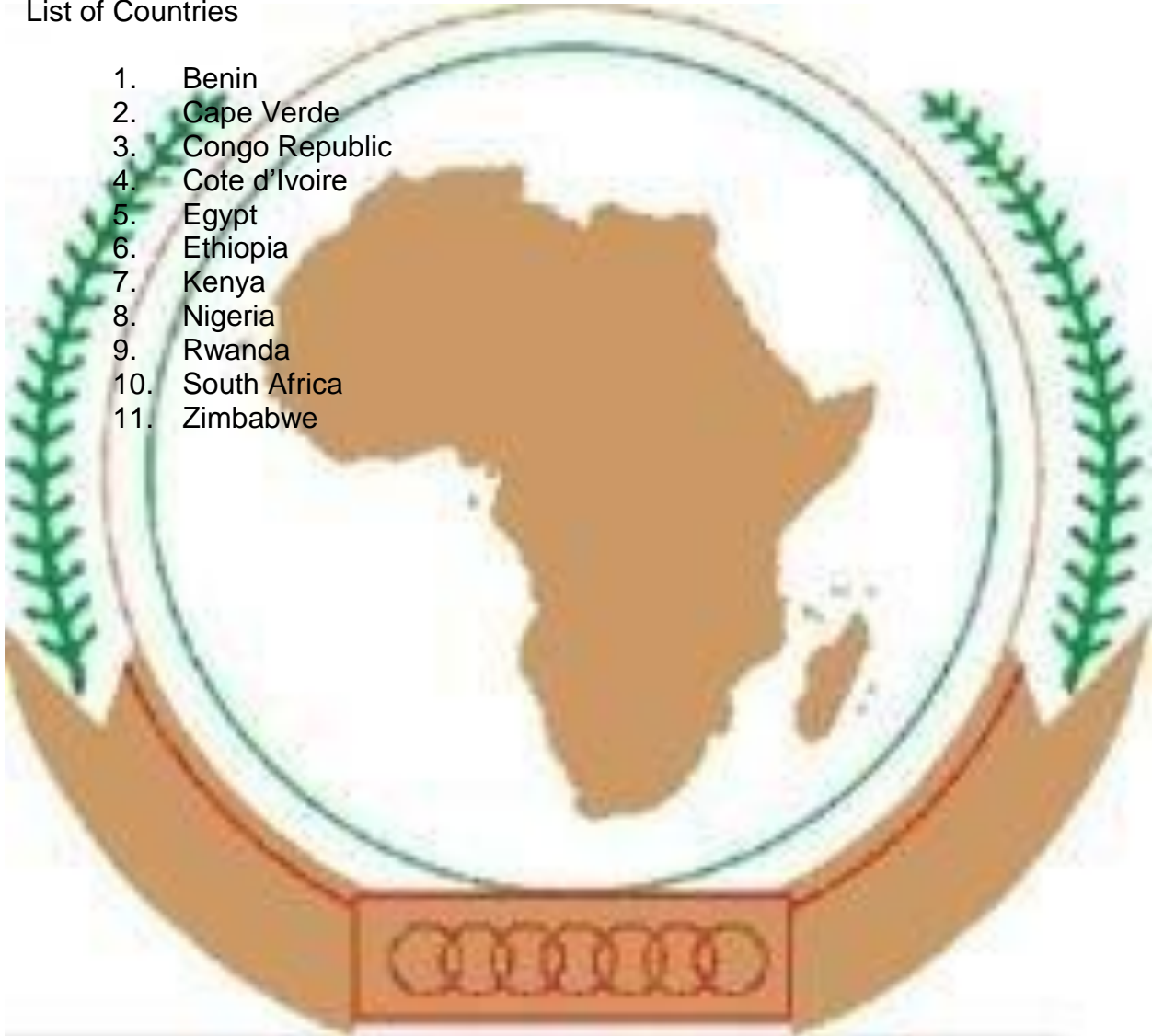
1. **EXPRESS OUR COMMITMENT** to the immediate implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision towards the establishment of a Single African Air Transport Market and open our air transport market to each other;
2. **ENTRUST** the AU Commission to coordinate and facilitate the process of operationalisation of the Single Air Transport Market in Africa; and to report to the Conference of Ministers of Transport;
3. **DEVELOP** regulatory frameworks to expedite the implementation of the single air transport market and engage all specialized institutions in Aviation Sector to support Member States in this process;

4. **REPORT** to the Union on the progress made in the implementation and operationalization of the Single African Air Transport Market.

The following Member States hereby declare their solemn commitment to the immediate implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision towards the establishment of a Single African Air Transport Market by 2017. These Member States will be constituted as a working group at Ministerial Level in order to achieve its goal and it will remain open to those that will join later.

List of Countries

1. Benin
2. Cape Verde
3. Congo Republic
4. Cote d'Ivoire
5. Egypt
6. Ethiopia
7. Kenya
8. Nigeria
9. Rwanda
10. South Africa
11. Zimbabwe



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