

RESOLUTION ON THE EVALUATION OF THE RESULTS
OF THE URUGUAY ROUND OF MULTILATERAL TRADE
NEGOTIATIONS OF GATT

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting at its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tunis, Tunisia, from 13 to 15 June, 1994,

Bearing in mind the significance of Africa's participation in international commercial relations as a major source of foreign exchange that is required for financing the development of its countries,

Concerned about the continued deterioration of Africa's terms of trade with the industrialized countries, the collapse of commodity prices, the loss of market share and the resurgence of protectionist trade practices that characterized the international trading system since the period preceding the launching of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations in September 1986 in Punta Del Este Uruguay,

Aware that on 15 April 1994 in Marrakesh in the Kingdom of Morocco the Final Act Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round was signed by the Ministers of the participating countries at the Uruguay Round,

Taking into account the Tunis Declaration and the resolution on the Uruguay Round of Negotiations adopted in October 1993 by the Twelfth Session of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade,

Recalling Resolution CM/1505 (LIX) of the OAU Council of Ministers of February 1994 which requested the Secretary-General of the OAU, in collaboration with the relevant institutions, to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the results of the Round in order to determine the overall impact on the African economies,

Further recalling the resolution on the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations adopted in May 1994 by the Conference of Ministers of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa,

Aware of the need for the integration of Africa within the global trading system in order to foster economic growth in Africa,

Conscious of the importance of free trade for economic growth and employment and of the need to promote national development for job creation,

Mindful that there are new areas that are still open for negotiations in the coming months, such as relations between environment and trade, basic telecommunications and financial services,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Evaluation of the

Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations of GATT (A Preliminary Assessment), Document Ref. CM/1839 (LX):

- 1. TAKES NOTE of the report and the preliminary recommendations contained therein Doc. CM1839 (LX) and commends the comprehensive analysis embodied in the report;**
- 2. WELCOMES the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of Negotiations and the signing of the Final Act by 120 countries on 15 April in Marrakesh, in the Kingdom of Morocco as well as the Treaty establishing the World Trade Organizations (WTO);**
- 3. EXPRESSES CONCERN at the prospect of a massive erosion of preferences hitherto enjoyed by the majority of African countries as a result of the Round;**
- 4. URGES African countries which have not yet done so to envisage adhering to the WTO with the aim to ensure the safeguard of Africa's interests from within the new organization;**
- 5. WELCOMES the venue of the International Conference on Technical Assistance of African Countries, to be convened in Tunis with the aim to enabling the adaptation of their economies to the new international trading system and more particularly to the outcome of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations;**

- 6. CALLS to that end, on the UNDP and GATT and other institutions and donors to provide the required financial support and technical assistance;**
- 7. CALLS ON the OAU, UNECA, UNCTAD and GATT to organize regular Seminars and Symposia to acquaint OAU Member States with the outcome of the Uruguay Round and the mechanisms for the implementation of the agreements;**
- 8. CALLS for an African Common Position on the issue of the inclusion of Labour Standards within the envisaged World Trade Organization sphere of Competence;**
- 9. REQUESTS the Secretary-General of the OAU and the Executive Secretary of the UNECA, in close consultation with Member States and relevant organizations to monitor, on a continuous basis, the impact of the Uruguay round by carrying out further the evaluation exercise and to advise Council periodically, through the Secretary-General;**
- 10. REQUESTS the Secretary-General to monitor the implementation of this resolution and to periodically report to Council.**

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