

## DECLARATION ON PALESTINE

**We**, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, meeting in our Nineteenth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, from 15 to 16 July 2012;

**RECALLING** the admission of the State of Palestine as a member of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

**UNDERSCORING** that full membership of the United Nations is a right to be enjoyed by all sovereign states;

**NOTING** that the membership of the United Nations and all its programmes and agencies is part of the peace process;

**REAFFIRMING** its support to the Two-State solution as the only viable option for peaceful co-existence between the State of Palestine and Israel;

**CONCERNED** that the continued suspension of contributions constitutes unwarranted punishment of not only the children and people of Palestine but also of others beyond the State of Palestine:

**CALL** on all Member-States of the United Nations which have suspended their contributions to UNESCO to rescind that decision and **FURTHER CALLS** on these Member States to resume contributions for the continuation of UNESCO programmes.



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