

**AFRICAN UNION**  
**الاتحاد الأفريقي**



**UNION AFRICAINE**  
**UNIÃO AFRICANA**

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Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA P. O. Box 3243 Tel.: +251115-517700 Fax: +251115-517844  
Website : [www.africa-union.org](http://www.africa-union.org)

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**ASSEMBLY OF THE AFRICAN UNION**  
**EIGHTH ORDINARY SESSION**  
**29 – 30 January 2007**  
**Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA**

**Assembly/AU/Dec.134 – 164 (VIII)**  
**Assembly/AU/Decl.1 – 6 (VIII)**



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**DECISION ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT  
IN AFRICA - (DOC. ASSEMBLY/AU/12 (VIII))**

**The Assembly:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Commission on Climate Change and Development in Africa;
2. **EXPRESSES GRAVE CONCERN** on the vulnerability of Africa's socio-economic and productive systems to climate change and variability and to the continent's low mitigation and response capacities;
3. **COMMENDS** the development partners for their collaboration in the elaboration of a Plan entitled "Climate Information for Development Needs: An Action Plan for Africa – Report and Implementation Strategy";
4. **ENDORSES** the above-mentioned Plan;
5. **URGES** Member States and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in collaboration with the private sector, civil society and development partners to integrate climate change considerations into development strategies and programmes at national and regional levels.
6. **CALLS UPON** Africa's cooperation partners to support the Member States and Regional Economic Communities to effectively integrate adaptation and mitigation measures into their development plans and to implement them.
7. **REQUESTS** the Commission, the Economic Commission for Africa, the African Development Bank to develop and implement the Plan on Climate Change and Development in Africa and to report on progress biannually to the Assembly.

**DECISION ON THE SUMMIT ON FOOD SECURITY IN AFRICA,  
ABUJA, NIGERIA - (Doc. ASSEMBLY/AU/6 (VIII))**

**The Assembly:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Summit on Food Security in Africa;
2. **WELCOMES** the Abuja Declaration on Food Security;
3. **APPRECIATES** the efforts and support by President Olusegun Obasanjo and the Government of Nigeria for initiating and hosting the Special Summit on Food Security that afforded Member States the opportunity to collectively re-assess their agricultural development strategies with a view to focusing attention on a few key actions that can best move Africa forward in eradicating hunger by 2030;
4. **ENDORSES** the Abuja Declaration on Food Security and **ADOPTS** the recommendations of the African Agriculture Ministers Conference on revitalization of African inter-regional trade on agricultural commodities and infrastructure for water control held in Libreville, Gabon;
5. **REAFFIRMS** its commitment to allocate at least 10% of the national budgets to agriculture and **DETERMINED** to reduce the Continent's annual expenditure of USD 20 billion on agricultural imports;
6. **EMPHASIZES** the need to accelerate the implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) by focusing efforts and resources on selected areas that could yield quick and sustainable results at national, regional and continental levels;
7. **ENDORSES** the African Seed and Biotechnology Programme (ASBP) as a strategic framework for the development of the seed sector in Africa and **REQUESTS** the AU Commission to establish the necessary institutional arrangements to coordinate the effective implementation of the ASBP at the national, regional and continental levels;
8. **URGES** Member States to increase Intra-African trade by promoting and protecting rice, maize, legumes, cotton, oil palm, beef, dairy, poultry and fisheries products as strategic commodities for Africa and take urgent measures to accelerate development of the strategic commodities by fast tracking the implementation of trade arrangements adopted in the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) through lowering tariff barriers and elimination of non tariff barriers both technical and non-technical by 2010;

9. **ENCOURAGES** Member States to promote public sector investment in agriculture related infrastructure, particularly regarding water, irrigation, electricity and roads through public-private partnership and **CALLS UPON** Africa based development banks and financial institutions to improve access to soft loans, small loans and grants;
10. **CALLS UPON** Member States to initiate the implementation of the African Regional Nutrition Strategy and the NEPAD African Nutrition Initiative by 2008 with focus on long-term household food security and ending child hunger and under-nutrition;
11. **CALLS UPON** the Commission, the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Secretariat and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to establish a system for selecting and prioritising key AU and NEPAD Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) related to previous Summit commitments;
12. **FURTHER URGES** Member States to take ownership of important commitments by way of formalizing and institutionalising them, including making adequate resources available.



**DECISION ON AVIAN FLU**

**The Assembly:**

1. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the efforts by Member States and the commitment made by the development partners for as well as the financial and material contributions provided to prevent the spread of Avian Influenza Virus (H5N1) in affected African countries;
2. **WELCOMES** the Report of the 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Avian Influenza held in Bamako, Mali in December 2006 and the preparation of Integrated National Plans for the control of Avian Influenza in the continent;
3. **URGES** Member States to allocate additional financial resources to the implementation of their Integrated National Action Plans;
4. **APPEALS** to the Development Partners to support Member States in the implementation of the African Regional Strategy on the control and eradication of Avian Flu;
5. **REQUESTS** Member States to strengthen their veterinary and public health delivery systems through the setting-up of efficient epidemiological surveillance networks that meet standards defined by relevant International Organization (OIE/WHO);
6. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission, in collaboration with development partners, to coordinate resources mobilization efforts to fund Avian Influenza control measures at regional level and in countries experiencing financial difficulties.

**DECISION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF  
THE GREEN WALL FOR THE SAHARA INITIATIVE**

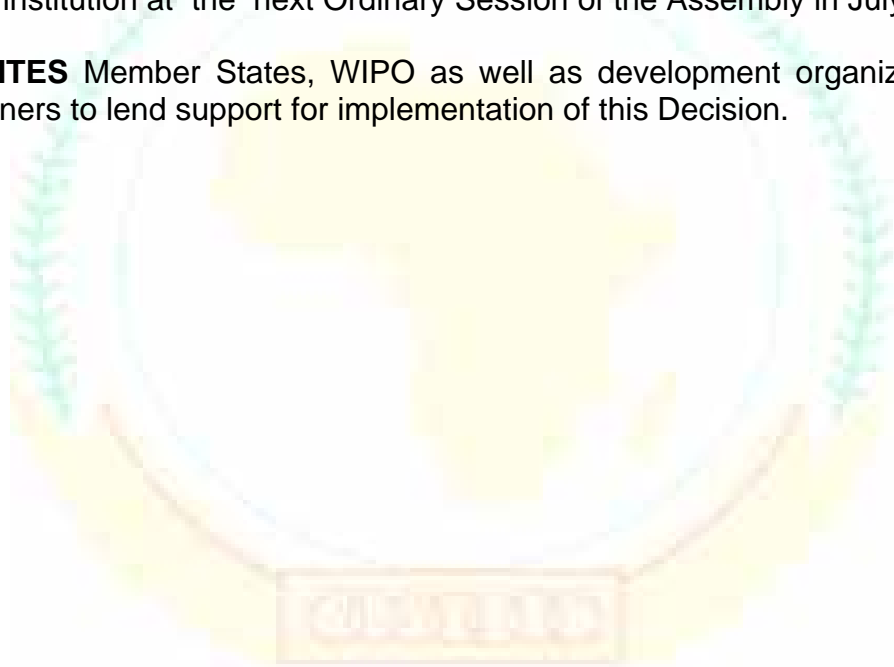
**The Assembly:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Commission on the launching of the Green Wall for the Sahara Initiative;
2. **ENDORSES** the Green Wall for the Sahara Initiative;
3. **CALLS UPON** the Commission to fast track implementation of the Green Wall Initiative through development of a Master Plan in collaboration with the concerned Member States, Regional Economic Communities, Private Sector, Civil Society Organizations and Non-Governmental Organizations;
4. **CALLS UPON** Member States and Regional Economic Communities to put in place necessary institutional arrangements that are required at national, sub-regional and regional levels to guide the programme implementation process;
5. **MANDATES** the Commission to facilitate and coordinate the implementation of the Initiative by Member States and Regional Economic Communities;
6. **CALLS UPON** the development partners to support the affected Member States, RECs and the Commission to ensure the effective implementation of the Initiative at national, regional and continental levels.

**DECISION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PAN-AFRICAN  
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (PAIPO)**

**The Assembly:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the need to establish a single Pan-Pan African Intellectual Property Organization;
2. **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission, in collaboration with the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and in coordination with African Intellectual Property Organization (AIPO) and African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO) to submit to it the texts relevant to the establishment of a single Pan-African Intellectual Property Organization (PAIPO);
3. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to submit a report on the establishment of this institution at the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly in July 2007;
4. **INVITES** Member States, WIPO as well as development organizations and partners to lend support for implementation of this Decision.



**DECISION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AFRICAN  
EDUCATION FUND DOC.EX.CL/314 (X)**

**The Assembly :**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the recommendations of the Executive Council on the Report of the second extra-ordinary session of the Conference of Ministers of Education of the African Union (COMEDAF II) held in Maputo, Mozambique in September 2006;
2. **COMMENDS** the Conference of Ministers of Education of the African Union for the Plan of Action for the Second Decade of Education for Africa;
3. **AUTHORIZES** the establishment of an African Education Fund;
4. **CALLS UPON** Member States to make voluntary contributions to the Fund;
5. **APPEALS** to African and international agencies, as well as civil society and development partners to support the Plan of Action;
6. **REQUESTS** the Commission, in consultation with the various Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and development partners, to:
  - a. Facilitate the implementation of the Plan of Action for the Second Decade of Education for Africa;
  - b. Secure funding to strengthen the Education Department in the Commission and at the RECs through capacity building and strategic recruitment
  - c. Investigate the nature and modalities, and set in motion the process of establishing the African Education Fund;
  - d. Expedite the formalization of working relations between the Commission and expert agencies in support of the Plan of Action.

**DECISION ON ENHANCING UN-AU COOPERATION:  
FRAMEWORK FOR THE TEN-YEAR CAPACITY-BUILDING  
PROGRAMME FOR THE AFRICAN UNION**

**The Assembly:**

1. **TAKES NOTE WITH APPRECIATION** of the signing by the United Nations and the African Union of a Declaration entitled “Enhancing UN-AU Cooperation: Framework for the Ten-Year Capacity-Building Programme for the African Union”;
2. **EXPRESSES SATISFACTION** at the positive understanding between the two organizations to strengthen the strategic priorities and political aspects of the United Nations-African Union relationship within the Framework of the Ten-year programme of cooperation, based on African Union priorities and United Nations comparative advantage. In this regard, **WELCOMES** ECA Business Plan for the period 2007-2009, which constitutes a first concrete step towards meeting the priorities of the African Union;
3. **REITERATES** its commitment to the 2005 World Summit Outcome and **UNDERTAKES** to support the implementation of this collaborative framework in close partnership with stakeholders at national, regional and international levels;
4. **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the African Union Commission in close collaboration with the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa to coordinate and follow-up on the implementation of this Framework for the Ten-Year Capacity-Building Programme for the African Union;
5. **ALSO REQUESTS** the United Nations Secretary-General to continue efforts aimed at strengthening UN-AU cooperation for the benefit of the African Union as well as its Member States and their regional economic communities.

**DECISION ON THE UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION**  
**ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**  
**(DOC. ASSEMBLY/AU/9 (VIII) ADD.6)**

**The Assembly:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples adopted by the United Nations Human Rights Council on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2006;
2. **REAFFIRMS** Resolution AHG Res-17/1 of 1964 in which all Member States of the Organization of African Unity pledged to respect borders existing on their achievement of national independence;
3. **EXPRESSES** concern at the political, economic, social and constitutional implications of the Declaration on the African Continent;
4. **REAFFIRMS** the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 concerning the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples;
5. **WELCOMES** the efforts by the international community to address the rights of indigenous peoples and **EXPRESSES** full support and solidarity with indigenous peoples of the world;
6. **WELCOMES ALSO** the decision of the United Nations General Assembly to defer consideration and action on the Declaration to allow for further consultations on the numerous matters of fundamental political and constitutional concern, amongst the most important of which are questions about:
  - a) the definition of indigenous peoples;
  - b) self-determination;
  - c) ownership of land and resources;
  - d) establishment of distinct political and economic institutions; and
  - e) national and territorial integrity.

7. **AFFIRMS** that the vast majority of the peoples of Africa are indigenous to the African Continent;
8. **DECIDES** to maintain a united position in the negotiations on amending the Declaration and constructively work alongside other Member States of the United Nations in finding solutions to the concerns of African States;
9. **MANDATES** the African Group at the United Nations in New York to continue to ensure that Africa's interests in this matter are safeguarded;
10. **ALSO DECIDES** to remain seized of the matter.



**DECISION ON SOMALIA****The Assembly:**

1. **RECALLS** its previous decisions and declarations concerning the situation in Somalia, particularly its decision adopted in Abuja, Nigeria, on 31 January 2005, and its declaration adopted in Banjul, the Gambia, on 2 July 2006;
2. **RECALLS ALSO** all the relevant decisions of the Peace and Security Council on Somalia and Resolution 1725 (2006) of the United Nations Security Council unanimously adopted on 6 December 2006;
3. **TAKES NOTE** of the communiqué issued by the International Contact Group on Somalia which met in Nairobi, Kenya, on 5 January 2007;
4. **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the recent positive developments in Somalia which have resulted from Ethiopia's intervention upon the invitation of the legitimate Transitional Federal Government (TFG) of Somalia, and which has created unprecedented opportunity for lasting peace in the country;
5. **WELCOMES** the decision of Ethiopia to withdraw its troops from Somalia, and **TAKES NOTE** of the fact that Ethiopia has already started withdrawing its troops;
6. **CALLS** for an immediate deployment of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) in accordance with the decision of the 69<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Peace and Security Council (PSC), and **CALLS ON** Member States to contribute troops in order to avoid a security vacuum following the withdrawal of Ethiopian troops from Somalia;
7. **URGES** the international community to provide financial, logistical and technical support for the deployment of AMISOM;
8. **EXPRESSES** concern that many of the pledges by the donor Community have not been honoured and **CALLS UPON** the International Community to disburse the funds without delay and without political preconditions;
9. **ALSO CALLS ON** the Member States and the AU Partners to support the Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs) of Somalia to enable them to establish their authority in the country;

10. **EXPRESSES ITS SUPPORT** to the initiative of the TFG for an inclusive inter-Somali dialogue involving all stakeholders including political leaders, clan leaders, religious leaders, and representatives of the women, youth, business community and the civil society which would ensure national reconciliation in Somalia;
11. **APPEALS** to the International Community to provide all the necessary support for Post Conflict Reconstruction in Somalia, and **URGES** the United Nations to lead this endeavour which is critical for sustainable peace in the country.



**DECISION ON THE REPORTS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF  
THE AU SOLEMN DECLARATION ON GENDER EQUALITY IN AFRICA  
(DOC. EX.CL/306 (X))**

**The Assembly:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Reports and presentation on the Implementation of the AU Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA);
2. **CONGRATULATES** Member States that have so far submitted their baseline reports, namely: Algeria, Burundi, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Namibia, Mauritius, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa and Tunisia;
3. **APPEALS** to Member States that are yet to submit their baseline reports to urgently submit these reports, for the AU to have a base upon which to build on the progress made;
4. **CALLS ON** Member States to implement all the commitments made in the SDGEA;
5. **ALSO CALLS** upon the Commission to assist Member States in the process of reporting on the Solemn Declaration, and take necessary steps in this direction;
6. **REQUESTS** Member States to adopt the content of the SDGEA as the framework for the acceleration of the implementation of the existing instruments and platform for gender equality at the national level, in order to maximize the implementation of the SDGEA.
7. **INVITES** the RECs, development partners, civil society organisations and other stakeholders to work closely with the AU and Member States in the implementation of the Solemn Declaration and report on progress made in this endeavour;
8. **REQUESTS** the Commission to urgently organise a continental conference on Economic Empowerment of African Women in order to articulate strategies to elevate the economic status of African women, including the establishment of the African Trust Fund for Women;
9. **ALSO APPEALS** to Member States that have not yet done so, to sign and ratify/ accede to the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa.

**DECISION ON THE ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE AFRICAN  
COURT ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS FOR 2006**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Activity Report of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights for 2006;
2. **EXPRESSES ITS SATISFACTION** at the progress so far made regarding the commencement of the activities of the Court;
3. **REQUESTS** the PRC Sub-Committee on Structures and the Advisory Sub-Committee on Administrative, Budgetary and Financial Matters to consider as soon as possible the draft structure of the Registry of the Court and the proposed remuneration and benefits of the Court and submit appropriate recommendations thereon to the PRC;
4. **DECIDES** that the recommendations of the PRC be applied with immediate effect, temporarily pending final decision by the policy organs at their next ordinary session scheduled for July 2007;
5. **REQUESTS** the Commission, in close collaboration with the African Court, to actively engaged the host country, the Republic of Tanzania, with a view to securing the swift installation of the court at its Headquarters in Arusha;
6. **REQUESTS** the Commission to submit a report on the implementation of this decision to the next Ordinary Session of the Executive Council in July 2007.

**DECISION ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY**  
**COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION AND THE STATE**  
**OF PEACE AND SECURITY IN AFRICA**  
**DOC. ASSEMBLY/AU/3(VIII)**

**The Assembly:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the report on the activities of the Peace and Security Council and on the status of peace and security in Africa;
2. **EXPRESSES SATISFACTION** at the progress made in the search for peace and stability in Africa. In this respect, the Assembly **WELCOMES**:
  - The successful conclusion of the transition process in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), which ushered in a new political order;
  - The signing of the cessation of Hostilities Agreement between the Government of Uganda and the Lord's Resistance Army;
  - The signing, on 14 October 2006, of a Peace Agreement between the Government of The Sudan and the *Eastern Front*;
  - The signing on 7 September 2006, of a Comprehensive Ceasefire Agreement between the Government of Burundi and Palipehutu/FNL; and
  - The pursuit of the transition process in Mauritania.
3. **ENCOURAGES** all the parties involved in these processes to persevere in their efforts and **REQUESTS** the Commission to continue providing them with the necessary support;
4. **ALSO EXPRESSES SATISFACTION** at the progress made in the post-conflict reconstruction process in Liberia, Burundi and Sierra Leone and **URGENTLY APPEALS** to the Member States and the international community to render all the necessary assistance to the countries emerging from conflicts to enable them to consolidate peace and stability.
5. **TAKES NOTE** of the efforts deployed by the Commission to implement the Policy on Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development and **ENCOURAGES** it to intensify these efforts, including through the fielding of multi-disciplinary missions of experts to evaluate the situation on the ground and make recommendations on the assistance that could be provided by Member States and the Commission.
6. **TAKES NOTE** of the progress achieved in the implementation of the conclusions of the high level consultation on Darfur, held in Addis Ababa, on 15 November 2006, and endorsed by both the Peace and Security Council at its meeting held in Abuja, on 30 November 2006, and the United Nations Security Council, on 19 December 2006; and

**WELCOMES** the fact that The Sudan has approved both the conclusions of the high level consultation and the decision of the Peace and Security Council.

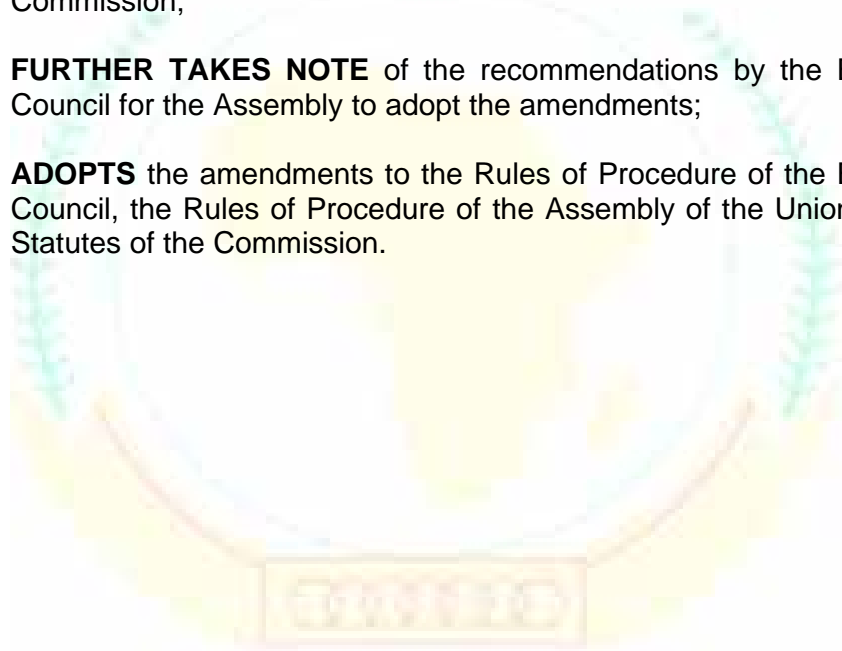
7. **ENCOURAGES** the Commission, the United Nations Secretariat and the Government of The Sudan to accelerate the process of implementation of the conclusions of the high level consultation based on the conclusions reached by the various meetings held between the Commission and the United Nations Secretariat, to enable the United Nations, as a matter of urgency, to take all the necessary measures for the funding of the peace support operation in Darfur through assessed contributions.
8. **URGES** the African Members of the Security Council to take the required initiatives for the early adoption, by the United Nations, of the necessary decisions on the funding of the peace support operation in Darfur through assessed contributions.
9. **EXPRESSES SATISFACTION** at the ongoing efforts by the African Union and the United Nations to broaden the support base of the Darfur Peace Agreement and facilitate its implementation and **CALLS ON** all parties to refrain from any hostility and to commit themselves to an effective ceasefire on the ground;
10. **WELCOMES** the recent developments in Somalia, particularly the return of the Transitional Federal Government to Mogadishu and **STRESSES** that there is a unique and unprecedented opportunity to be seized upon by the people of Somalia, their leaders and the entire international community, in order to re-establish government structures in Somalia and promoting lasting peace and reconciliation.
11. **UNDERScores** the need for the Transitional Federal Institutions to intensify their efforts for an all-inclusive and genuine dialogue and reconciliation within the framework of the Transitional Federal Charter and **URGES** Member States and the partners, including the European Union and the international community at large, to expeditiously provide the necessary assistance to facilitate the rapid deployment of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM);
12. **URGES** the Ivorian parties, with the support of ECOWAS, the African Union, the United Nations and the international community, to redouble efforts to bring the peace process to its logical conclusion on the basis of Resolution 1721, adopted by the United Nations Security Council on 1 November 2006, through direct dialogue as proposed by President Laurent Gbagbo and supported by ECOWAS and the African Union;

13. **SUPPORTS** ECOWAS efforts aimed at helping the Guinean parties to find a negotiated and peaceful solution to the crisis facing the country, and **CALLS UPON** the Commission to take all the necessary initiatives in this regard;
14. **URGES** the Government of The Sudan and the SPLM to do their utmost to ensure the scrupulous and speedy implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in order to achieve the ultimate objective that they have set for themselves;
15. **EXPRESSES ITS GRAVE CONCERN** at the tension in the relations between Chad and the Sudan and **REQUESTS** the Peace and Security Council to urgently consider this matter;
16. **STRESSES** the urgent need for the Comorian parties to take all the necessary steps to consolidate the reconciliation process in their country, particularly by overcoming the current difficulties on the constitutional powers that should devolve on each of the Comorian entities. The Assembly **REQUESTS** the Peace and Security Council to consider the possibility of deploying a mission that would contribute to the creation of a conducive security environment during the forthcoming elections in the Islands, scheduled to take place in March – April 2007, and undertake other related tasks;
17. **CALLS UPON** the Peace and Security Council to pursue its efforts, with special emphasis on conflict prevention, by examining potential conflict situations before they degenerate into conflicts;
18. **ENCOURAGES** the Commission to pursue its efforts towards the Structural prevention of conflicts, including through the speedy implementation of the African Union border programme;
19. **WELCOMES** the progress made in the operationalization of the African Peace and Security Architecture, including the Continental Early Warning System, the African Standby Force and the Panel of the Wise and **ENCOURAGES** the Peace and Security Council to ensure the successful completion of this process ;
20. **RECALLS** that the maintenance of international peace and security is the primary responsibility of the United Nations Security Council and **CALLS UPON** the United Nations to examine, within the context of Chapter VIII of the United Nations Charter, the possibility of funding, through assessed contributions, peace-keeping operations undertaken by African Union or under its authority and with the consent of the United Nations. **REQUESTS** Member States working together with the Commission, to undertake the necessary follow-up in this regard and **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to submit a report thereon at the next Ordinary Session of the Executive Council scheduled in July 2007.

**DECISION ON THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE UNION, THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES' COMMITTEE, AND THE STATUTES OF THE COMMISSION - DOC. EX.CL/298(X)**

**The Assembly:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly of the Union, the Executive Council and the Permanent Representatives' Committee and the Statute of the Commission;
2. **FURTHER TAKES NOTE** of the recommendations by the Executive Council for the Assembly to adopt the amendments;
3. **ADOPTS** the amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council, the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly of the Union and the Statutes of the Commission.



**DECISION ON THE<sup>1</sup> AFRICAN CHARTER ON DEMOCRACY,  
ELECTIONS AND GOVERNANCE - DOC.EX.CL/301 (X)**

**The Assembly:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance;
2. **REITERATES** the importance of the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance in the consolidation of commitments collectively taken by Member States to promote Democracy and Good Governance on the Continent;
3. **ADOPTS** the Charter, which is a major step towards the realization of the democratic agenda of the Union;
4. **INVITES** Member States to take the necessary measures, as soon as possible, to sign and ratify the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance.



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<sup>1</sup> Reservation entered by the Arab Republic of Egypt.

**DECISION ON THE FIRST AFRICAN UNION CONFERENCE OF  
MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR HYDROCARBONS  
(OIL AND GAS) - DOC. EX.CL/311 (X)**

**The Assembly:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of Executive Council recommendations on the First Conference of African Union Ministers responsible for hydrocarbons (Oil and Gas) held in Cairo, Egypt, in December 2006;
2. **ADOPTS** the Cairo Declaration and Plan of Action on African Cooperation and Solidarity in the area of hydrocarbons;
3. **URGES** Member States to support the establishment of the African Petroleum Fund;
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission, in collaboration with the African Development Bank (ADB) and other development partners to implement the measures contained in the Cairo Declaration and Plan of Action.

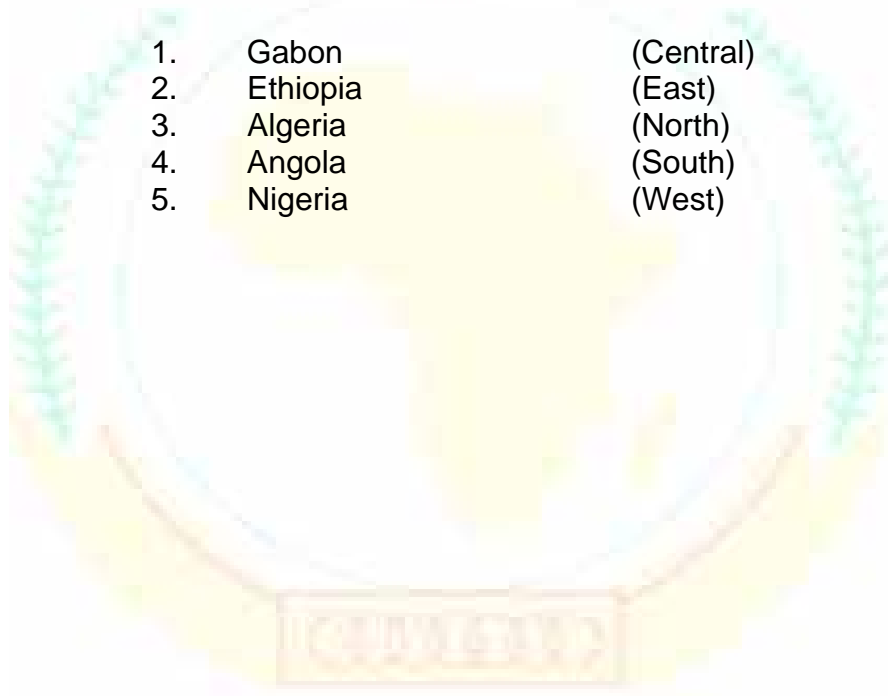


**DECISION ON ELECTION OF FIVE (5) MEMBERS OF THE  
PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION  
(DOC. EX.CL/326 (X))**

**The Assembly:**

1. **APPROVES** the results of the election conducted by the Executive Council;
2. **CONGRATULATES** the following Members of the Peace and Security Council elected for a three-year term as of March 2007:

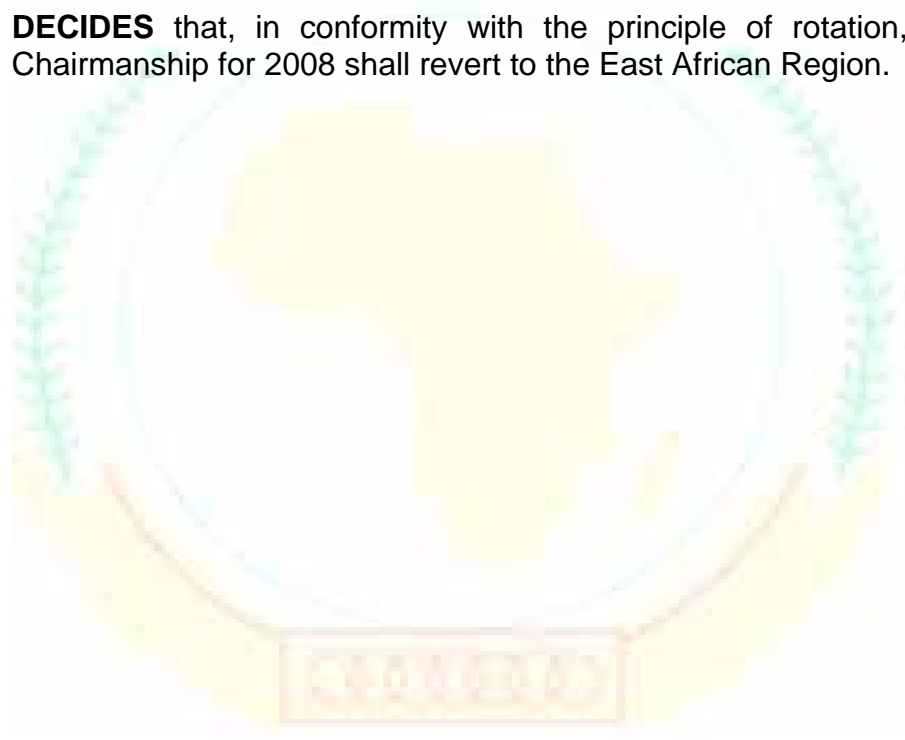
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|----|----------|-----------|
| 1. | Gabon    | (Central) |
| 2. | Ethiopia | (East)    |
| 3. | Algeria  | (North)   |
| 4. | Angola   | (South)   |
| 5. | Nigeria  | (West)    |



**DECISION ON THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE AFRICAN UNION**

**The Assembly:**

1. **APPOINTS** unanimously the Republic of Ghana to the Chairmanship of the African Union for 2007 in honour of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ghana's independence and in recognition of the country's contribution to Africa's unity and independence;
2. **DECIDES** that, in conformity with the principle of rotation, the Chairmanship for 2008 shall revert to the East African Region.



**DECISION ON THE FLAG OF THE AFRICAN UNION**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the report of the Committee of Seven Heads of State and Government on the Union Government relating to the Flag of the African Union;
2. **RECALLS** its Decision Assembly/AU/Dec. 129 (VII) taken at its 7<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session in Banjul;
3. **DECIDES** to launch a competition for the selection of a new flag for the African Union;
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to take all the necessary measures to organize the competition with the following agreed orientations:
  - the background of the Flag should be of green colour to symbolize Africa's hope;
  - Member States should be represented by stars on the flag;
5. **DECIDES** that the design proposed by the Leader of the Great Libyan Arab Jamahiriya should be taken as one of the entries for the competition;
6. **REQUESTS** the Commission to submit the outcome of the selection to the 9<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Assembly in July 2007.

**DECISION ON THE APPOINTMENT OF THE MEMBERS OF THE  
PANEL OF THE WISE – DOC. ASSEMBLY/AU/13 (VIII)**

**The Assembly :**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the establishment of the Panel of the Wise, as provided for by Article 11 of the Protocol relating to the Peace and Security Council (PSC);
2. **DECIDES**, as proposed by the Chairperson of the Commission and in conformity with Article 11 (2) of the PSC Protocol, to appoint, for a period of three (3) years, the following African personalities as members of the Panel of the Wise:
  - Salim Ahmed Salim, former Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity (East Africa),
  - Brigalia Bam, Chairperson of the Independent Electoral Commission of South Africa (Southern Africa),
  - Ahmed Ben Bella, former President of Algeria (North Africa),
  - Elisabeth K. Pognon, President of the Constitutional Court of Benin (West Africa), and
  - Miguel Trovoada, former President of Sao Tomé and Príncipe (Central Africa);
3. **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to take all necessary steps for the speedy operationalization of the Panel of the Wise, including the finalization of the modalities for the functioning of the Panel and the elaboration of a work programmes.

**DECISION ON THE INTEGRATION OF NEPAD INTO AFRICAN UNION  
STRUCTURES AND PROCESSES**

**The Assembly:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the progress report;
2. **DECIDES** to extend the mandate of the Committee set up in Banjul on the integration of NEPAD into African Union structures and processes until the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly in July 2007, to enable the Committee finalize its proposals on the integration of NEPAD as requested in the Banjul Decision;
3. **ENDORSES** the proposal for a brainstorming session to take place in Algiers, Algeria before the end of March 2007 to elaborate a roadmap for the integration process, including precise steps, stages and phases;
4. **FURTHER ENDORSES** the proposal for a preparatory meeting in Nigeria involving the Chairperson of the HSI GC, Chairperson of the AU Commission and the Executive Head of NEPAD and their respective technical teams to determine the issues to be discussed at the Algiers brainstorming exercise and the agenda and programme of the meeting;
5. **REQUESTS** the Committee to use these inputs and finalize the proposals for the integration of NEPAD into AU structures and processes and to report to the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly;
6. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to take all necessary measures to facilitate the implementation of this work programme.

**DECISION ON THE<sup>2</sup> BUDGET OF THE AFRICAN UNION FOR 2007**

**The Assembly:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Executive Council Decision EX.CL/Dec.340 (X) and the recommendations contained therein adjusted to include the following:
  - US\$ 6, 406, 959 for the Pan African Parliament; and
  - US\$ 2,373,750 for the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights.
2. **ADOPTS** the budget of the African Union for the year 2007 amounting to US\$132,988,152 million:
  - A total amount of US\$96,711,152 million to be assessed to Member States on the basis of the approved Scale of Assessment;
  - US\$36,277,000 million earmarked for specific programmes secured from Partners.
3. **APPRECIATES** the efforts of the Commission in mobilizing resources from Partners and **EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION** for their support and collaboration to the African Union.

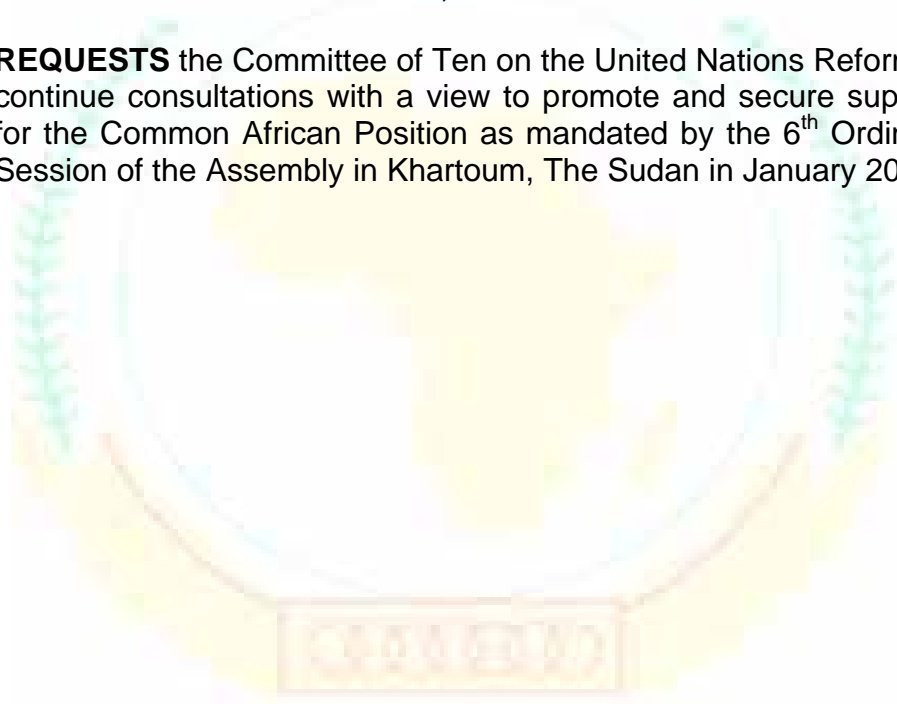
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<sup>2</sup> Reservation entered by the Arab Republic of Egypt.

**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF TEN ON  
THE REFORM OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

**The Assembly:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Committee of Ten on the Reform of the United Nations which met on the 28<sup>th</sup> January 2007;
2. **FURTHER TAKES NOTE** of the fact that no new development has taken place to affect the Common African Position on the Reform of the United Nations as enshrined in the EZULWINI CONSENSUS and the SIRTE DECLARATION;
3. **REQUESTS** the Committee of Ten on the United Nations Reform to continue consultations with a view to promote and secure support for the Common African Position as mandated by the 6<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Assembly in Khartoum, The Sudan in January 2006.



**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE 9<sup>th</sup> EXTRAORDINARY SESSION  
OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ON THE PROPOSALS FOR  
THE UNION GOVERNMENT – DOC. ASSEMBLY/AU/10 (VIII)**

**The Assembly:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the 9<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Session of the Executive Council on the Proposals for the Union Government held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in November 2006;
2. **REITERATES** that the ultimate objective of the African Union is the political and economic integration of the continent leading to the creation of the United States of Africa;
3. **DECIDES** to devote the 9<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Assembly in Accra, Ghana in July 2007 to the theme: “Grand Debate on the Union Government”;
4. **FURTHER DECIDES** that all other agenda items shall, in principle, be transferred to the 10<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Assembly scheduled in January 2008 with the exception of the Elections of the Members of the Commission;
5. **REQUESTS** Member States to carry out the necessary national consultations within their countries;
6. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission and the Regional Economic Communities to undertake regional and continental consultations respectively;
7. **ENDORSES** the proposal of the Executive Council, as part of this process, to hold a retreat of Ministers of Foreign Affairs to reflect on the state of the Union to be followed by an Extraordinary Session of the Executive Council and **WELCOMES WITH SATISFACTION** the offer by the Government of South Africa to host such meetings.

**DECISION ON THE TRIAL OF MR. HISSENE HABRE AND THE  
AFRICAN UNION**

**The Assembly:**

1. **RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.3 (VII) adopted in Banjul, The Gambia, on 2 July 2006;
2. **TAKES NOTE** of the Interim Report presented by Senegal on the issue;
3. **COMMENDS** Senegal for the efforts it has already deployed to speed up the implementation of the Banjul Decision and **ENCOURAGES** it to pursue its initiatives to accomplish the mandate entrusted to it;
4. **INVITES** Senegal to avail itself of the experience and contribution of the jurisdictions and judges of the Continent for the organization of the trial;
5. **APPEALS** to Member States, the international partners and the entire international community to mobilize all the resources, especially financial resources, required for the preparation and smooth conduct of the trial;
6. **REQUESTS** the Commission, in consultation with the Government of the Republic of Senegal to follow-up on the implementation of this decision.

**DECISION ON THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE ALL-AFRICA MINISTERIAL  
CONFERENCE ON DECENTRALISATION AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT  
INTO A STRUCTURE OF THE AFRICAN UNION**  
**Doc. Assembly/AU/9(VIII) Add. 5**

**The Assembly:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the Transformation of the All-Africa Conference on Decentralisation and Local Development into a structure of the African Union;
2. **UNDERScores** the role of decentralisation policies in the development of nations;
3. **ENDORSES** the proposals of the Executive Council on the issue;
4. **DECIDES** to include the All-Africa Conference on Decentralisation and Local Development in the restructuring of different Technical Committees of the African Union;
5. **GIVES MANDATE** to the Commission to take measures for the implementation of this decision.

**DECISION ON THE AFRICA-SOUTH AMERICA SUMMIT**  
**DOC. ASSEMBLY/AU/5(VIII)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the Africa-South America Summit held in Abuja, Nigeria, from 26 to 30 November 2006;
2. **CONGRATULATES** the Federal Republic of Nigeria on the successful organization and hosting of the Summit;
3. **APPROVES** the proposal for further consultations with the Presidents of Brazil and Venezuela, and for a follow-up review meeting in Venezuela in March 2007 to consolidate the outcomes of the Abuja Summit;
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to take all necessary steps to support this process including a preparatory mission to liaise with the host of the review meeting;
5. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to ensure that Member States are kept apprised of developments in this regard.

**DECISION ON THE AFRICA-CHINA FORUM ON COOPERATION (FOCAC)**  
**DOC. ASSEMBLY/AU/7 (VIII)**

**The Assembly :**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the Africa-China Forum on Cooperation;
2. **COMMENDS** the People's Republic of China for hosting the Forum;
3. **WELCOMES** the Beijing Declaration and the Beijing Plan of Action, 2007-2009 and **URGES** the faithful delivery on its commitments;
4. **DECIDES** that the Commission should play a coordinating role in the preparation, conduct and follow-up of all FOCAC Summits;
5. **EXPRESSES** appreciation to Ethiopia for its contributions as Co-Chair in the period leading up to the recent FOCAC Summit;
6. **CONGRATULATES** Egypt on the decision that it would host the 4<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference of the FOCAC process.

**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE EXTRAORDINARY CONFERENCE OF  
MINISTERS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY – DOC. EX.CL/315 (X)**

**The Assembly:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the recommendations of the Executive Council on the report of the Extraordinary Conference of Ministers of Science and Technology;
2. **WELCOMES AND SUPPORTS** the Declaration of 2007 as the launching year of building constituencies and champions for science, technology and innovation in Africa;
3. **STRONGLY URGES** Member States to promote Africa's Research and Development (R&D) and develop innovation strategies for wealth creation and economic development by allocating at least 1% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of national economies by 2010 as agreed by Khartoum Decision (EX.CL/Dec.254 (VIII));
4. **ALSO SUPPORTS** the establishment of a Pan-African Intellectual Property Organization (PAIPO);
5. **ENDORSES** the need for South-South and North-South cooperation in science, technology and innovation and to enhance its role in international partnerships.

**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE MINISTERIAL FOLLOW-UP  
MEETING OF THE 23<sup>RD</sup> AFRICA-FRANCE SUMMIT  
(DOC. ASSEMBLY/AU/9 (VIII) ADD.1)**

**The Assembly:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the Ministerial Follow-Up Meeting of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Conference of Heads of State and Government of Africa and France held in Bamako, Republic of Mali, on 16 January 2007;
2. **WELCOMES** the pertinent recommendations of the Ministerial Follow-Up Meeting aimed at fulfilling the expectations of the African youth, rekindling their hopes and enabling them to actively contribute to Africa's development;
3. **TAKES NOTE** of the 24<sup>th</sup> Conference of Heads of State and Government of Africa and France to be held under the theme: "Africa and the Global Balance";
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to submit a report on the implementation of the Decision EX.CL/Dec.273 (VIII) adopted by the 8<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Khartoum, The Sudan, in January 2006.

**DECISION ON THE CANDIDATURE OF THE GREAT SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S  
LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA FOR THE PRESIDENCY OF THE 64TH  
SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN 2009**

**The Assembly:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the candidature of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for the Presidency of the 64<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly in 2009;
2. **APPROVES** and **INVITES** Member States to support this candidature.



**DECISION ON THE VENUE AND DATE OF THE NINTH ORDINARY  
SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY**

**The Assembly:**

1. **WELCOMES** the offer by the Republic of Ghana to host the Ninth Ordinary Session of the Assembly in Accra, in July 2007;
2. **DECIDES** that the Summit and the preparatory meetings relating thereto will be held in Accra, Ghana on the following dates:
  - 25 - 26 June 2007 : Fourteenth Ordinary Session of the Permanent Representatives' Committee
  - 28 – 29 June 2007 : Eleventh Ordinary Session of the Executive Council
  - 1 – 3 July 2007 : Ninth Ordinary Session of the Assembly

**MOTION OF APPRECIATION TO H.E. CHIEF OLUSEGUN OBASANJO,  
PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

**The Assembly:**

1. **CONSCIOUS** of the tremendous efforts deployed by President Obasanjo in the conduct of the affairs of his country, and at the helm of the African Union, including in his capacity as Chairman during the period July 2004 to January 2006 ;
2. **PAYS SPECIAL TRIBUTE** to H.E. President Chief Olusegun Obasanjo, for his dynamic leadership in the service of his country, sub-region and the continent as a whole;
3. **FURTHER PAYS TRIBUTE** to President Obasanjo for his contribution to the attainment of the objectives of the African Union, in particular his active role in the conduct of the work of the Committee of Seven Heads of State and Government on the “Union Government: Towards the Establishment of the United States of Africa;
4. **WISHES** President Obasanjo success in all his future endeavours.

## DECLARATIONS



**DECLARATION OF THE 8<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY OF THE AU HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT ON THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF AFRICAN FOOTBALL, 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONFEDERATION OF AFRICAN FOOTBALL AND USHERING IN THE 2010 WORLD CUP AS AN AFRICAN EVENT**  
**(Doc. Assembly/AU/2 (VIII))**

**We**, the AU Heads of State and Government, meeting in our 8<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 29-30 January 2007,

**Re-calling** the Decision we made during our January 2006 Summit in Khartoum, the Sudan, to declare the 2007 as the International Year of African Football as proposed by the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia;

**Recognizing** the role of sport in the promotion of peace, solidarity, social cohesion and sustainable socio-economic development;

**Aware** of the need for reflecting on the collective history of football in Africa and also the need for commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Confederation of African Football (CAF's) as part of our appreciation of its outstanding contribution to the development of soccer in Africa;

**Appreciating** the briefing by South Africa on the preparations to host the 2010 World Cup, for the first time in the history of the Continent, which is a legitimate recognition of Africa's contribution to the advancement of world sports;

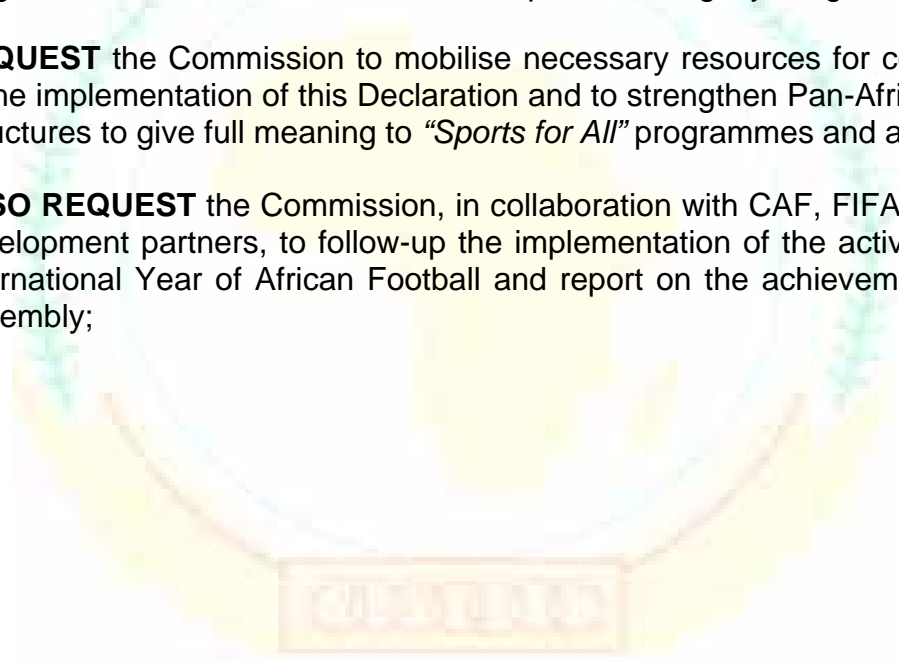
**Pursuant** to our commitment to ensuring the success of the 2010 World Cup tournaments on our Continent;

**Recognizing** the supportive role of sports in Africa's effort to achieve the Millennium Development Goals;

**We therefore:**

1. **HEREBY LAUNCH** 2007 as the International Year of African Football;
2. **MANDATE** the Commission, in collaboration with Member States, to develop a Programme of Activities to mark the International Year of African Football;
3. **FURTHER MANDATE** the Commission to organise the relevant Conference of Ministers of Sports to provide leadership to the organisation of activities marking the International Year of African Football, as well as to elaborate concrete activities in connection with the 2010 World Cup;
4. **CONGRATULATE** the Confederation of African Football on its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary;

5. **REAFFIRM** our commitment to make the 2010 World Cup a truly African World Cup, by committing our countries to the full and substantive involvement in the preparations leading to the 2010 World Cup;
6. **COMMIT** ourselves to provide all-round support to the Government and People of South Africa in their efforts to organize the 2010 World Cup tournaments successfully and effectively;
7. **URGE** CAF, FIFA, the international sport community and friends of Africa to provide the necessary support to South Africa in its preparation for the 2010 World Cup;
8. **ALSO URGE** Member States to develop national programmes and identify African Union Sport Ambassadors to work closely with the Commission in the Implementation of the International Year of African Football, "*Sports for All*" programmes, and 2010 Soccer World Cup African Legacy Programme;
9. **REQUEST** the Commission to mobilise necessary resources for coordination of the implementation of this Declaration and to strengthen Pan-African Sports Structures to give full meaning to "*Sports for All*" programmes and activities.
10. **ALSO REQUEST** the Commission, in collaboration with CAF, FIFA, and other development partners, to follow-up the implementation of the activities of the International Year of African Football and report on the achievements to the Assembly;



**DECLARATION ON ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP**  
**AGREEMENTS NEGOTIATIONS**

**We**, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 29 – 30 January 2007 in the 8<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of our Assembly:

**Taking note** of the Report and Recommendations of the Third-Extraordinary Session of AU Ministers of Trade on the negotiations of Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) with the European Union;

**Recalling** our earlier Declarations on the negotiations of EPAs;

**Further recalling** the Khartoum Declaration issued by the 5<sup>th</sup> Summit of African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Heads of State and Government in Khartoum on 8 December 2006.

**Hereby:**

1. **ENDORSE** the Addis Ababa Ministerial Declaration of 16 January 2007 on the negotiations of EPAs;
2. **COMMEND** the efforts of the AU Ministers of Trade and Africa's negotiators in promoting the collective interests of Africa in the EPA negotiations and **REQUEST** them to remain vigilant and steadfast in the remaining stages of the negotiations;
3. **CALL ON** the European Union to extend the deadline for the completion of negotiations beyond the December 2007 time frame and to explore the alternatives of Economic Partnership Agreements as required by the Cotonou Partnership Agreement;
4. **URGE** the European Commission to respond in a timely manner to issues that are presented to it by African negotiators in order to assist expedite the negotiations;
5. **EMPHASIZE** that the negotiations of EPAs should be consistent with the measures the Assembly takes to address the questions of rationalisation and multiple membership, as well as the programmes of the Regional Economic Communities and the African Union;
6. **REITERATE** that Economic Partnership Agreements must, as indicated in the Cotonou Partnership Agreement, serve primarily as instruments for the promotion of sustained development and eradication of poverty in Africa.

7. **STRESS** that WTO Negotiations under the Doha Work Programme have important implications for the negotiations of EPAs, which are required to be compatible with WTO rules; and therefore **CALL** for the appropriate sequencing of the two sets of negotiations.



## **DECLARATION ON WTO NEGOTIATIONS**

**We**, the Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the African Union, meeting at the 8<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of our Assembly in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> January 2007;

**Recalling** the decision of the international community at Doha in November 2001 to put the interests and concerns of developing countries at the center of the New Round of World Trade Organisation (WTO) negotiations;

**Taking into account** the enormous financial and human resource costs that have been incurred by our Member States since the launch of the Doha Round in 2001;

**Recalling** our earlier Declarations on the Doha Development Agenda negotiations;

**Mindful of** the decisions taken by the Heads of State and Government of the United Nations Organization at the Millennium Summit +5, held in New York in September 2005, regarding the need of development, as well as the ways and means for attaining this central objective;

**Further recalling** the recommendations of the G-8 Summit held in Saint Petersburg in 2006 and the commitments taken by the major trade players concerning the achievement of the Doha Round objectives;

**Taking note** of the Report of the Third Extra-Ordinary Session of AU Conference of Ministers of Trade, held in Addis Ababa on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2007;

**Aware** that there are many systemic trade issues of importance to Africa's development which are beyond the reach of bilateralism and which can be best addressed within the framework of a rules-based multilateral trading system;

**Further aware** that Africa will be a major loser if the Doha Round fails to deliver on its development promises and does not lead to a strengthening of multilateralism;

**Convinced** that a successful completion of the Doha Round, with development at its core, is critical to Africa meeting the challenges of development, including the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

**Taking note** of the expressions of support for Africa's development aspirations by some of our development partners.

Hereby:

1. **EXPRESS** our deep concern and disappointment at the stalling of the negotiations on the DDA, which has been due largely to the failure of major players in the WTO process to demonstrate the necessary flexibility in their negotiating positions.
2. **RE-AFFIRM** our support for a rules-based multilateral trading system.
3. **CALL** for a prompt resumption and a speedy and successful conclusion of the Doha Round, with its development dimensions given high priority as agreed in the 2001 WTO Declaration.
4. **REQUEST** the major players in the WTO and our development partners to contribute to the attainment of this objective by translating their expressions of support for Africa's development into concrete development-oriented commitments in the WTO negotiations.
5. **RE-AFFIRM** the need for this Round of negotiations to yield real development results, as promised in the Doha Declaration and the Doha Development Agenda (DDA).
6. **URGE** our trade partners, especially the major players, to provide the necessary flexibilities that will enable African countries to use trade as an engine for promoting development, reducing and eliminating poverty.
7. **STRESS** therefore the need to improve and make workable, the rules, principles and mechanisms of multilateral trade, for African countries, in particular the least developed among them.
8. **UNDERScore** the importance of technical support and financial assistance for the building of supply capacity and the promotion of trade and development in African countries.
9. **REQUEST** therefore the developed countries and the international organizations to make real contributions in the allocation of adequate resources and appropriate technical assistance, through effective channels and mechanisms, for attainment of these objectives.
10. **COMMEND** African Trade Ministers and Negotiators for their continued steadfastness in the defense of Africa's interests in the WTO negotiations.
11. **RE-ITERATE** our position that any outcome of the current Round of WTO negotiations that fails to adequately deliver on the development promises of the DDA will be unacceptable to Africa.

**DECLARATION ON CLIMATE CHANGE  
AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA**

**We**, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, meeting at the 8<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of our Assembly in Addis Ababa, from 29 – 30 January 2007:

**Recalling** our commitment to the principles and objectives, stipulated in the Constitutive Act of the African Union and its NEPAD programme;

**Further Recalling** the objective and principles of the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its commitments;

**Welcoming** the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol on 16 February 2005 and its full operationalization by the Marrakech Accords adopted in Montreal in December 2005;

**Further welcoming** the Gleneagles G8 communiqué on Africa, Climate Change, Energy and Sustainable Development and its commitments on:

- Developing fully operational regional climate centers in Africa;
- Improving climate risk management in multilateral and bilateral development organizations;
- Helping developing countries build their resilience to climate change to the Millennium Review Summit in New York;

**Recognizing** that climate change could endanger future well being of the population, ecosystems and socio-economic progress of Africa;

**Cognizant** of the vulnerability of African economic and production systems to climate change and climate variability and the continent's low mitigation and response capacities;

**Welcoming** the outcome of the Ministerial meetings on disaster risk reduction, which approved a programme of action to implement the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction.

**Noting** that actions for mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions to combat climate change should be reinforced on the principle of differentiation basis and that urgent action is required to advance adaptation measures.

**We commit ourselves to:**

1. **CONTINUE TO URGE** countries that have yet to ratify the Kyoto Protocol to do so.

2. **BUILD** capacity and strengthen the effective participation of African countries in the negotiations on the future of the UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol processes.
3. **AVAIL** funds to promote and strengthen the application of science and technology to climate data collection, analysis, generation of early warning information and timely communication.
4. **INTEGRATE** climate change and climate change adaptation strategies into national and sub-regional development policies, programmes and activities.
5. **UNDERTAKE** targeted awareness raising amongst policy, decision makers and civil society with the view to ensuring that climate change considerations are taken into account in all sustainable development initiatives.
6. **URGENTLY** call for the streamlining of Global Environment Facility (GEF) funding mechanisms to include the vulnerability index in the Resource Allocation Framework (RAF) formula in order to ease African countries' access to GEF financial resources; and explore other financial resources and mechanisms to support Africa's adaptation programmes.
7. **FOSTER** and strengthen cooperation between National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs), Regional Climate Centres (RCC), Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and institutions on matters of climate variability and climate change.
8. **STRENGTHEN** current African Regional and Sub-regional climate centers of excellence to address climate change and variability prediction as well as in the development of climate applications decision tools.
9. **DEVELOP** and/or strengthen research and development in climate change in Africa, particularly in renewable energy, forestry and agriculture, to increase the continent's resilience and adaptation to climate change.
10. **ENCOURAGE** the transfer of relevant climate friendly technologies within and among developing countries and address the challenges as regards Intellectual Property Rights (IPR).
11. **DEMAND** that developed countries undertake and meet their mitigation commitments, including the implementation of the "polluter pays" and "differentiated responsibilities principles" as provided for in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and to institute deeper cuts in Greenhouse Gas emissions and better trade terms on emission entitlement.

12. **REQUEST** the Commission to consult with the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMSEN) with the view to establishing the necessary mechanisms to follow up the implementation of this Declaration, in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the African Development Bank (ADB) and evaluate the progress towards the attainment of its objectives and report bi-annually to the Summit as appropriate.



**ADDIS ABABA DECLARATION ON SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY  
AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH FOR DEVELOPMENT**

**We**, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, meeting at the 8<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of our Assembly in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from the 29 to 30 January 2007;

**Reaffirming** our commitment to the principles and objectives stipulated in the Constitutive Act of the African Union and our common objective to advance the development of the Continent by promoting research in all fields, in particular in science and technology;

**Determined** to take all necessary measures to strengthen our common institutions and provide them with the necessary resources to enable them discharge their respective mandates effectively;

**Recalling** our millennium commitment to achieve sustainable development for our Continent;

**Reaffirming** that African people are now more than before determined to banish poverty, combat diseases, improve public health, increase agricultural production, and achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);

**Realizing** that the achievement of these goals depends on our countries' ability to harness science and technology for development and also on an increased and sustained investment in science, technology and innovation;

**Recognizing** the need to build and strengthen Africa's institutions to enable them to conduct more scientific research so that the outputs of research may be utilized to solve our social environmental problems and contribute to socio-economic development;

**Recalling** the decision to declare the Second Decade of Education for Africa (2006-2015) and the adoption of the Framework for the Plan of Action for the Decade;

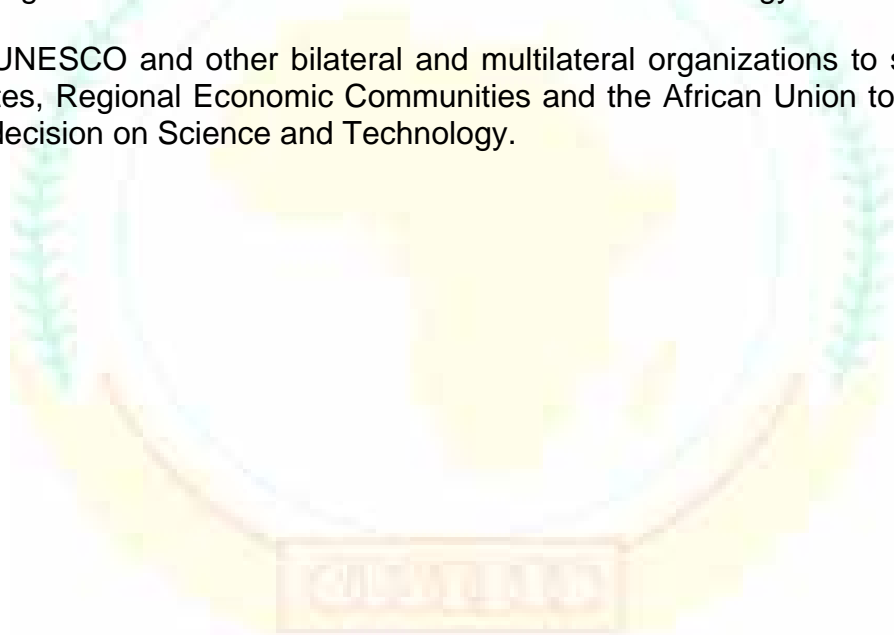
**Recognizing** the support in the field of science and technology by international organizations such as UNESCO;

**WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO:**

- **Encourage** more African youth to take up studies in science, technology and engineering, and invite Member States to pay special attention to the teaching of science and technology;
- **Promote** and support research and innovation activities and the requisite human and institutional capacities;

- **Ensure** scrupulous application of scientific ethics in Africa with a view to preserving the continent's environment and national resources and preventing all practices harmful to African populations;
- **Ensure** the enhanced role and the revitalization of African universities and other African institutions of higher education as well as scientific research institutions so that they can play an effective role as loci of science, technology and engineering education and development and also contribute to public understanding of science and technology;
- **Promote** and enhance regional as well as south-south and north-south cooperation in science and technology;
- **Increase** funding for national, regional and continental programmes for science and technology and support the establishment of national and regional centres of excellence in science and technology.

**We call** on UNESCO and other bilateral and multilateral organizations to support the Member States, Regional Economic Communities and the African Union to implement the Summit decision on Science and Technology.



**DECLARATION ON THE ETHIOPIAN MILLENNIUM**

**We**, the Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the African Union, meeting during the Eighth Ordinary Session of our Assembly held in Addis Ababa, the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, from 29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> January 2007;

**Taking note** of the briefing by the Ethiopian Government on the Ethiopian Millennium to be celebrated on 12 September 2007;

**Recognizing with appreciation** the call of the Ethiopian people to all fellow African brothers and sisters to embrace the Millennium as a truly African occasion and to join them in the celebrations;

**Noting with satisfaction** the commitment of the Ethiopian people to use this occasion as a unique opportunity to highlight their collective resolve to make a difference in their struggle against poverty, and to broaden the frontiers of democracy and good governance;

**Welcoming** the cooperation already initiated between the African Union Commission and the Ethiopian Millennium Festival National Council;

**Call upon** all Member States of the African Union, the Commission of the African Union and the Regional Economic Communities to extend their support towards the successful celebration of this unique African occasion – the Ethiopian Millennium.