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UNIÃO AFRICANA

Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA

P. O. Box 3243

Telephone: 517 700

Fax: 5130 36

website: [www. www.au.int](http://www.au.int)

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REPORT OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE STC
ON YOUTH, CULTURE AND SPORT,
13 – 17 JUNE 2016, ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

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Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA P. O. Box 3243 Telephone: 00 251 11 5517 700; Fax: +251 115 182 072

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**SECOND ORDINARY SESSION OF THE SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
ON YOUTH, CULTURE AND SPORTS
13– 17 JUNE 2016
ADDIS ABABA - ETHIOPIA**

REFERENCE

THEME:

***‘AFRICAN YEAR OF HUMAN RIGHTS: PROMOTING ETHICS AND CULTURAL
DIVERSITY AS AN ESSENTIAL RIGHT FOR THE PEOPLE OF AFRICA’***

REPORT OF THE MINISTERS’ MEETING

16 – 17 JUNE 2016

INTRODUCTION

1. The Ministers' Meeting of the 2nd African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Youth, Culture and Sport (STC-YCS2) was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 16 to 17 June 2016, following the meeting of Experts held from 13 to 15 June 2016. The theme of the conference was ***'African Year of Human Rights: Promoting Ethics and Cultural Diversity as an Essential Right for the People of Africa.'***

I. ATTENDANCE

2. The following AU Member States were in attendance;

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central Africa, Cote D'Ivoire, Comoros, The Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Islamic Republic of The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Kingdom of Lesotho, Libya, Mauritania, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Niger, Uganda, Rwanda, Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, South Sudan, South Africa, kingdom of Swaziland, Tchad, Togo, Tanzania, Tunisia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

II. OPENING CEREMONY

3. The Opening Ceremony started with a moment of silence in memory of the children and youth killed in Soweto in 1976 and marking of the 40th Anniversary of the Day of the African Child (16 June 2016).
4. H.E Dr. Martial de Paul Ikounga, Commissioner for Human Resources Science and Technology (HRST) welcomed the Ministers and recalled the 2016 AU Summit Decision on Harnessing the Demographic Dividend through Youth Investment. He further noted that development and professionalization of Sports in Africa is happening at a relatively slow pace due to various factors including lack of adequate sports infrastructure for training, grooming and mentorship. He noted with concern that the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance adopted by the 6th Assembly of the African Union has only been ratified by eight (08) AU Member States even though thirty one (31) have signed. He concluded his remarks by reiterating that STC-YCS2 accords us a common platform for Ministers of Youth, Culture and Sport and Senior Officials to review progress on the implementation of decisions of the STC-YCS1 and to deliberate on specific issues pertaining to the three (3) sectors. He finally called for the enhancement of the establishment of synergies between the youth culture and sports sectors.
5. H.E. Abia Dzifa Gomashie – Deputy Minister of Tourism, Culture and Creative Arts from the Republic of Ghana delivered a poem titled *the Africa We Want* on the cultural dynamics on the African continent and its impact on the identity and development of a young person.
6. H.E. Ms. Destinee Doukaga Minister of Youth and Civic Education of the Republic of Congo in her capacity of Chairperson of the bureau of STC-YCS1, started her

address by congratulating the STC-YCS officials for fruitful deliberations over the past three days. She further commended Member States for selecting the STC-YCS1 Bureau and giving them the responsibility of leading the STC and congratulated the Bureau of STC-YCS1 for their efforts in holding office since 2014. She emphasized that the the STC – YCS2 theme on ‘Promoting Ethics and Cultural Diversity as an Essential Right for the People of Africa’ is significant in the quest to position ethics and cultural diversity not only as an essential right but also as a key solution to Africa developmental challenges. She called upon all AU member States to accelerate the implementation of the African Youth Charter and to work towards mainstreaming of youth into sectoral planning and development policies & strategies of culture, sport and other sectors towards realizing the Demographic Dividend. She concluded her remarks by enjoining all participants to work together to drive the implementation of STC-YCS agreements, and ensure that recommendations are implemented, especially in our Member States.

III. PROCEDURAL MATTERS

Election of the Bureau of the STC-YCS2

7. The meeting adopted the Bureau for the 2nd Specialized Technical Committee on Youth, Culture and Sport as proposed by Experts meeting.
8. The Bureau of the STC-YCS2 is constituted as follows:

Election of the Bureau

Position	Region	Country	Sector
Chairperson	Eastern Region	Kenya	Minister of Culture
1st Vice-Chairperson	Northern Region	Dem. Rep. of Saharawi	Minister of Youth and Sport
2nd Vice-President	Southern Region	Angola	Minister of Sport
3rd Vice-Chairperson	Western Region	Burkina Faso	Minister of Culture, Arts and Tourism
Rapporteur	Central Region	Democratic Republic of Congo	Minister of Culture and Arts

IV. ORGANIZATION OF WORK

9. In the absence of the nominated Bureau Chair (Minister of Culture, Kenya), the meeting was chaired by the Hon Ahmed Lahbib Eidy – Minister of Youth and Sports from the Democratic Republic of Saharawi. In his opening remarks, the Honourable Minister welcomed all participants and noted the situation of youth in the occupied

territory of the Democratic Republic of Sahawari and called upon all stakeholders to work towards improving the situation. He further called for the meeting to cooperate towards the success of the meeting.

10. The agenda and programme of work were adopted as amended. Under AOB, the following agenda items from Member States were added: From Egypt - Creating sports structures in Africa; and Working in the field of culture to translate documents into Arabic.
11. A proposal was made to have PYU make a statement at the meeting. The PYU president requested the MS to support the idea of establishing the African Youth Fund and have it expedited. In her remarks, the President of the PYU commended The Islamic Republic of the Gambia for the hosting of the ten years Commemoration of the African Youth Charter (AYC). PYU thanked Members States who have ratified the AYC and urged all those who have not yet ratified, to do so to protect the rights of young people. She reiterated the support needed from Member states for the establishment of the African Youth development Funds, noting that this would support reaping the benefits of the Demographic Dividend as declared by Heads of States 2017 theme of the African Union.

V. PRESENTATION OF THE AFRICAN UNION THEME FOR 2017: 'Harnessing Demographic Dividend through Investment in the Youth'

12. The Representative of the Commission made a presentation on the African Union 2017 theme: "Harnessing the demographic dividend through investments in the youth". He highlighted the demographic transition stages of African Countries and its importance to the realization of AU Agenda 2063 and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. He defined the Demographic Dividend as the potential economic benefit arising from a significant increase in the ratio of working-aged adults relative to young dependent. Realization of the Demographic Dividend will be based on four 4 key pillars: education and skills development; employment and entrepreneurship; Youth empowerment and participation in governance; and youth health and well-being. He presented a background on the work that key partners and governments have been doing on the theme and highlighted the importance of a coordinated continental intervention on the Demographic Dividend. He ended his presentation with the outline of the Demographic Dividend Road Map, its six pillars, and a timeline of key actions and deliverables as requested by AU Heads of State and Government.
13. The Meeting took note of the presentation of the African Union on the theme for 2017. In the discussions that ensued the following recommendations were made:
14. Member States to make specific commitment and allocate financial resources toward the implementation of the Road Map developed in response to the AU theme of the year 2017

15. Member States to endeavor to improve their statistics and data collection with performance indicators on investment in youth development to harness the Demographic Dividend
16. Member States to endeavor to promote and safeguard African Culture from the negative effect of Social media and cyber crime
17. Member States to establish mechanism for coordinating various policy interventions for youth development in different sectors
18. Member States to endeavor to ratify to the African Youth Charter and the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance
19. Member States to endeavor to promote and finance cultural and sport sectors as critical to promote youth empowerment
20. The meeting called upon the AUC to work with partners in clearly defining the concept for implementation of the recommendations, and share it with Member States to enable them to implement the STC decision on the theme for the year 2017

VI. PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF THE 2015 AFRICAN GAMES

21. The Minister of Sport and Physical Education of the Republic of Congo made a presentation on the report of the 11th Edition of the African Games held in Congo zerville from 4-19 September, 2015. The Meeting took note of the report and reiterated the importance of the African Games.
22. The meeting commended the Republic Congo for having organized very successful Games in Brazzaville and for their hospitality
23. The meeting requested all hosts of the African Games to respect all established protocol, including hoisting the flags of all AU Member States.

VII. HOSTING OF THE 2019 AFRICAN GAMES

24. The meeting endorsed the candidature of Equatorial Guinea to host the 2019 African Games and commended Equatorial Guinea for their spirit of Pan Africanism
25. Noting that the 2019 African Games were 2 years behind schedule, the meeting called upon the Commission, through the Technical Organizing Committee of African Games (TOCAG) to expedite all the necessary processes for the preparations for the games and conclude a Host Agreement with Equatorial Guinea.

VIII. HOSTING OF THE 2023 AFRICAN GAMES

26. The meeting took note of the offers by Republics of Ghana, Burkina Faso and Nigeria to host the 2023 African Games, and requested them to submit the bid files. The meeting requested the AUC to share the bidding instruments to facilitate understanding by all Member States on the hosting of the Games.

IX. CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT OF THE EXPERTS' MEETING OF THE STC-YCS2

27. The report of the Experts meeting of the STC-YCS 2 was presented by the representative of the Chair of the STC-YCS2. In the discussions that ensued, the Ministers highlighted the following:

I. On Youth

28. Egypt's offers to host the 7th Batch African Union Youth Volunteer Corps Training in November 2016 and will work with the AUC to prepare for the upcoming training. **FURTHER** calls the AUC to endeavor to ensure representation of all AU member states, according to fair geographical and gender distribution during the training.

29.

30. There should be an annual report on progress made in the implementation of the African Youth Charter, specifically for articles 11-15 and article 20

31. Gambia will work with the AUC to provide an advocacy platform for Member States who have not yet ratified the AYC

32. Tunisia proposed items under AOB be included in the agenda of work of the STC-YCS3

33. Member States should consider experience gained in volunteerism in facilitating employment opportunities for youth.

II. On Sports

34. Member States to review and develop comprehensive Sport Policies and guiding principles that strengthen the functioning of the sports structures in order to safeguard the colossal funds invested by Governments in Sport

35. Noted the clarification by Congo on the absence of the Republic of the Saharawi flag at the stadium and reaffirmed the need for adherence to the Games hosting protocols, regulations and obligations by host countries and stakeholders.

36. Cognisant of the power of sport as a multi-million dollar industry with potential to create employment for the youth in Africa, strengthened the need for a stand-alone

Sport Division within the AUC down to Regional and National levels while bearing in mind the full implications of this fundamental architectural design. Emphasis was heightened on the need for a stand-alone Department for Sport and that the provisions of the Constitutive Act and other legal instruments can be reviewed to accommodate the architectural design.

III. On Culture

37. Member States raised the need to develop laws that protect African Culture and safeguard the role that youth can play in the preservation of cultural values and traditions.
38. Cognisant of the proven role and ability that culture has to mobilize people, there is need to create synergies with sports in order to maximize potential
39. The role of cultural policies in establishing an enabling environment for the promotion of the arts and culture was underscored.
40. The meeting commended Burkina Faso for having ratified the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance
41. The meeting also underscored the need to include a timeline in the recommendation on the review of the draft Statute of the African Audiovisual and Cinema Commission (AACC) by the AU Member States
42. Sudan is to host the African Capitals workshop in Khartoum in July 2016. The meeting called upon the Sudan to work with AUC to finalize the concept of African Cultural Capitals with a view to enable cultural exchanges and enhance greater integration

X. DATE AND VENUE FOR THE 3RD SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING ON YOUTH, CULTURE AND SPORT

43. The 3rd ordinary session of the STC-YCS will be held in Addis Ababa in 2018. However, Member States wishing to host the Meeting are to submit an official request to host by June 2017 in accordance with Rule 6 of the AU on hosting AU meetings.

XI. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

44. The meeting noted the offer to AUC and AU Member States, the offer by the Arab Republic of Egypt to provide provide training in Editorial translation in the National Center for translation on cost share basis. The Centre will cover all costs of translation into Arabic books in African languages and half (50%) of the costs of translation into African language books in Arabic. In this regardm the AUC is requested to create a support fund for intra African translation and interpretation.

The Republic of Sudan called upon the AUC to expedite the organization of an Arts Festival in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and further requests the AUC to include the 'AFRISCO'. Project proposed by the Member State during the 2006 AU Summit.

45. The delegation of Sudan informed the meeting that Sudan is going to host the African Capitals Workshop in Khartoum by July 2016.
46. The meeting noted the two agenda items by Tunisia on the events of the African Youth Observatory and the launching of the campaign on cultural diversity under the slogan "Our Diversity is our Wealth". The Member State further requests that the items be included in the programme of the 3rd Specialized Technical Committee on Youth, Culture and Sports, scheduled for 2018.

XII. PRESENTATION AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT AND DECISIONS OF THE STC-YCS 2

The Second Ordinary Session of the STC-YCS took the following decisions

A- ON THE AU THEME OF THE YEAR 2017

1. **URGES** Member states to make specific commitment and allocate financial resources toward the implementation of the Road Map developed in response to the AU Theme of the Year 2017
2. **REQUESTS** AUC to establish a Youth Investment Index by AU Member States. **FURTHER REQUESTS** AU Member States report on the how far their countries have aligned public policies to the implementation of the Demographic Dividend and report every two years starting from 2018.
3. **REQUESTS** Member States to improve their statistics and data collection with performance indicators on investment in youth development to harness the Demographic Dividend
4. **URGES** Member States to promote and safeguard African Culture from the negative effect of Social Media and cyber crime
5. **FURTHER URGES** Member States to establish mechanism for coordinating various policy interventions for youth development in different sectors
6. **ALSO URGES** Member States to ratify the African Youth Charter and the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance
7. **REQUESTS** Member States to promote and finance cultural and sport sectors as critical to promote youth empowerment

8. **CALLS UPON** the AUC to work with partners in clearly defining the concept for implementation of the recommendations, and share it with Member States to enable them to implement the STC decision on the theme for the year 2017

B_ ON YOUTH DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

9. **REQUESTS** the AUC to put in place mechanisms that will facilitate Member State reports on the status of implementation of STC decisions
10. **CALLS UPON** the AUC, Member States, RECS, and Partners to accelerate the implementation of the Banjul +10 outcomes, **FURTHER CALLS** on the AUC to expedite the establishment of the African Youth Development Fund and develop clear programs and initiatives to address emerging issues affecting young people, including migration
11. **REQUESTS** the AUC to provide a guidance note as a tool for country technical teams to align national programs and strategies to the Youth Decade Plan of Action (DPoA), develop an accountability and reporting framework to support Member States' reporting on the implementation of the DPoA and to support Member States to mainstream youth development issues in national policies and programs.
12. **ENCOURAGES** all AU Member States to achieve 100% ratification of the African Youth Charter by end of 2016
13. **REQUESTS** the AUC in partnership with the Pan African Youth Union (PYU), to carry out a comprehensive study on youth organization in Africa, **FURTHER CALLS** on Member States to support the study in their countries so as to provide an accurate and inclusive picture of the reality
14. **ENCOURAGES** Member States to pay their subscriptions to PYU
15. **COMMENDS** the Commission for initiating the institutionalization process of the Africa Youth Volunteer Corps (AUYVC) which is the continental volunteer initiative that recruits trains and deploys young professionals from across the continent for volunteer work **AND REQUESTS** the Commission to submit the policy and the strategy document of the institutionalization of AUYVC for consideration by the AU Assembly in the 2017 January Summit.
16. **CALLS UPON**, AU Member States to set up national youth volunteer programs that will be coordinated by the Ministries of Youth.
17. **CALLS UPON** AU Member States to prioritize and increase funding for the AUYVC program to increase exposure, capacity building and professional development of African Youth

18. **TAKES NOTE** of the establishment of the African Union Youth Club Program which youth can engage on continental programs and policies positively and proactively.
19. **TAKES NOTE** of the framework for implementation of the Skills Initiative for Africa that will effectively contribute to creating new perspectives through increased employment and income opportunities for young people in Africa.
20. **CALLS UPON** AU Member states that will pilot the Skills Initiative for Africa; Tunisia (Northern Africa), Nigeria (Western Africa), Kenya (Eastern Africa), South Africa (Southern Africa), and Cameroon (Central Africa) to engage with other African countries and contribute to sharing best practices and lessons learnt in employment-oriented skills development.
21. **TAKES NOTE** of the Africa German Youth Initiative (AGYI) aimed at enhancing and mobility and exchange between African countries and with Germany in the context of education for sustainable development.
22. **URGES** AU Member States that will pilot the AGYI initiative; Benin, Tanzania and South Africa to involve young people from other African countries, and share best practices and lessons learnt in the establishment of demand oriented youth development concepts and programs, which will encourage and enhance a pan-African dialogue on competence-based youth exchange.
23. **EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** to the AUC and Republic of The Gambia for the organization of the Banjul +10 commemoration
24. **ENDORSES the** Banjul + 10 report, taking into account the recommendations contained therein.
25. **CALLS** for the appointment of an AU Youth Envoy to assist in championing youth development issues in Africa and **REQUESTS** the AUC to develop terms of reference for the same.
26. **FURTHER CALLS UPON** AU Member States to address the mismatch between education and labour market needs by overhauling and reviewing the curricula at schools and institutions of higher learning through collaboration with the private sector, and expedite harmonization of education and training on the continent for enhanced intra-African mobility of professionals in conformity with the Continental Strategy of Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET).

C- ON CULTURE ISSUES

27. **ENDORSES** the following Member States of the Union as Champions of the ratification process of the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance at regional

level: Chad and Congo (Central Africa); Ethiopia (East Africa); Mali, Nigeria, Niger and Senegal (West Africa) and South Africa (Southern Africa); and **REQUESTS** that the Champions lead advocacy and sensitization campaigns on the Charter in their respective regions;

28. **TAKES NOTE** of the ratification of the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance by Burkina Faso
29. **CALLS UPON** AU Member States to engage in the process of development of the African Union Model Law on the Protection of Cultural Property/Heritage through the regional consultations of the African Union Model Law to take place in 2016 and 2017 to ensure ownership of the Model Law;
30. **ENDORSES** the Report, the Framework for Action and the Implementation Strategy of the 4th Pan-African Cultural Congress (PACC4).
31. **FURTHER ENDORSES** the proposal to organize the 5th Pan-African Cultural Congress in 2018 under the theme: '**Advancing the African Union Agenda 2063 through Culture and the African Creative Economy**' as presented by the PACC4 Bureau.
32. **EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** to the Republic of South Africa for hosting the 4th Pan-African Cultural Congress (PACC4) in May 2015 during the Africa Month Celebrations and to the Republic of Zimbabwe for hosting the 1st Bureau Meeting of the PACC4.
33. **CALLS UPON** Member States to organize Pan-African National Congresses as a build up to the 5th Pan-African Cultural Congress to be held in 2018.
34. **RECOMMENDS** that ACALAN's Budget be separated from that of the Department of Social Affairs; **URGES** Member States to render the necessary support to ACALAN's efforts to develop and promote African Languages.
35. **FURTHER RECOMENDS** the establishment of the Centre for Linguistic Studies through Oral Traditions (CELHTO) Technical and Scientific Committee and **ALSO RECOMMENDS** the taking into account of stakeholders such as traditional leaders.
36. **URGES** Member States to provide technical and financial support to the Great Museum of Africa being established in Algiers, and **RECOMMENDS** that the Great Museum of Africa becomes one of the Flagships programmes for the AU Agenda 2063 in the first ten (10) year plan for the arts and culture sector.
37. **RECOMMENDS** the establishment of a Technical and Advisory Committee composed of Member States, AUC and stakeholders led by Algeria to develop the road-map for the launching of the Great Museum of Africa.

38. **ENDORSES** the proposal to declare an Africa Music Day following the death of the artist musician Papa WEMBA (Jules Shungu Wembadio) to celebrate Africa's music legends and **CALLS UPON** the DRC in collaboration with the AUC and Member States to develop the conceptual framework for implementing the initiative further.
39. **CALLS UPON** the AUC to support the organization of the Pan-African Music Festival (FESPAM) and **REQUESTS** the Republic of Congo to present a working document on the role that the stakeholders can play in organizing the festival. **URGES** Member States and the Diaspora to actively participate in the festival.
40. **FURTHER CALLS UPON** the Member States and the AUC to support the Pan-African Film Festival of Ouagadougou (FESPACO).
41. **APPRECIATES** the efforts by the AUC in working with various arts and culture actors including: The African World Heritage Fund (AWHF); The All Africa Music Awards (AFRIMA); the Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa (OCPA); CERDOTOLA; Arterial Network and CICIBA; and **CALLS FOR** the establishment of greater synergies between the AUC arts and culture actors for the implementation of the AU Agenda 2063 especially its Aspiration 5 on culture and heritage.

42. **ENDORSES** the Study undertaken by the African Union Commission in conjunction with the different stakeholders as mandated by Executive Council Decision (EX/CL/Dec. 69 (III) of July 2003, on the establishment of the African Audio-visual and Cinema Commission (AACC);
43. **FURTHER ENDORSES** the establishment of the African Audio-Visual and Cinema Commission (AACC) as a Specialized Agency of the African Union.
44. **REQUESTS** Member States to review the Draft Statute of the African Audio-Visual and Cinema and send their contributions to the AUC by 15 August 2016.
45. **ENDORSES** the convening of the 2nd Specialized Technical Committee on Youth, Culture and Sport (STC-YCS2) Extraordinary Session in September 2016 in accordance with Rule 12 of the Rules of Procedure of the STS-YCS to Consider the Draft Statute of the AACC to ensure its finalization by 2017 and submit the same to the STC on Justice and legal affairs for consideration and further submission to the AU Policy Organs for Adoption.

D- ON SPORT ISSUES

46. **URGES** the AUC to expedite the restructuring process for the revitalization of the AUSC Regions in line with the African Sports Architecture.
47. **ACKNOWLEDGES** ANOCA's acceptance that the Games remain owned by the Member States as decided unequivocally by the STC-YCS and their commitment to support and contribute towards the advancement and Africa's sports trajectory pathway. Requested the AUC to explore broader collaboration with the sports movement including ANOCA in order to heighten the advancement of sport development and sport for development in the African Continent.
48. **APPRECIATES** the investment by the Republic of Congo in the establishment of the sports infrastructure which would serve as a lasting legacy for the Continent and the Republic of Congo.
49. **REQUESTS** COJA Brazzaville to finalize compilation of the comprehensive Games report for tabling and adoption by AUSC on behalf of the STC-YCS.
50. **APPRECIATES** the support received by all stakeholders and partners who contributed towards the organisation of Anti-Doping activities during the 11th edition of the African Games.
51. **REQUESTS** Member States that still owe SCSA arrears and African Games participation and/or registration fees to pay their outstanding obligations by 31 December 2017

52. **REQUESTS** the Republic of South Sudan and Arab Republic of Saharawi to start paying their contribution to WADA.
53. **CALLS FOR** efforts in promoting fraternal relations and coordination of frank collaboration and building synergies of actions among members of the African sport movement
54. **FURTHER CALLS FOR EXPEDITING** the designation of host countries for the 2019 and 2023 editions of the African Games; and galvanizing support to the successful hosting of the African Games
55. **URGES** parties in the hosting of the African Games to adhere to laid down obligations and regulations intended for the successful and smooth hosting of the Games in the interest of the African youth.
56. **CALLS UPON** AUC to implement the African Sports Architecture (ASA) to restructure and revitalize sport in Africa.
57. **FURTHER CALLS UPON** the AUC to maintain a stand-alone Sports Division within the AU Department of Social Affairs and strongly reconsider the proposal to the AU Assembly by PRC Sub-Committee on structures to merge Sport and Culture.
58. **CALLS FOR** the alignment of the AUSC Regions be completed by 31 December 2016 and that the Regions plan and implement programmes and activities among them being the Regional Youth Games.
59. **REAFIRM** the decision of the STC-YCS that African sports organs be aligned in conformity with the approved AU geographic regions.
60. **CALLS FOR EXPEDITING** appointment of the AUSC staff and establishment of the AUSC Office in Yaoundé, Cameroon by 1 January 2017.
61. **REQUESTS** the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to facilitate establishment of STC-YCS at Regional level.
62. **REQUESTS** Member States to introduce rewards programmes and incentive policies to motivate talented and excelling athletes to help minimise exodus of athletes and change of nationalities.
63. **URGES** Member States to comply UNESCO Convention on Doping and other Instruments to promote a drug free environment in all competitions.
64. **FURTHER URGES** the Commission in collaboration with WADA to convene an Anti-Doping forum to sensitize Member States on the fight against doping in Sport in June 2017.

65. **URGES** Members States to put in place NADOs and appropriate legislative frameworks that guide existence and functioning of sports development and funding institutions.
66. **ENCOURAGES** Governments to increase investment in safe and accessible infrastructure for sport and social services and promote shared use of facilities that enhance education and employability
67. **FURTHER ENCOURAGES** increased use of sport as educational tool in school curricula and after school interventions
68. **STRONGLY RECOMMENDS** that the AUC Commissioner for Social Affairs be mandated to serve as a Permanent Representative on the WADA Executive Committee.
69. **ENDORSES** the nominations of African Representatives to serve on WADA's Foundation Board: Kenya to replace Ethiopia (2017 – 2019); Seychelles to replace Gabon (2018 – 2020) and South Africa to replace Namibia (2019 – 2021)
70. **APPEALS** to Member States to continue paying the WADA subscriptions using the same share-split.
71. **CALLS** for WADA to re-align its Regional Anti-Doping Organization (RADO) structures in conformity with the AU geographical Regions.
72. **CALLS** on Member States yet to ratify the UNESCO Convention on Anti-doping be encouraged to do so.
73. **CALLS** for commitment by Member States to support the IWG during the time it is hosted in Africa, from 2014 to 2018 including participation at both the Africa Conference which is to be held from 14 to 15 October 2016 and the 2018 IWG World Conference to be held 17 to 20 May 2018 both in Gaborone, Botswana
74. **REQUESTS** Member States to commit to the global women and sport movement, ensuring Africa is part of the global structure
75. **ENCOURAGES** the signing of the IWG Brighton Plus Helsinki 2014 Declaration by sports organisations and women and sport bodies in the various countries to reaffirm commitment to Women and Sport.
76. **ENCOURAGES** to establish and strengthen Women Association at the country level to enhance participation of women in sport
77. **URGES** Member States to implement previous decisions to empower women and elevate them to decision making and leadership positions.

78. **PLEDGES** to engage the relevant sports structures for the inclusion of Netball onto the African Games programme
79. **ENDORSES** that Equatorial Guinea host the 2019 African Games.
80. **REQUESTS** the Commission and the AUSC to work with Equatorial Guinea to ensure adequate preparations taking cognisance that the preparations are one (1) year behind schedule,
81. **CONSIDERED** the offers by Republics of Ghana, Burkina Faso and Nigeria to host the 2023 African Games.
82. **CALLS** for AUC to accelerate and expedite the implementation of the Architecture for Sport in Africa (ASA) as continuous delays will hamper effective functioning of the architecture.

XIII. CLOSING SESSION

In his Closing Remarks H.E. Dr. Mustapha Sidiki Kaloko observed that it was a privilege and honor to participate at the second ordinary session of the Conference of the Specialized Technical Committee on Youth Culture and Sports. He emphasized that in line with the theme for the 2nd Ordinary Session of the Conference of Specialized Technical Committee on Youth Culture and Sports; African Year of Human Rights: Promoting Ethics and Cultural Diversity as an Essential Right for the People of Africa, the was held to examine the critical role of Youth, Culture and Sport play in promotion of Ethics and Cultural Diversity as an Essential Right for the People of Africa. Adding that there was need to appreciate the importance of “cultural diversity” and having respect of each other’s culture. He called upon all stakeholders to uphold good governance and safeguard the Integrity and Ethics in Sport as cardinal obligations in ensuring that sport contributes to social and economic development. In conclusion, he congratulated the Government of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea on their nomination to host the 2019 African Games.

The Meeting was officially declared closed by the Honorable Ahmed Lahbib Eidy – Minister of Youth and Sports from the Democratic Republic of Saharawi. In his closing remarks, the Honorable Minister expressed his gratitude to all Member States present for their fruitful contributions and deliberations adding that the decisions will be implemented for the benefit of the African Youth and in promotion of African Culture and Sport. He also highlighted that Africa is still colonized and called upon Member States to unite to condemn illegal occupation of the Democratic Republic of Saharawi.

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