

**RESOLUTION ON STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF AFRICAN
HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND UNIVERSITIES
IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF AFRICA**

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

Noting the keen interest shown by Member States in the development of Centers of Excellence, Training and Research since the Council of Ministers held in July, 1968 (Resolution CM/Res.166 (IX)),

Bearing in mind the efforts made by Member States at the regional and sub-regional levels, to promote such a development through African Higher Institutions,

Considering the role and place of Higher Educational Institutions and Universities in the promotion of freedom, dignity and democracy on the one hand and of economic, social and cultural development on the other,

Aware of the progress made in this direction but also of the constraints identified,

Taking to account the recommendations and conclusions of numerous meetings and consultations on the future of African Higher Institutions and Universities;

Reaffirming that the task of African Higher Education Institutions and Universities consists in contributing to social, economic, cultural, scientific and human development, in general, on the Continent, through the training of high-level specialists and the intensification of research in the service of the community at local, national and regional levels:

1. REQUESTS Member States:

- a) to continue their reconsideration of the policies, objectives, functions and practices of African Higher Educational Institutions and Universities

bearing in mind the need to revitalize these institutions and render them more efficient and better adapted to the requirements of African societies;

- b) to find ways and means of assisting African Higher Educational Institutions in accomplishing their task and in discharging their duties, through the use of more adapted structures and the application of management methods which will facilitate the introduction of efficient innovations;
 - c) to support the development of training and management in African Higher Educational Institutions and Universities and leave them open to various sectors of the society, particularly through the establishment of close links between them and industry, agriculture and generally the productive sectors;
 - d) promote the strengthening of cooperation among African Higher Educational Institutions and Universities at sub-regional and regional levels;
2. **HAILS** the efforts being made by UNESCO to strengthen cooperation among African Higher Educational Institutions and Universities and to ensure their effectiveness in close cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Association of African Universities (AAU) notably under UNESCO's Special "African Priority" Programme adopted at the Twenty-fifth Session of UNESCO General Conference held in 1989, and taking into account, the concerns expressed in the PNPAERD and the Lagos Plan of Action;
3. **APPEALS** to the UNESCO Director-General to associate the OAU Secretary-General with his initiatives in this area and the execution of the measures expected.

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