RESOLUTION ON THE AFRICAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in it Twenty-eight Ordinary Session in Dakar, Senegal from 29 June to 1 July 1992:

<u>Recalling</u> the signing of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community in Abuja, Nigeria, on 3rd June 1991,

<u>Reaffirming its commitment</u> to the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of African Unity, the Lagos Plan of Action, it Final Act and those of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community,

<u>Recalling further</u> its earlier Resolutions on the African Economic Community, namely Resolution AHG/Res. 161 (XXIII), AHG/Res. 179 (XXV), AHG/Res. 190 (XXVI) and AHG/Res. 205 (XXVII),

<u>Bearing in mind</u> the statement made by the Secretary-General of the OAU and particularly the call made to all Member States which have not yet ratified the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community, to do so as soon as possible,

<u>Noting with satisfaction</u> the report of the Secretary-General of the OAU on the progress made in the implementation of the Treaty and the preparation of protocols to be annexed to the Treaty,

<u>Reaffirming further</u> the urgent need to rationalize the existing intergovernmental organizations dealing with economic integration and cooperation in Africa, in a manner that is consistent with the provisions of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community,

Also welcoming Decision No., A/Doc.12.7/91 of the 14th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS of July, 1991 which designated ECOWAS as the sole Economic Community in West Africa for the achievement of regional economic integration,

<u>Welcoming</u> Resolution No. PTA/AUTH./X/4 Annex 1, of the 10th Ordinary Session of the Authority of Member States of the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern Africa (PTA) January 1992 to transform the PTA into a Common Market for Eastern and Southern African by merging PTA and SADCC,

<u>Mindful</u> of the need for other regions which have not yet adopted similar decisions as mentioned above, to do so in order to avoid wasteful duplication of efforts in economic integration processes,

<u>Recalling</u> earlier calls on the Secretary-General of the OAU, the Executive Secretary of the ECA and the President of the ADB to further strengthen their cooperation by formulation concrete joint programmes for the implementation of the Treaty Establishment the African Economic Community,

Aware that there are other international organizations which are carrying out economic integration and cooperation programmes and other related activities in Africa, and that these should render support to the OAU General Secretariat in the implementation of the Treaty and in the preparation of its protocols within the framework of the work-programme of the Joint OAU/ECA/ADB Secretariat:

- 1. CONGRATULATES the Member States which have already ratified the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community and CALLS UPON those which have not yet done so, to expedite the ratification of the Treaty in order to accelerate and consolidate African economic integration and cooperation;
- 2. CALLS ON all Member States to undertake the popularization of the Treaty at national level and to increase the awareness of the importance of regional economic integration and cooperation of Africa;
- 3. REQUESTS the Secretary-General of the OAU, the Executive Secretary of the ECA and the President of the ADB to draw up a joint work programme for the implementation of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community and the preparation of relevant protocols, and to submit periodic

reports thereof to OAU Summits through the Permanent Steering committee and the OAU Council of Ministers accordingly;

- 4. EXPRESS OUR APPRECIATION to the UNDP for its support to the OAU in relation to the establishment of the African Economic Community during the Fourth Programme Cycle, and REQUESTS the latter to continue to do so for the implementation to the Treaty and it Protocols by providing adequate financial and human resources in a coordinated manner within the framework of programmes agreed upon by the Joint OAU/ECA/ADB Secretariat;
- 5. APPEALS to international organizations, funding agencies and particularly the UNDP and other agencies of the United Nations System and NGOs to support Africa's economic so-operation and integration programmes within the framework of priorities set by the regional economic communities themselves;
- 6. FURTHER REQUESTS the Secretary-General of the OAU in collaboration with the Executive Secretary of thee ECA and the President of the ADB to work closely with OAU Member States, the Executive Heads of the Regional Economic Communities in order to rationalize African inter-governmental organizations (IGOs) in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty and to submit periodic joint reports thereof to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU;
- 7. EXPRESS ITS APPRECIATION to the Current Chairman of the existing Regional Economic Communities in Africa and REQUESTS them to further enhance the rationalization of African IGOs, in their respective regions in order to ensure optimal utilization of resources, avoid duplication and put the Regional Economic Communities on a sound foundation on which the African Economic Community shall stand;
- 8. PAYS TRIBUTE to the Out-going Chairman of the OAU, H.E. General Ibrahim Badamasi Babaginda, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, for the tremendous efforts he made during his Chairmanship in promoting

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the objectives of the African Economic Community on the continent and in international fora;

- 9. MANDATES the Current Chairman of the OAU, H.E. President Abdou Diouf, in consultation with his colleagues, to provide the political impetus towards the implementation of the Treaty and this resolution;
- 10. REQUESTS the Secretary-General of the OAU to make urgent measures to accelerate the preparation of the additional draft protocols to the Treaty particularly those whose importance had been stressed by the Permanent Steering Committee;
- 11. REQUESTS the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity to follow up the implementation of this resolution and report thereof to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government periodically.

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