



ORGANIZATION OF  
AFRICAN UNITY

Secretariat  
P. O. Box 3243

منظمة الوحدة الأفريقية  
السكرتارية  
ص. ب. ٣٢٤٣

ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE  
AFRICAIN

Secretariat  
B. P. 3243

اديس ابابا . Addis Ababa

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Twenty-fifth Ordinary Session

Kampala, July 1975

CM/661

Report of the Secretary-General  
on the Conference of African  
Intergovernmental Organizations (1)



CM/0661

34 p. MICROFICHE

(1) This Report was prepared jointly with ECA

1. The first meeting of African Intergovernmental Organizations was held in Addis Ababa from 2 to 6 September 1974 under the auspices of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

2. Speaking on behalf of Mr. W. Eteki Mboumoua, Administrative Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, Mr. N. Djoudi, OAU Assistant Secretary-General in charge of Education, culture, Science and Technology made a statement at the opening of the meeting.

3. In his address, the Asst. Secretary-General recalled that pursuant to the Charter and relevant decisions of its Organs, it was the responsibility of the Organization of African Unity to co-ordinate the activities of African Intergovernmental Organizations and to strengthen relations of technical co-operation between them.

4. The Organization of African Unity would, through its Technical Co-operation Office, closely associate African Intergovernmental Organizations with its Programme of technical co-operation whose main goal was the promotion of economic, technical, scientific and cultural co-operation at the Continental and Sub-regional levels.

5. Within the framework of efforts aimed at Africa's economic independence, the activities of the African Intergovernmental Organizations judiciously complimented those of the Organization of African Unity and contributed to the definition of the economic and social objectives of the Continent and ways and means of attaining them.

6. In a statement made on behalf of Mr. R.K.A. Gardiner, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, Mr. A.M. Akiwumi, Special Assistant of the ECA Executive Secretary, said effective co-ordination of activities of the African Intergovernmental Organizations would make them an integrated multi-disciplinary entity whose contribution to the economic and social development of the Continent would be very significant.

7. Information amassed by the ECA Secretariat, showed that there were, in 1972, 75 African Intergovernmental Organizations covering such fields as economic community, common market, customs union, agriculture, industry, transport, communications, tourism, education, training, research, finance, health and natural resources.

#### Election of Officers

8. The meeting elected the following officers: Chairman, Mr. W. Eteki Mboumua, Administrative Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, First Vice-Chairman, Mr. B. Tonwe, Executive Secretary of the Lake Chad Basin Commission, Second Vice-Chairman, Mr. M. Coulibaly, Assistant Commercial Director of Air Afrique, Rapporteur, Mr. J. Diouf, Executive Secretary of the West African Rice Development Association.

#### Participation

9. Representatives of the following African Intergovernmental Organizations attended the meeting: Air Afrique, Association for the Advancement of Agricultural Sciences in Africa (AAASA), West African Rice Development Association (WARDA) Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO) Bank of Central African States (BEAC) Co-ordinating Committee of the Trans-Africa Highway, Lake Chad Basin Commission (CBLT) United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the African and Malagasy Higher Education Council (CAMES), the African, Malagasy and Mauritian Common Organization (OCAM), the Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa (DLCCEA), Organization Commune de la lutte antiacridienne et de lutte antiaviaire (OCLALAV), Organisation Internationale contre le criquet migrateur africain (OICMA), Organization of African Unity, (OAU) African and Malagasy Posts and Telecommunications Union (UAMPT) Central African Economic and Customs Union (UDEAC), and the African National Television and Broadcasting Union (URTNA).

10. The following Organizations were represented at the meeting by their observers: Unicef, the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) International Labour Office (ILO), United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD).

#### Agenda

11. The meeting adopted the following Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Election of a Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur
3. Adoption of the agenda and programme of work
4. African Inter-Governmental Organizations: present and future programmes of activities.
5. Machinery for the co-ordination of the activities of African inter-governmental organizations.
6. Contribution of African inter-governmental organizations to the solution of present problems faced by African countries (drought, desert locust, natural disaster).
7. Relations with co-operating States and organizations.
8. Any other business.
9. Adoption of the report.

#### Machinery for co-ordinating activities of African Inter-governmental Organizations.

12. Introducing this Agenda item, the OAU Administrative Secretary-General emphasized the need for co-operation and co-ordination between the African inter-governmental organizations. The ECA Executive Secretary was also of that view. He recalled that ECA had contributed to the establishment of several inter-governmental organizations which he listed.

13. A sub-committee composed of the First Vice-Chairman, the Rapporteur and the Director of OCLALAV was then set up to consider this Agenda item and to formulate recommendations for the Committee of the Whole.

14. After its deliberations, the sub-committee presented the following recommendations to the meeting:

- a) A Conference of African Inter-governmental Organizations should be established.
- .1. Membership: Membership shall be restricted to African Inter-governmental Organizations, African Non-Governmental Organizations and Organizations of the UN System may be accorded observer status.
- ii. Sessions: The Conference shall meet in ordinary session in 1975 and in 1978 and subsequently, every two years. Extraordinary sessions may be convened.
- iii. Organization: A Co-ordinating Committee shall be set up to organize meetings of the Conference and follow-up the implementation of decisions. An official of the OAU Administrative Secretariat shall serve on the Committee as secretary of the Conference.
- iv. Venue of meetings: The venue of meetings shall be decided by the conference. The 1975 session shall be held in Addis Ababa.
- b) Regional meetings shall be organized to consider problems of special interest to the sub-regions.
- i) Organization: Four regional Co-ordinating Committees shall be set up; one for each sub-region.
- ii) Regional organizations shall serve as secretaries of the regional co-ordinating committee by turns.

- e) Sub-committees: Sub-committees of the Conference and of regional meetings shall be set up on the recommendation of the co-ordinating committees concerned.
- d) Finance: A Fund for the co-ordination of activities of the African inter-governmental organizations shall be created. It shall be fed from the following sources:
  - i) Contributions of African Inter-Governmental Organizations, OAU
  - ii) Contribution of Bodies of the UN System
  - iii) Gifts from other sources.

15. After considering the recommendations of the Committee, the meeting decided to establish the Conference of African inter-governmental organizations whose constituent meeting was scheduled to be held in Addis Ababa in 1975. The meeting also set up a preparatory committee to organize the constituent meeting and requested the OAU Administrative Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to enable the Committee fulfil its task. (For the text of the resolution, see Resolution No. 1 reproduced in the second part of this Report)

Contribution of African Inter-governmental Organizations to the solution of current problems of African countries (drought, locust, natural disasters)

16. In introducing this Agenda item, the Executive Secretary of WARDA briefly outlined the problems and effects of the drought. He said further co-ordination of activities of African inter-governmental organizations was necessary. Many delegates outlined measures taken by their various organizations in respect of the drought.

17. The AAASA decided to give high priority to the problem of the drought. It planned to organize, this year, a symposium to study the possibility of setting up a committee to examine all aspects of the effect of the drought.

18. The Lake Chad Bassin Commission had been working in the Zone under its sphere in an effort to combat the effects of the drought by establishing food reserves, by building warehouses and by providing transportation for relief operations.

#### Relations between States and co-operating Bodies

19. Several delegates talked about this question. They mentioned difficulties of formal and other nature that had to be overcome to obtain UNDP assistance. Hope was expressed that UNDP would lend assistance in the implementation of projects of African inter-governmental organizations.

#### Any other business

There being no other business there was no discussion under this item.

#### Adoption of the report

Before concluding its deliberations, the meeting adopted two resolutions. The first resolution deals with the establishment of the Conference of African inter-governmental organizations; the second is on campaign against locusts and other crop pests in Africa. After making the necessary modifications to the draft report submitted to them, the delegates adopted this report.

Resolution (Unofficial translation)No. 1: Conference of African Inter-Governmental Organizations

The Meeting of African Inter-governmental Organizations held in Addis Ababa from 2 to 6 September 1974.

Recalling Article 2 of the Charter of the Organization of African Unity,

Considering the relevant resolutions of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on co-operation between African countries,

Realizing the need to intensify co-operation between African inter-governmental organizations,

Conscious of the urgent necessity for ensuring co-ordination of activities of African inter-governmental organizations,

1. DECIDES that a Conference of African inter-governmental organizations shall be established with the foregoing objectives;
2. FURTHER DECIDES to set up a Preparatory Committee composed of members of the Bureau of the meeting and the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, to prepare for the Constituent Conference of African inter-governmental organizations for consideration and adoption, a draft constitution and Rules of Procedure of the Conference of African inter-governmental organizations;
3. CALLS UPON the Preparatory Committee to organize and convene a meeting of the Constituent Conference at the Headquarters of the Organization of African Unity in 1975;



4. REQUESTS the Administrative Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity to present a report on that meeting to the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its twenty-fourth session;
5. FURTHER REQUESTS the Administrative Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity to provide the necessary means to enable the Preparatory Committee to accomplish its tasks.

The Secretary-General wishes to inform the Council that it organized a meeting of the Provisional Bureau of the Conference to June 1975 in Addis Ababa.

That meeting studied the Draft Rules of Procedure of the Conference and adopted the Report hereto annexed.

Lake Chad Bassin Commission

Mr. B. Tonwe, Executive Secretary

African & Malagasy Higher Education Council (CAMES)

Mr. Seth Wilson, Asst. Secretary-General

The Desert Control Organization for Eastern Africa (DLCOEAF)

Mr. (Ato) Adefris Bellehu, Director

Economic Commission for Africa

Mr. A.M. Akiwumi, Personal Assistant of the  
Executive Secretary

Mr. L.K. Darboux, Ag. Secretary of the Commission

The African, Malagasy and Mauritian Common Organization (OCAM)

Mr. S.I. Looky, Deputy Chief of the Statistics Section

Organisation Commune de la lutte antiacridienne et de la lutte  
antiaviaire (OCLALAV)

Mr. Abdallahi Ould Mohamed Sidia, Director-General

Organisation internationale contre le criquet migrateur  
africain (OICMA)

Mr. G. Diagne, Director-General.

List of participants from the African Inter-governmental Organizations

Mr. Mamadou Coulibaly, Asst. Commercial Director  
Mr. V.C. Lawson, Legal Adviser

Association for the Advancement of Agricultural Sciences in Africa (AAASA)

Dr. L.K. Opeke, Administrative Secretary-General  
Dr. Bernard Steele - Technical Publications Adviser

Bank of Central African States (BEAC)

Mr. Bouckat-Bou-Nziengui-Director

Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO)

Mr. Marcel Kodjo - Head of Administration

Co-ordinating Committee of the Trans-Africa Highway

Mr. (Ato) Tilahun Wubneh - Project Director

Lake Chad Bassin Commission

Mr. B. Tonwe, Executive Secretary

African & Malagasy Higher Education Council (CAMES)

Mr. Seth Wilson, Asst. Secretary-General

The Desert Control Organization for Eastern Africa (DLCOEA)

Mr. (Ato) Adcfiris Bellehu, Director

Economic Commission for Africa

Mr. A.M. Akiwumi, Personal Assistant of the Executive Secretary

Mr. L.K. Darboux, Ag. Secretary of the Commission

The African, Malagasy and Mauritian Common Organization (OCAM)

Mr. S.I. Looky, Deputy Chief of the Statistics Section

Organisation Commune de la lutte antiacridienne et de la lutte antiaviaire (OCLALAV)

Mr. Abdallahi Ould Mohamed Sidia, Director-General  
Organisation internationale contre le criquet migrateur africain (OICMA)

Mr. G. Diagne, Director-General.

Addresses of African Intergovernmental Organizations

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2. The Executive Secretary  
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3. The Executive Secretary  
West African Rice Development Association  
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Monrovia, Liberia
4. The Arab Economic Unity Council  
20 Aisha El-Taymouria Street  
Garden City  
Cairo, Egypt
5. The Secretary-General  
East African Community Secretariat  
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Arusha, Tanzania
6. The Secretary-General  
Secretariat of the Conference of East and Central African States  
c/o Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
P.O. Box 9120  
Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania
7. The Executive Secretary  
African Groundnut Council  
P.O. Box 3025  
Lagos, Nigeria
8. The Secretary-General  
Cocoa Producers Alliance  
P.O. Box 1718  
Lagos, Nigeria
9. The Director  
Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa  
c/o Ministry of Agriculture  
P.O. Box 1232  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
10. The Director-General  
Industrial Development Centre for Arab States  
P.O. Box 1297  
Cairo, Egypt
11. The Secretary-General  
Association of African Airlines  
Nairobi, Kenya
12. The Director-General  
Association of African Universities  
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Accra, Ghana
13. The Director-General  
East African Airways Corporation  
P.O. Box 41010  
Nairobi, Kenya
14. The Secretary-General  
African Postal Union  
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Cairo, Egypt
15. The Director-General  
East African Development Bank  
P.O. Box 7128  
Kampala, Uganda
16. The Executive Secretary  
Senegambia Permanent Secretariat  
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17. The Director-General  
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18. Monsieur le Secrétaire  
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19. Monsieur le Secrétaire général  
Union des Etats de l'Afrique  
centrale  
s/c Ministère des affaires  
étrangères  
Ndjamena, Tchad
20. Monsieur le Directeur général  
Autorité de développement  
intégrée de la région du  
Liptako-Gourma  
B.P. 619  
Ouagadougou, Haute-Volta
21. Monsieur le Secrétaire exécutif  
Commission du Bassin du lac  
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B.P. 727  
Ndjamena, Tchad
22. Monsieur le Secrétaire général  
Organisation commune africaine  
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Yaoundé, Cameroun
23. Monsieur le Secrétaire exécutif  
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24. Monsieur le Secrétaire  
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25. Monsieur le Secrétaire  
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Tunms, Tunisie
26. Monsieur le Secrétaire  
général  
Communauté économique de  
l'Afrique de l'Ouest  
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Ouagadougou, Haute-Volta
27. Monsieur le Secrétaire  
administratif  
Commission du fleuve Niger  
B.P. 729  
Niamey, Niger
28. Monsieur le Directeur  
exécutif  
Accord africain et malgache  
sur le sucre  
B.P. 763  
Ndjamena, Tchad
29. Monsieur le Secrétaire  
exécutif  
Communauté économique du  
bétail et de la viande  
du Conseil de l'Entente  
Ouagadougou, Haute-Volta
30. Monsieur le Directeur  
Comptoir maghrébin de  
l'Alfa  
Alger, Algérie
31. Monsieur le Secrétaire  
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32. Monsieur le Directeur  
général  
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33. Monsieur le Secrétaire général  
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92 Neuilly-sur-seine, France
34. Monsieur le Directeur  
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35. Monsieur le Directeur  
Centre d'études industrielles  
du Maghreb  
Tanger, Maroc
36. Monsieur le Directeur  
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B.P. 887  
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37. Monsieur le Directeur général  
Société africaine pour le  
développement des industries  
alimentaires à base de mil et  
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Niamey, Niger
38. Monsieur le Directeur général  
Agence pour la sécurité de la  
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Dakar, Sénégal
39. Monsieur le Président Directeur  
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Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire
40. Monsieur le Coordonnateur  
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Bureau de la route transafricaine  
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Addis-Abéba, Ethiopie
41. Monsieur le Secrétaire  
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42. Monsieur le Président  
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45. Monsieur le Directeur  
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46. Monsieur le Président  
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CM/661(Addendum)

REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY-GENERAL  
ON THE MEETING OF THE PROVISIONAL BUREAU OF THE  
CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS  
AFRICAN GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES CM/661 (addendum)



REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY-GENERAL  
ON THE MEETING OF THE PROVISIONAL BUREAU OF THE  
CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS  
AFRICAN GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES CM/661 (addendum)

First of all, the Secretary-General wishes to draw the council's attention to the fact that this report is an addendum to the document on the meeting of African Inter-Governmental Organizations and Associations of African Governmental Agencies submitted to this session of the Council under symbol no. CM/661(XXV).

1. The Provisional Bureau of the Conference of African Inter-Governmental Organizations and Associations of African Governmental Agencies met in Addis Ababa at the Headquarters of the OAU General Secretariat on 30 June 1975.

2. The Provisional Bureau, composed of the OAU Administrative Secretary-General (Chairman), the executive Secretary of the Lake Chad Basin Commission (1st Vice-Chairman), the Assistant Commercial Director of Air Afrique (2nd Vice-Chairman), the Executive Secretary of WARDA (Rapporteur) and the coopted legal adviser and special adviser of the ECA Executive Secretary (the Head of the OAU Co-operation and Assistance Bureau acts as Secretary to the Provisional Bureau) met at the OAU General Secretariat to prepare the draft constitution of the Conference of African Inter-Governmental Organizations and Associations of African Governmental Agencies.

3. After preparing the Draft constitution which will be submitted for consideration to the constituent meeting of the Conference of African Inter-Governmental Organizations and Associations of African Governmental Agencies, the Bureau adopted the following recommendations:

RECOMMENDATION

The Provisional Bureau of the Conference of African Inter-Governmental Organizations, established at the latter's first meeting, held in Addis Ababa from 2 to 6 September 1974 under the chairmanship.



of the OAU Secretary-General and comprising the Assistant Commercial Director of Air Afrique (2nd Vice-Chairman), the Executive Secretary of WARDA (Rapporteur), the Executive Secretary of the Lake Chad Basin Commission (1st Vice-Chairman) and the special adviser to the ECA Executive Secretary, meetings in Addis Ababa on 30 June 1975 at the Headquarters of the OAU General Secretariat to prepare the draft constitution of the Conference of African Inter-Governmental Organizations,

Recalling the recommendations of the first meeting of African Inter-Governmental Organizations held in Addis Ababa from 2 to 6 September 1974,

Recalling the provisions of Art. II of the Charter of the Organization of African Unity,

Recalling Resolution CM/Res.355(XXIII) calling on the OAU Administrative Secretary-General to participate morally and materially in the efforts to strengthen Inter-African Co-operation through the African non-governmental organizations.

Recommends that the 25th Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity:

- a) approve the principle of establishing a Conference of African Inter-Governmental Organizations and Associations of African Governmental Agencies;
- b) authorize the OAU Administrative Secretary-General to convene in September 1975, the constituent meeting of the Conference of African Inter-Governmental Organizations and Associations of African Governmental Agencies;
- c) to this end, instruct Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters to authorize the necessary funds for the holding of the constituent meeting of the Conference of African Inter-Governmental Organizations and Associations of Governmental Agencies.

4. While submitting this recommendation in conformity with with the decision of the Provisional Bureau over which the presides,

the OAU Administrative Secretary-General would like to underline the felt need of all the African Inter-Governmental Organizations and Associations of Governmental Agencies. Indeed the latter have called for a machinery for co-ordination which will make possible, at both regional and continental levels an exchange of information among the agencies and organizations working for Inter-African Co-operation so as to strengthen relations in the economic, cultural, technical and scientific fields.

5. The OAU Administrative Secretary-General therefore hopes that the 25th Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers will agree to recommend the establishment of the Conference of African Inter-Governmental Organizations and Associations of African Governmental Agencies and authorise the OAU Advisory Committee on Budgetary and financial matters to release the necessary funds to convene the constituent meeting of the African Inter-Governmental Organizations and Associations of African Governmental Agencies which is scheduled to be held in September 1975.

CM/661(Addendum)  
Annex

DRAFT CONSTITUTION OF THE CONFERENCE OF  
AFRICAN INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS  
AND ASSOCIATIONS

DRAFT CONSTITUTION OF THE CONFERENCE OF  
AFRICAN INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS  
AND ASSOCIATIONS

Preamble

The Organizations and Associations on whose behalf this Constitution is signed :

Being aware of the significant role that African intergovernmental organizations play in the development of co-operation among African countries in such fields as trade, economic development, transport, agriculture, health, transport and communications ;

Recognizing the need to intensify co-operation among African intergovernmental organizations ;

Conscious of the necessity to promote the co-ordination of the activities of African intergovernmental organizations ;

Having regard to the advantage for Africa to be derived from the effective co-ordination of the activities of the various African intergovernmental organizations; convinced that the above objectives would best be achieved through the creation of a Conference of African intergovernmental organizations;

Have Agreed as follows :

ARTICLE I

Establishment of the Conference

The Conference of African intergovernmental organizations (hereinafter referred to as "the Conference"), is hereby established and shall operate and be governed in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

## ARTICLE II

### Objectives and Functions

1. The objectives of the Conference shall be to :
  - (a) foster and promote co-operation among African States in all fields ;
  - (b) foster, promote and assist in the strengthening of co-operation among its members; and
  - (c) foster, promote and assist in the harmonization and co-ordination of the activities of its members.
2. For the purposes set out in paragraph 1 of this Article, the Conference shall :
  - (a) provide for meetings of the Conference and its organs;
  - (b) foster co-operation among african countries;
  - (c) assist the members of the Conference in developing and strengthening relation among themselves;
  - (d) assist the members of the Conference in the co-ordination of their activities;
  - (e) promote the study and development of knowledge and techniques relating to co-operation among African States in all fields, the co-ordination of the activities of African Intergovernmental Organizations and the dissemination of related information; and
  - (f) do all such other things as would enable the Conference to achieve its objectives.

## ARTICLE III

### Membership, Associate Membership and Observers

1. Membership of the Conference shall be open to all African intergovernmental organizations or associations of national institutions

.../

composed solely of two or more governments or national institutions as the case may be, of the member States of the Organization of African Unity.

2. Associate membership of the Conference may be open to such African organizations or associations other than those referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, and or such conditions, as the General Assembly may determine.
3. The General Assembly may invite such institutions of the United Nations system as it may deem necessary or desirable, to attend as observers, meetings of such organs of the Conference as the General Assembly may determine.

#### ARTICLE IV

##### Obligations of Members

Members of the Conference shall co-operate in every way so as to assist the Conference in achieving its objectives. They shall in particular :

- (a) facilitate the collection exchange and dissemination of information in such manner and under such conditions as the General Assembly may determine;
- (b) submit all necessary reports and information as may be agreed with the competent organs of the Conference, to such organs;
- (c) make available training and research facilities on such terms and conditions as may from time to time be agreed with the appropriate organs of the Conference;
- (d) make available personnel to assist other members of the Conference or the Conference on such conditions as may be agreed with the appropriate organs of the Conference;

- (e) pay their annual contributions as assessed by the General Assembly; and
- (f) make every effort to plan and direct their policies with a view to creating conditions favourable for the achievement of the objectives of the Conference.

#### ARTICLE V

##### Status, Structure and Organization of the Association

1. The Conference shall enjoy legal personality as an international organization.
2. To enable it to achieve its purpose and to perform its functions, the Conference shall have legal capacity to acquire, hold, manage and dispose of land and other property, enter into contracts, accept and make loans, grants, gifts and contributions, and to sue and be sued.
3. The organs of the Conference shall be :
  - (a) the General Assembly;
  - (b) the Bureau of the Assembly;
  - (c) the Subregional Assemblies; and
  - (d) such other bodies as may be established under the provisions of this Constitution.

#### ARTICLE VI

##### The General Assembly - Membership and Functions

1. The General Assembly shall consist of a representatives of each of the members of the Conference.

2. The General Assembly shall meet at least once in every two years; emergency meetings may be convened in accordance with rules made by the General Assembly.
3. Each member of the Conference shall have only one vote at meetings of the General Assembly.
4. The General Assembly shall elect from among the members of the Conference, its President, two Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur who shall hold office for two years and may be eligible for re-election.
5. The General Assembly shall :
  - (a) determine the general policies of the Conference;
  - (b) consider and approve the programme of work and budget of the Conference;
  - (c) review, direct and co-ordinate the activities of the organs of the Conference;
  - (d) determine the contribution of the members of the Conference and fees to be paid by associate members of the Conference;
  - (e) consider reports on the activities of the Conference;
  - (f) determine the conditions of admission of associate members and observers of the Conference in pursuance of paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article III of this Constitution; and
  - (g) consider and adopt rules and general directions governing the activities of the Conference and its organs.
6. The General Assembly may establish such bodies as it may deem necessary and may delegate any of its functions to such bodies or an organ of the Conference.
7. Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the General Assembly shall prescribe its own rules of procedure including those for convening its meetings, the conduct of such meetings, and the



quorum and voting thereat and for the dissemination of the reports of its meetings.

8. Associate members of the Conference may attend and participate at meetings of the General Assembly but shall have no rights.

## ARTICLE VII

### The Bureau of the Assembly - composition and functions

1. The Bureau of the Assembly shall consist of the President, Vice-Presidents and Rapporteur of the General Assembly and shall :

- (a) subject to such general directions as the General Assembly may give, exercise in between meetings of the General Assembly the powers and functions of the General Assembly;
- (b) submit to the General Assembly reports on the activities of the Conference;
- (c) submit for the approval of the General Assembly the programme of work and budget of the Conference; and
- (d) subject to such general directions as may be given by the General Assembly, review, direct and co-ordinate the activities of the organs of the Conference other than the General Assembly.

2. The Bureau of the Assembly shall meet at least once every year and determine its own rules of procedure.

## ARTICLE VIII

### Subregional Assemblies

1. A Subregional Assembly shall consist of the members of the Conference within a subregion of Africa as set out in the Annex to this Constitution.

2. A subregional Assembly shall :
  - (a) oversee the implementation of the decisions and policies of the General Assembly concerning its subregion;
  - (b) be responsible for obtaining and disseminating information on the activities of the Conference within its subregion;
  - (c) take decisions on matters concerning its subregion and the members of the Conference in the subregion which are not inconsistent with the decisions of the Bureau of the Assembly or the decisions and policies of the General Assembly; and
  - (d) have such other functions and responsibilities as may be prescribed or delegated to it by the General Assembly
3. A Subregional Assembly may establish such subsidiary bodies as it may deem necessary for the carrying out of its functions.
4. A subregional Assembly shall elect its own officers and prescribe its own rules of procedure :

Provided however that each member of a Subregional Assembly shall have only one vote at a meeting of a Subregional Assembly.
5. A Subregional Assembly shall meet at least once every year.

#### ARTICLE IX

##### Financial resources

1. The financial resources of the Conference shall include the contributions of the members of the Conference and the fees of the Associate members of the Conference;
2. The Conference may also receive financial contributions and donations from the United Nations System and other intergovernmental

organizations bilateral sources and organizations interested in the objectives of the Conference.

## ARTICLE X

### Amendments

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority at a meeting of the General Assembly convened for that purpose. Members of the Conference who are not represented at such a meeting may signify their votes in writing or by proxy :

Provided however that this Constitution may not be amended unless a written notice of a proposed amendment shall have first been given to all the members of the Conference at least three months before the meeting of the General Assembly at which such a proposed amendment is to be considered.

## ARTICLE XI

### Suspension and Withdrawal of Membership

1. Any member of the Conference who persistently fails to fulfil any of its obligations under this Constitution may be suspended from membership of the Conference by the General Assembly by a simple or two-thirds majority of all members present and voting on such terms as the General Assembly may determine.

2. Any member of the Conference may withdraw from the Conference after the expiration of one year from the date on which membership of the Conference was acquired, by giving a written notice of withdrawal to the Administrative Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity who shall forthwith inform all members of the Conference of the receipt of such notice of withdrawal.

3. Withdrawal from the Conference shall become effective one year from the date of receipt by the Administrative Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity of a notice of withdrawal :

Provided that during the period of such one year, a member of the Conference withdrawing from the Conference shall nevertheless remain liable for the discharge of obligations incurred under the provisions of this Constitution.

#### ARTICLE XII

##### Dissolution of the Conference

The Conference may be dissolved by a resolution to that effect carried by a two-thirds majority of all members at a meeting of the General Assembly convened for that purpose and whereupon, the General Assembly shall appoint a Committee for the purpose of liquidating the assets of the Conference.

#### ARTICLE XIII

##### Arbitration

1. Any dispute arising between members of the Conferences concerning the interpretation and application of the provisions of this Constitution and which cannot be settled by the parties concerned shall be submitted for settlement in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2 of this Article.

2. Where any matter is submitted for settlement under the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article, each party to a dispute shall be requested to nominate one person to serve on a Board of Arbitration and the two so nominated shall nominate a third person to act as Chairman of the Board of Arbitration, and in the case of disagreement on the nomination of such third persons, he shall be selected by the President of the General Assembly.

ARTICLE XIV

Final provisions

1. This Constitution shall enter into force when it shall have been signed on behalf fifteen of the Organizations and or the Associations referred to in paragraph 1 of Article III of this Constitution and whereupon such Organizations shall become members of the Conference.
2. This Constitution shall be deposited with the Administrative Secretary General of the Organization of African Unity and shall be open for signature at his office.
3. Any of the organizations or associations referred to in paragraph 1 of Article III of this Constitution desirous of becoming a member of the Conference after the entry into force of this Constitution, may do so by depositly with the Administrative Secretary General of the Organization of African Unity its instrument of accession
4. The Administrative Secretary General of the Organization of African Unity shall transmit certified copies of this Constitution to all members of the Conference.
5. The first meeting of the General Assembly shall be convened by the Administrative Secretary General of the Organization of African Unity not later than twelve months after the entry into force of this Constitution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned being authorized by or on behalf of their respective Organizations or Associations have signed this Constitution on the dates appearing beside their signatures.

DONE at..... this..... day  
of .....197 .....  
in the English, French and Arabic languages each of which shall be  
equally authentic.

.../

ANNEX

Subregions of Africa

West African Subregion

1. Dahomey
2. Gambia
3. Ghana
4. Guinea
5. Ivory Coast
6. Liberia
7. Mali
8. Mauritania
9. Niger
10. Nigeria
11. Senegal
12. Sierra Leone
13. Togo
14. Upper Volta
15. Guinea Bissau

Central African Subregion

1. Burundi
2. Cameroon
3. Central African Republic
4. Tchad
5. Congo (People's Republic of)
6. Equatorial Guinea
7. Gabon
8. Zaire

East African Subregion

1. Botswana
2. Ethiopia
3. Kenya
4. Lesotho
5. Madagascar
6. Malawi
7. Mauritius
8. Rwanda
9. Somalia
10. Swaziland
11. Tanzania
12. Uganda
13. Zambia
14. Mozambique

North African Subregion

1. Algeria
2. Egypt
3. Libya
4. Morocco
5. Sudan
6. Tunisia



1975-07

# Report of the Secretary-General on the Conference of African Intergovernmental Organizations (1)

Organization of African Unity

Organization of African Unity

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