

DECISION

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government,

Considering the Charter of the Organization of African Unity,

Considering the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community, especially Articles 7,8,9 and 10 thereof,

Considering Further the Protocol on the Relations between the African Economic Communities and the Regional Economic Communities,

Having Considered the Report of the Council of Minister,

DECIDES:

1. REGULATIONS OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Regulation CM/AEC/Regl.1 (VI) and CM/OAU/AEC/Regl.1 (VII) of the Council of Ministers are hereby approved.

2. RATIFICATION OF AEC TREATY

Member States which have not yet done so are urged to ratify the AEC Treaty or accede to it as early as possible.

3. FIRST AFRICA-EUROPE SUMMIT

a) Special commendations are extended to President Abdelaziz BOUTEFLIKA of Algeria and President Hosny Mubarak of Egypt for the tireless efforts they have deployed to ensure the convening and success of this Summit;

b) Gratitude is expressed to the OAU Preparatory Committee and its Core for their initiatives in preserving the solidarity and unity of the OAU during negotiations with the European side;

c) Member States are invited to give necessary priority to implementation of the "Cairo Plan of Action" adopted by the Summit;

d) Member States and the General Secretariat are invited to map out, in co-operation with the RECs, an Implementation Programme for the priority issues contained in the Cairo

Plan of Action and report regularly thereon to Council;

4. AFRICA'S EXTERNAL DEBT

a) Creditors and the International Community are requested to take urgent measures to:

i) Relax the modalities of the initiative in favour of heavily indebted poor countries and extend it to all African countries as a step towards the cancellation of the continent's external debt;

ii) Cancel all outstanding arrears in respect of debt incurred before the new millennium.

b) The General Secretariat is requested to set up a group of Experts to assist the OAU Contact Group on Africa's External Debt in:

i) formulating specific measures aimed at resolving the Africa's external debt problem;

ii) mapping out a common African position for the 2001 event on development financing;

iii) formulating concrete proposals on the reform of the international monetary system.

c) The OAU Advisory Committee on Administrative, Budgetary and Financial Matters should take the necessary measures to ensure that adequate funds are earmarked to this effect;

d) Special commendations are extended to the NGOs for resolutely supporting the just cause of Africa for debt cancellation as a way to help the continent relieve itself of the debt burden.

5. TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

a) Note is taken of the Conference of African Ministers responsible for Civil Aviation;

b) Decision Relating to the Implementation of the Yamoussoukro Declaration concerning the Liberation of Access to Air Transport Markets in Africa and contained in document CM/2178 (LXXII) is endorsed;

c) Member States are urged to:

i) Adopt measures for speedy implementation of the Decision;

ii) Enhance co-operation among them with a view to facilitating development of the air transport industry, particularly air safety in Africa;

d) the Monitoring Body is requested to provide Member States with the necessary support in the implementation of the Decision.

5. THIRD UN CONFERENCE ON LDCs

- a) Mandate is given to the Chairman of the third UN conference on the LDCs to contact the G8 Countries. In order to secure their support for the conference;
- b) The General Secretariat is requested to organize in co-operation with the RECs and relevant UN Agencies, a meeting of all Member States, in order to adopt a co-ordinated African position in preparation for the third UN conference on the Least Developed Countries.

Done in Lome, Togo on 12 July, 2000

Gnassingbe EYADEMA

President of the Republic of Togo

Chairman of the Assembly

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