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Ninth Ordinary Session of the AEC**
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Lusaka, ZAMBIA

CM/Dec.1-46 (LXXIV)

DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE
SEVENTY-FOURTH ORDINARY SESSION
OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

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DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY
GENERAL ON THE FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE
ORGANIZATION AS AT 31 MAY 2001

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report;
2. COMMENDS all those Member States, which are up to date, having fully paid up all their assessed contributions to the OAU Regular Budget;
3. EXPRESSES SERIOUS CONCERN about the slow trend in settling outstanding financial obligations by some Member States, especially those which continue to accumulate arrears of contribution over several years;
4. APPEALS to all Member States with arrears of contributions to settle regularly and timely their financial obligations so as to endow the Organization with requisite resources to enable it meet its increasing challenges and discharge its functions under the best possible condition.

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL
ON THE SIXTEENTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE
COMMITTEE ON CONTRIBUTIONS

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report;
2. COMMENDS the work of the Committee and URGES it to continue to encourage Member States to honour their financial obligations;
3. EXPRESSES its serious concern about the increasing arrears of contribution which now stands at US \$41,414,981.65, thus undermining the capacity of the Secretariat to carry out approved programmes and activities;
4. DECIDES:
 - i) to grant temporary and exceptional exemption from sanctions until the opening of the Seventy-fifth Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers to Somalia on condition that it submits a Rescheduling Plan and starts paying its assessed contributions in keeping with resolution CM/Res.1279 (LII) paragraph 2(d);
 - ii) to also grant temporary exemption from sanctions to the following Member States which have paid 30% of their arrears of contribution until the opening of the Seventy-fifth Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers: Cape Verde, Central African Republic, The Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Niger and Sierra Leone;
 - iii) that the sanctions imposed on the following Member States be maintained, namely, Democratic Republic of Congo, Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros, Liberia, Mauritania, Sao Tome & Principe, and Seychelles;

- iv) that all defaulting Member States which present Rescheduling Plans, should ensure that apart from honouring their plans they also pay their assessed contributions to the regular budget;
- v) that any Member State in arrears, but which pays 30% of the outstanding amount will be considered for temporary and exceptional exemption for a period up-to the opening of the 75th Ordinary Session of Council, provided it also honours its financial obligations to the current budget;
- vi) that temporary and exceptional exemptions will not, in any way, influence the mandatory sanction prohibiting the recruitment of nationals of the defaulting countries as new staff members as provided for in Resolution CM/Res.1311 (LII). In this regard, the General Secretariat should ensure that the Resolution also applies to the recruitment of temporary staff such as the freelance technical staff;
- vii) that the Committee and the Secretariat should explore ways and means of encouraging Member States, particularly those that have not submitted Rescheduling Plans to honour their financial obligations.

**NOTE OF APPRECIATION TO MEMBER STATES WHICH
ARE UP TO DATE WITH THEIR FINANCIAL
OBLIGATIONS TO THE ORGANIZATION**

Council:

1. **SPECIALLY COMMENDS** the following Member States which to date have made full payment of their contributions for the Financial year 2001/2002 to the Organization:

1. Botswana
2. Namibia
3. South Africa
4. Zambia

2. **COMMENDS** those Member States which have no arrears of contribution to the Organization:

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1. Algeria | 9. Mauritius |
| 2. Angola | 10. Mozambique |
| 3. Burundi | 11. Senegal |
| 4. Chad | 12. Swaziland |
| 5. Egypt | 13. Togo |
| 6. Ethiopia | 14. Tanzania |
| 7. Lesotho | 15. Tunisia |
| 8. Malawi | |

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL
ON THE PAN-AFRICAN FORUM ON THE
FUTURE OF CHILDREN

Council:

- 1. TAKES NOTE of the Report;**
- 2. EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE to the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt for hosting the Pan-African Forum on the Future of Children in Cairo, from 28 to 31 May, 2001;**
- 3. EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION to, in particular, UNICEF and Save the Children (Sweden), all the UN Agencies and other stakeholders for their continued support and assistance in the preparation of the Pan-African Forum on the Future of Children;**
- 4. WELCOMES the outcome of the Pan-African Forum, namely, the African Common Position on Children, as Africa's contribution to the UN General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) on Children to be held in New York in September, 2001;**
- 5. MANDATES the First Lady of Egypt, Mrs. Suzanne Mubarak to present the African Common Position to the United Nations General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) on Children, due to be held in New York in September 2001; and to ensure that the voices of the children of Africa are heard therein;**
- 6. CALLS UPON all Member States to renew and implement their commitments to African children as contained in the Cairo Declaration and to participate actively, at the highest level, in the UNGASS on Children in September 2001;**
- 7. FURTHER CALLS UPON Member States, which have not yet done so, to speed up the ratification process of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child;**

8. **URGES Member States to implement the provisions of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, follow-up on the decisions and recommendations of the UNGASS on Children and implement the African Common Position on Children, more specifically the Plan of Action on the Future of the African Children;**
9. **FURTHER CALLS UPON Member States to send periodic reports on their activities and programmes related to children issues to the Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child through the General Secretariat;**
10. **REQUESTS the General Secretariat to work closely with the Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child in collaboration with UNICEF and other stakeholders and to report to Council every two years on the follow-up of the implementation of the recommendations of the UNGASS and the African Common Position.**

**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON
THE OAU/UNDCP JOINT PROJECT ON CAPACITY BUILDING
FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OAU PLAN OF
ACTION ON DRUG CONTROL IN AFRICA**

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report;
2. COMMENDS the OAU General Secretariat for the steps taken to eliminate the illicit production, trafficking and abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in Africa;
3. EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE to the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) for the invaluable contribution rendered to the Secretariat in the implementation of the OAU Plan of Action on Drug Control in Africa, through its funding of the Organization's project on Institutional Capacity Building;
4. CALLS ON the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP), after a thorough evaluation of the state of implementation of the Joint Project, to consider the extension of the period of this project for at least one additional year;
5. MANDATES the Secretary-General, in putting in place the new structure of the African Union, to create a Drug Control and Crime Prevention Unit within that structure, in view of the emerging seriousness of the drug abuse and trafficking situation in Africa, and especially the linkage between drug abuse and HIV/AIDS, conflicts and organized crimes in the Continent;

6. **APPEALS** to Member States to second if they so wish, an Expert on drug control, at their own expense, to assist the OAU General Secretariat during the negotiations for the extension and during interim periods in order to forestall a break in the implementation of the Plan of Action on Drug Control in Africa;
7. **URGES** Member States to strengthen their fight against Illicit Drug Abuse and Trafficking on the Continent, with the full collaboration of workers, employers, educational institutions, civil society organizations and other stakeholders;
8. **REQUESTS** the Secretary-General to explore ways and means of establishing a mechanism for an African Fund for Drug Control on voluntary basis as was recommended by the 22nd OAU Labour and Social Affairs Commission in Windhoek, Namibia; and endorsed by the 70th Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers and the 35th Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government both held in Algiers, Algeria in July 1999 and **CALLS UPON** OAU partners, donor agencies and the International Community to render the necessary support to the Secretariat in this endeavour;
9. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Drug Control Focal Point to step its activities in close collaboration with all the Regional Economic Communities, so as to overcome this scourge;
10. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Secretary-General to take appropriate steps aimed at updating the OAU Plan of Action for Drug Control in Africa in view of current emerging drug issues in the Continent so as to be in line with global approaches to solving the problem;
11. **FINALLY REQUESTS** the Secretary-General to submit reports on current drug situations in the Continent regularly to Sessions of the Council of Ministers and Assembly of Heads of State and Government.

DECISION ON AFRO-ARAB COOPERATION

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE of the Report;**
2. **WELCOMES the initiatives taken by the OAU and the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA) with a view to promoting their financial and technical cooperation and INVITES the management of BADEA and the OAU General Secretariat to carry out consultations as soon as possible, for the concrete implementation of this cooperation;**
3. **WELCOMES the organization of an “Afro-Arab Forum for the Promotion of Investments in the Agricultural Sector” within the context of the 3rd Afro-Arab Business Week and REQUESTS the Secretary-General, in collaboration with his counterpart of the League of Arab States, to take necessary measures in order to hold the Forum;**
4. **TAKES NOTE WITH SATISFACTION of the provision by the Malian Government to the OAU and the League of Arab States, of the premises for the Headquarters of the Afro-Arab Cultural Institute as well as the Residence of its Director-General, and INVITES the Secretary General, in consultation with the League of Arab States, to send a joint mission to Mali to inspect the said premises;**
5. **FURTHER INVITES the Regional Economic Communities, the concerned African institutions including the ADB in collaboration with the Arab institutions particularly the BADEA to render their technical and financial support towards the implementation of this project;**
6. **TAKES NOTE WITH SATISFACTION of the on-going preparations and the facilities accorded by the Host Country for the organization of the 5th Afro-Arab Trade Fair to be held in TRIPOLI-LEBANON from 6 to 14 October, 2001;**

7. **ALSO INVITES Member States to take appropriate measures for the widest possible publicity of this event, in order to ensure massive participation of the African countries, in the different aspects of the Fair;**

**DECISION ON THE SPECIAL EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE
FUND FOR DROUGHT AND FAMINE IN AFRICA**

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report;
2. APPROVES the recommendations of the 25th Ordinary Session of the Policy Committee for the proper management of the Fund;
3. ALSO APPROVES the setting up of a Sub-Committee to examine the possibility of expanding the activities of the Fund to cover other natural calamities;
4. REQUESTS Member States which have received assistance from the Fund to submit, as a matter of urgency, their project implementation reports to enable the Secretariat undertake an evaluation thereof;
5. COMMENDS Member States who have made voluntary contributions and those who have honoured their commitments to the Special Emergency Assistance Fund;
6. REITERATES ITS APPEAL to Member States and the international community to provide financial, technical and material support to the Special Fund.

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY
GENERAL ON THE STATUS OF OAU TREATIES

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report;
2. APPEALS to all Member States to sign and ratify the OAU Treaties if they have not yet done so;
3. REQUESTS the General Secretariat to finalize the review of all OAU Treaties during the transitional period with a view to determining their continued relevance, and make recommendations thereon to Council.

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL
ON THE APPLICATION FOR OBSERVER STATUS BY THE
INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
“AFRICA ASSISTS AFRICA”

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Secretary General on the request for Observer Status submitted by “Africa Assists Africa”;
2. **GRANTS** Observer Status Category A to “Africa Assists Africa”.

DECISION ON THE SITUATION IN BURUNDI

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report;
2. EXPRESSES ITS GRAVE CONCERN about the stalemate in the implementation process of the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement in Burundi and the continued deterioration of the security and humanitarian situation in the country;
3. STRONGLY CONDEMNS the pursuit of hostilities and other acts of violence of which the civilian populations are the main victims, and DEMANDS that the belligerents embark without delay on negotiations for cessation of hostilities and conclusion of a Ceasefire Agreement;
4. CONDEMNS in no uncertain terms the armed groups which up to now have refused to end hostilities and join in the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Process;
5. CALLS ON the Parties to the conflict to overcome their differences in order to reach, as quickly as possible, a consensus on the presidency and transition modalities in accordance with the relevant recommendations of the 14th Summit of the Regional Initiative for Peace in Burundi;
6. ALSO CALLS on the countries of the region, and all the parties to the conflict, in close consultation with OAU, to seize the opportunity offered by the next Summit scheduled to take place in Arusha on 24 July 2001, to take appropriate measures to facilitate the implementation of the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement, particularly the cessation of hostilities;

7. **URGES** the neighbouring countries of Burundi to co-operate with the International Community with a view to preventing Burundian armed groups from pursuing their acts of aggression aimed at destabilizing Burundi;
8. **EXPRESSES ITS SUPPORT** to the Facilitator of the Arusha Peace Process, Former President Nelson Mandela, for the untiring efforts he continues to deploy in expediting the implementation of the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement, including those deployed by President El Hadj Omar Bongo, President Joseph Kabila and Deputy President Jacob Zuma, within the context of the Arusha Peace Accord on Burundi regarding the cessation of hostilities;
9. **REITERATES** that the responsibility for the search for a peaceful and lasting solution to the conflict in Burundi lies primarily with the Burundian parties themselves, and therefore **URGES** them to co-operate fully and in good faith with the Facilitator and the countries of the Regional Initiative;
10. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General to contact the UNHCR and the UN Security Council to look into the possibility of repatriating the Burundi refugees in Tanzania to Burundi and establish modalities to ensure the safety and security of the returning refugees;
11. **APPEALS** to the belligerents to scrupulously adhere to the international humanitarian law.

DECISION ON THE SITUATION IN THE COMOROS

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **WELCOMES** the progress achieved in the implementation of the Framework Agreement for Reconciliation in the Comoros signed in Fomboni on 17 February 2001, in particular, the establishment and the commencement of the work of all the Commissions and sub-Commissions provided for in the Framework Agreement;
3. **COMMENDS** all the Comorian Parties for their commitment to the reconciliation process, and **URGES** them to maintain the momentum to ensure the scrupulous and timely implementation of the Framework Agreement and **REQUESTS** the parties to quickly work out a new timetable for the implementation of the Framework Agreement which takes into account the need to expeditiously work towards the drafting of the constitution of the new Comorian Ensemble, the establishment of the transitional government of national unity and the organization of the constitutional referendum;
4. **WELCOMES** the visit of the Ministerial delegation of the countries of the Region and the OAU Troika to the Comoros, which took place from 4 to 7 June 2001, and **REQUESTS** them to continue to assist the Comorian Parties in their efforts towards the restoration of the unity and territorial integrity of the country, the speedy return to constitutional rule and post-conflict reconstruction;
5. **EXPRESSES** its gratitude to the countries of the Region and the General Secretariat for the financial contributions to the implementation of the Framework Agreement and humanitarian assistance, and **CALLS UPON** other Member States to do likewise in order to ensure the faithful and timely implementation of the Framework Agreement;

6. **TAKES NOTE** with appreciation of the convening by the World Bank of the meeting of the Friends of the Comoros, held in Paris, France, on 5 July 2001;
7. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** of the preparations by the General Secretariat and the Government of Mauritius of the Round-Table of Donors on the Comoros, scheduled to be held in Mauritius, and **APPEALS** to the international community, particularly to international financial institutions, the European Union, the United Nations system and bilateral donors, to support this initiative and provide all the technical and financial assistance needed for economic recovery and the socio-economic development of the country;
8. **DECIDES**, on the recommendation of the countries of the Region and the OAU Troika, and taking into account the progress achieved in the reconciliation process, to lift definitely the measures adopted by the OAU against the leadership of the Anjouanese separatist movement;
9. **REITERATES** its appreciation for the contributions made by the International Organization of the Francophonie, the League of Arab States, the European Union and the Organization of Islamic Conference to the reconciliation process in the Comoros and **CALLS** for greater coordination of their efforts with those of the OAU.

DECISION ON THE SITUATION IN THE DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **REITERATES ITS SUPPORT** for the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement as the only negotiated framework accepted by all the Parties for arriving at a solution to the conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo and guaranteeing respect for the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of the DRC;
3. **WELCOMES** the unreserved readiness of the Parties to implement the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement as expressed in the Communiqué of the Third Summit of the signatory Parties held in Lusaka on 15 February, 2001, and the adoption of the Resolution 1341 (2001) of 22 February 2001 by the United Nations Security Council;
4. **COMMENDS** in particular President Joseph Kabila for his commitment to the implementation of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement, especially resumption of the process of the Inter-Congolese National Dialogue;
5. **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** that the Parties have, generally, respected the ceasefire and implemented the plans and sub-plans for disengagement and redeployment of forces and **URGES** the Movement for the Liberation of Congo (MLC) to complete without delay, its redeployment and disengagement to new defensive positions as defined in the Harare sub-plans, in accordance with Security Council Resolutions 1341 and 1355 and the commitment it made, particularly at the 11th session of the Political Committee held in Lusaka, Zambia, on 21 - 22 May, 2001;
6. **EXPRESSES CONCERN** at reported military operations in Kivu and incursions by armed groups into Rwanda and Burundi and **CALLS UPON** all the parties to discouraged such incursions;

7. **WELCOMES** the adoption by the Political Committee, of the plans for disarmament, demobilization, reintegration, repatriation and resettlement of the armed groups, and for the orderly withdrawal of all foreign forces from the DRC;
8. **EXPRESSES SATISFACTION AT** the bilateral contacts among the countries signatories to the Lusaka Peace Agreement, **ENCOURAGES** them to pursue these contacts with a view to creating the conducive environment for the implementation of this Agreement, and **URGES** the Congolese Rally for Democracy (RCD) to demilitarize the city of Kisangani and its surrounding areas without delay, pursuant to UN Security Council Resolutions 1304 and 1355;
9. **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the adoption by the Security Council of Resolution 1355 (2001) of 15 June 2001 which, among other things, extended the mandate of MONUC up to 15 June 2002 and reiterated the authorization it gave in its resolution 1292 (2000) for the deployment of a MONUC military contingent with a strength of up to 5537 men;
10. **APPEALS** to the Security Council to take into account, when designing and planning the third phase of the deployment of MONUC, of the need to guarantee the stability and security of the DRC after the withdrawal of foreign troops;
11. **EXPRESSES ITS SUPPORT** for the co-location of the Joint Military Commission (JMC) with MONUC and **CALLS ON** the Parties to reach an agreement in this regard as quickly as possible;
12. **COMMENDS** the efforts deployed by the Facilitator, Sir Ketumile Masire, to prepare the Inter-Congolese Dialogue which culminated in the signing by the Congolese Parties in Lusaka on 4 May 2001 of a Declaration of Fundamental Principles for the Conduct of the Dialogue;

13. WELCOMES the announcement made by the Facilitator regarding the organization of a preparatory meeting to the Inter-Congolese Dialogue slated for 16 July 2001;
14. APPEALS to all the Congolese Parties to co-operate fully with the Facilitator and participate in the national dialogue in a spirit of tolerance and compromise;
15. APPEALS ONCE MORE to OAU Member States and the International Community as a whole to continue to lend their support to the peace process in the DRC, particularly the activities of the JMC and the Inter-Congolese National Dialogue;
16. TAKES NOTE of the report of the United Nations Experts Group on the illegal exploitation of natural resources and other riches of the DRC, as well as of the reactions of the States and other players implicated in the report which should be completed with an addendum;
17. APPEALS to the United Nations to speed up the investigations on the illegal exploitation of the natural resources of the DRC so as to draw the final conclusions and take appropriate course of action;
18. REQUESTS importing countries, while waiting for the completion of the investigation by the group of experts on the illegal exploitation of natural resources and other forms of wealth of the DRC, to set up appropriate mechanisms to identify the origin of these products with a view to limiting their transactions;
19. EXPRESSES GRAVE CONCERN at the humanitarian situation and the repeated violations of the international humanitarian law perpetrated in the DRC, ALSO APPEALS to all Member States as well as the International Community as a whole to step up their assistance to the war-affected populations, and EXHORTS the Parties to respect the International Humanitarian Law.

DECISION ON THE SITUATION IN SIERRA LEONE

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report;
2. WELCOMES the progress achieved so far in the implementation of the provisions of the Lomé Peace Agreement and the Abuja Ceasefire Agreement, in particular the progressive deployment of UNAMSIL and the Sierra Leone Army (SLA) in new areas of the country, the advances in the on-going Disarmament, Demobilization and Re-integration Programme (DDR), as well as the improvement in the overall security situation in Sierra Leone, including the area along the common border between Sierra Leone and Guinea;
3. ENCOURAGES the parties and UNAMSIL to work towards the full deployment of UNAMSIL and the Sierra Leone Army throughout the whole country, including all the diamond producing areas. Council also ENCOURAGES the parties to bring to a successful end, the DDR programme, which constitutes an important pillar of the peace process as a whole;
4. CALLS UPON Member States and the International Community at large to make urgent financial and material contributions to the DDR programme to prevent the on-going implementation of that programme from stalling. In this regard, Council WELCOMES the convening by the World Bank in Paris, France, from 11 to 12 June 2001, of the Multi-Donor Trust Fund Conference in support of the Sierra Leone Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Programme, and APPEALS to international donors to make contribution to the Fund;

5. **APPEALS** to the International Community to provide UNAMSIL with adequate means to effectively carry out its mandate and **APPEALS FURTHER** to Member States and the International Community to provide additional troops to enable UNAMSIL achieve its required troop strength in accordance with the decisions adopted by the OAU, ECOWAS and the UN;

6. **APPEALS** to Member States and the International Community at large to urgently provide humanitarian assistance to the affected population in Sierra Leone and **FURTHER APPEALS** to the International Community to assist the Government of Sierra Leone in developing and funding post-conflict reconstruction programmes.

DECISION ON THE SITUATION IN SOMALIA

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report;
2. REITERATES its commitment to the unity, territorial integrity and sovereignty of Somalia, and SUPPORTS the efforts aimed at bringing a peaceful and lasting solution to the crisis in Somalia;
3. REITERATES its earlier call to the Transitional National Government (TNG) to intensify its efforts so as to bring about an all-inclusive and lasting national reconciliation, building upon the outcome of the Arta Peace Process and supports the efforts aimed at the establishment of the National Reconciliation Commission;
4. REAFFIRMS that a lasting solution to the conflict in Somalia can only be found through dialogue and involvement of all the parties in a spirit of mutual accommodation and tolerance and COMMENDS those political forces in Somalia which have agreed to engage in this process without preconditions;
5. WELCOMES the efforts being made by the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) to assist the Transitional National Government in its endeavours which aim at broadening and sustaining the peace process in Somalia through constructive engagement of the parties concerned, FURTHER WELCOMES the initiatives taken by the Current Chairman of IGAD H.E. President OMER HASSAN EL-BASHIR including the appointment of a Special Envoy as well as other Member States of IGAD and ENCOURAGES them to continue with those efforts in close collaboration with the OAU;

6. EXPRESSES CONCERN at the continued insecurity and prevalence of acts of violence in the country, especially in Mogadishu, and the consequences thereof for the humanitarian situation and the activities of humanitarian workers;
7. EXPRESSES SATISFACTION at the progress made by the Transitional National Government in the establishment of peace and security in the country and REQUESTS the OAU and the International Community to continue to assist the government in this regard;
8. STRONGLY CONDEMNS the war lords who persist in their stubbornness in blocking the peace efforts in Somalia;
9. REQUESTS the Secretary General, to work closely with IGAD, the League of Arab States, the Organization of Islamic Conference and the wider International Community, to continue to support the Transitional National Government in its efforts to sustain reconciliation and reconstruction in Somalia.

**DECISION ON THE CONFLICT INVOLVING COUNTRIES
OF THE MANO RIVER BASIN UNION**

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **UNDERLINES** its grave concern about the continued crisis among the countries of the Mano River Union;
3. **CALLS** on all the parties concerned to do everything possible to ensure the restoration of durable peace as soon as possible. In that regard, Council **ENCOURAGES** all the Member States of the Mano River Union to pursue a policy of good neighbourliness, avoid the use of force in resolving disputes, take measures to prohibit the activities of armed rebel groups operating on their respective territories and open all their borders without delay;
4. **CALLS** for further efforts to be made to implement the decisions adopted by the ECOWAS Summits of Bamako and Abuja, held in December, 2000 and April, 2001, respectively, and **WELCOMES** the establishment by ECOWAS of a Mediation Committee composed of the Presidents of Mali, Nigeria and Togo; and **EXPRESSES** the support of the OAU for the on-going efforts to convene a meeting to be attended by the three Presidents of the countries of the Mano River Union;
5. In the context of the decisions taken by the ECOWAS Heads of State, **REITERATES** the support of the OAU for the deployment of an ECOMOG Force at the borders of the three Mano River countries. Council **ENCOURAGES** the Governments of Liberia and Guinea to sign the respective Status of Forces Agreements to facilitate its deployment, and **APPEALS** to the International Community to provide financial support to ECOWAS in its efforts to deploy and sustain the Force;

6. EXPRESSES its continued concern over the alarming humanitarian situation in the countries of the Mano River Union. While expressing its appreciation to the international community for the assistance provided so far, APPEALS to Member States and the international community at large, including the UNHCR, to provide further assistance to the victims of the crises in the sub-region, and FURTHER APPEALS for more assistance to be delivered to the Government of Guinea which has incurred the burden of caring for refugees from other countries in the Mano River Union as well as the internally displaced.

DECISION ON THE SITUATION IN ANGOLA

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **EXPRESSES GRAVE CONCERN** at the escalation of the war and at its catastrophic humanitarian consequences, particularly on the already precarious situation of vulnerable people especially women, old people and children as well as displaced persons;
3. **WELCOMES** the Angolan Government reaffirmation of its commitments to the Lusaka Protocol as well as the measures taken to facilitate the search for a peaceful and lasting solution to the conflict, particularly the adoption of the Amnesty Law, the establishment of a Peace and Reconciliation Fund and the announcement about the organization of elections in the year 2002;
4. **URGES UNITA** to translate into concrete action the statements it made regarding the validity of the Lusaka Protocol particularly by taking appropriate measures to end the hostilities as well as by discharging all its obligations under this Protocol;
5. **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the work accomplished by the OAU Ad Hoc Committee on the Follow-up of the Sanctions imposed against UNITA by the United Nations Security Council and **URGES** all Member States to cooperate fully with this Committee especially by providing any information at their disposal and strictly complying with the sanctions against UNITA;
6. **REQUESTS** the OAU Ad Hoc Committee to pursue its efforts in conformity with the recommendations contained in its report to Council;

7. **ALSO EXPRESSES SATISFACTION** at the work done by the Monitoring Mechanism established by the United Nations pursuant to Resolution 1295 (2000) of 18 April 2000, as well as the activities undertaken by the Security Council Committee on Sanctions Against UNITA;
8. **URGES** the international community to cooperate fully with the United Nations to ensure strict application of the sanctions against UNITA;
9. **EXPRESSES ITS GRAVE CONCERN** over the repeated violations of the International Humanitarian Law and **URGES UNITA** to comply with this Law and put an immediate end to its indiscriminate attacks against civilian populations and the personnel of humanitarian agencies.

**DECISION ON THE PEACE PROCESS BETWEEN
ETHIOPIA AND ERITREA**

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **WELCOMES** the progress made in the implementation of the Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities of 18 June 2000 and the Peace Agreement of 12 December 2000, which were signed in Algiers, Algeria, under the leadership of President Abdelaziz Bouteflika, and **COMMENDS** the parties for the commitment they have demonstrated in the implementation of these two Agreements and the cooperation extended to the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia (UNMEE);
3. **URGES** the parties to cooperate fully with UNMEE in order to address the outstanding issues, including those pertaining to the Temporary Security Zone;
4. **EXPRESSES SATISFACTION** at the commencement of the work of the Boundary and Claims Commissions and **URGES** the parties to cooperate fully with both Commissions;
5. **COMMENDS** the OAU Liaison Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (OLMEE) for its contribution to the peace process as well as UNMEE for the work done and its dedication to the implementation of the peace process;
6. **EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION** to all the countries which have extended support for the implementation of the peace process, particularly the countries which have provided assistance to OLMEE and UNMEE;
7. **CALLS UPON** Member States and the international community at large to continue to provide full support to the implementation of the Algiers Agreements in all their aspects;

8. **PAYS TRIBUTE** to H.E. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, President of the Peoples' Democratic Republic of Algeria, for his outstanding contribution to the search for a solution to the conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea, which has led to the signing of the Algiers Agreements.

DECISION ON THE SITUATION OF
REFUGEES,
RETURNEES AND DISPLACED
PERSONS

Council :

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report;
2. EXPRESSES serious concern about the alarming situation of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa;
3. EXPRESSES ITS DEEP GRATITUDE to countries of asylum for the hospitality and generosity extended to refugees and considering the heavy burden placed on them, CALLS ON the international community to extend its solidarity by increasing assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in the Continent;
4. URGES countries of origin and host countries, in consultation with the OAU and the UNHCR to promote the voluntary repatriation of refugees who wish to return home, in conformity with the relevant OAU Convention on the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa, the United Nations Convention on refugee status and other relevant international legal instruments, including the establishment of a safe and secure environment;
5. APPEALS to Member States and other concerned parties to address the security situation of refugees and aid-workers in accordance with this year's theme of Africa Refugees Day "Security of refugees and the challenges arising from the presence of armed persons in the refugee camps";
6. COMMENDS the positive steps so far taken by the OAU Commission on Refugees in the implementation of its

Programme of Action adopted by the Council of Ministers in 1996 and REQUESTS the Commission to pursue its efforts;

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7. **REQUESTS the Secretary General to continue to support all efforts being made at sub-regional and regional levels in the search for lasting solutions to the problems of refugees, returnees and displaced persons;**
8. **REQUESTS finally the Secretary General to intensify its cooperation with UNHCR with a view to repatriating the refugees to their countries of origin anytime the conditions for repatriation are fulfilled, including the establishment of safe havens.**

DECISION ON THE ILLICIT PROLIFERATION,
CIRCULATION AND TRAFFICKING OF
SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **WELCOMES** the adoption by the OAU Ministerial Conference, held in Bamako, Mali, from 30 November to 1 December 2000, of the Bamako Declaration on the African Common Position on the Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons, and **ENDORSES** the said Declaration;
3. **CALLS UPON** all Member States to participate fully and at the appropriate level, at the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects, scheduled to take place in New York from 9 to 20 July 2001 and to promote the African Common Position as contained in the Bamako Declaration;
4. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General to take all the necessary steps to ensure the follow-up of the Bamako Declaration, and **URGES** all Member States to implement the relevant recommendations contained therein;
5. **APPEALS** to the United Nations Conference to take into consideration the concerns and proposals articulated in the Bamako Declaration and **REQUESTS** the international community to assist the OAU and its Member States in their efforts to address the problem of the illicit proliferation, circulation and trafficking of small arms and light weapons in Africa in a comprehensive, integrated, sustainable and efficient manner.

DECISION ON THE QUESTION OF PALESTINE

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report;
2. RECALLS resolutions 181, 194, 303 and 54/27 on Palestine, of the UN General Assembly and Security Council Resolutions 242, 252, 338, 465, 476 and 478 and CALLS for the respect of these resolutions;
3. REAFFIRMS the right of the Palestinian people, under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization to exercise their inalienable national rights, including their right to return to their homes, recover their property, self-determination and the establishment of an independent state on their national soil, with East Jerusalem as its capital, in accordance with the principles of international law and other pertinent resolutions of the UN;
4. RECOGNIZES the binding character of UN Security Council Resolution 237, which calls for the return of Palestinians displaced in 1967 as well as other relevant instruments, in particular UN General Assembly Resolution 194 (1948) which provides for the return of Palestinian refugees to their homes and property;
5. CALLS UPON the UN to establish a Commission to ensure the fulfillment of the process of return, in view of the fact that the right of return is one of the fundamental principles of a just and comprehensive peace in the region;
6. CONDEMNS Israel for using internationally prohibited weapons and excessive force against unarmed Palestinian civilians, its brutal practices against the innocent populations of the occupied Palestinian territories, the desecration of holy places; the imposition of a state of economic siege and closures; the destruction of agricultural lands and property; and the repeated incursions into areas under the control of the Palestinian National Authority;

7. **SUPPORTS** the right of the Palestinian people to receive immediate international protection against the ongoing killings and Israeli aggression, the desecration of Christian and Muslim holy places and **EMPHASIZES** the urgent need for Israel to respect all international humanitarian laws in the Palestinian lands occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, as provided for, by the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949;
8. **RECOGNIZES** the need for the convening of a meeting of the High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, in order to enforce the Convention in the occupied Palestinian territories, including Jerusalem, in consonance with the statement issued by the meeting of the High Signatories held in Geneva on 15 July, 1999;
9. **CONDEMNS** the Jewish settlement policy in the occupied Palestinian territories including Jerusalem and **CALLS UPON** Israel to put an immediate halt to its policy of confiscation of Palestinian Lands, especially in Jerusalem and its suburbs and the building of new Jewish Settlements and the expansion of existing settlements, which constitutes violations of UN Security Council Resolutions 242, 338, 465 and 478;
10. **CALLS UPON** Member States and non-governmental organizations to boycott settlement products and trade relations with the producers and suppliers of such products from the Israeli settlements in the occupied territories;
11. **RECALLS** that the guarantee of respect for agreements signed and other tenets of international law are indispensable for the maintenance of international peace and security, **CALLS** for the full implementation of all peace agreements and urges the sponsors of the peace process, the parties concerned and the entire international community to deploy all efforts in order to revive the peace process and ensure its success;

12. **PAYS TRIBUTE** to the popular Palestinian Al-Aqsa uprising “**INTIFADA**” and expresses its full solidarity with the Palestinian people in their just and legitimate struggle, against Israeli occupation and aggression, to restore their national inalienable rights, including the right to return to their country, and to self-determination, and to establish their independent state, with the Holy city of Jerusalem as its capital;
13. **STRONGLY CONDEMNS** Israel’s policies and practices in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem. **CALLS UPON** Israel, the occupying power, to immediately desist from using excessive and disproportionate fire power against Palestinian civilians, extra-judicial murder, imposition of draconian laws and orders strangling Palestinian economic development through closures and curfews, uprooting of trees, destruction of houses, confiscation of Palestinian land, establishment of illegal Jewish settlements. **CALLS UPON** Israel, the occupying power, to carry out its obligations and withdraw from the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, in compliance with Security Council Resolution 242, and dismantle Jewish settlements in compliance with Security Council Resolution 465. **CONSIDERS** Israel’s policies and practices constitute violations of the Principles of the Charter of the United Nations and relevant resolutions and a breach of bilateral agreements with the Palestine Liberation Organization;
14. **EXPRESSES ITS SUPPORT** for all peace initiatives, including the Joint Egyptian-Jordanian initiative and the recommendations of the Mitchell Report, intended to ensure the stoppage of the cycle of violence and facilitate the resumption of the peace negotiations, **HAILS** the Palestinian leadership for accepting these proposals and the ceasefire and **REQUESTS** the Government of Israel to fully implement in its entirety, as an indivisible package, along with agreements signed and UN Resolutions 242, 338, 194 as the basis for achieving a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the region;

15. WELCOMES the proposal of Senegal, in its capacity as Chairperson of the Committee for the exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, to send a multi-party delegation composed of the OAU, the League of Arab States, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the Non-Aligned Movement to the capitals of the States, permanent members of the UN Security Council and to the UN Headquarters in New York, to sensitize the Palestinian question, and request a meeting of the Security Council to examine the Palestinian question on the sidelines of the meetings of the United Nations General Assembly.

DECISION ON THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **RECALLS** all the relevant resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government and the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity on the Middle East situation, which affirm that the Question of Palestine is the core of the Middle East conflict and that no comprehensive, just and lasting peace can be established unless Israel fully withdraws from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, including East Jerusalem, the Syrian Golan Heights and the Lebanese Shabáa farms and unless the Palestinian people exercise their inalienable national rights in accordance with UN resolutions, in particular, Security Council Resolutions 242, 338, 465, 478 and General Assembly Resolutions 181 of 1947, 194 of 1948 and on the basis of the land-for peace formula;
3. **URGES** the United Nations and the International Community to guarantee Israeli's full compliance with the resolutions adopted by the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency that call for the use of Israel's nuclear installations for peaceful purposes and compel it to open its nuclear installations to international inspection;
4. **CALLS UPON** the Government of Israel to join the Nuclear non-Proliferation Treaty and refrain from the manufacture, production, testing and possession of nuclear weapons and to place its nuclear facilities under the comprehensive safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency so as to ensure that the Middle East remains an area free of nuclear weapons and all weapons of mass destruction;
5. **CONDEMNS** the Israeli Government for its continued military aggression against Syria and Lebanon which threatens peace and security in the whole region and **URGES** the release of all Lebanese prisoners held in Israeli jails;

6. **TAKES NOTE** of the incomplete withdrawal of Israeli troops from South Lebanon and the efforts deployed by the United Nations to restore normalcy to that region and **REQUESTS** the Government of Israel to complete the withdrawal of its forces from the Lebanese Shabáa farms in South Lebanon and the Syrian Golan Heights;
7. **CALLS** for the resumption of negotiations between Israel and Syria, on the basis of Resolutions 242, 338 and the tenets of the Peace Process established at the Madrid Conference and the full implementation of all other agreements and commitments undertaken on all tracks of the peace process in the region;
8. **URGE** all the parties concerned to honour their commitments and resume the negotiations in order to create the necessary conditions for lasting peace in the region.

DECISION ON THE SITUATION IN THE
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Council:

1. **STRONGLY CONDEMNS** the attempted coup d' Etat in the Central African Republic in the night of 27 to 28 June 2001, in flagrant violation of the principles of the OAU and its decisions on unconstitutional changes, and **COMMENDS** Member States as well as Economic Community for Sahelo-Saharan States (CEN-SAD) lending their support to the legal institutions of the State and for the return of constitutional order in the country;
2. **REITERATES** its condemnation of the use of violence as a means of resolving political differences and **REAFFIRMS** the need to have recourse to dialogue and consultations;
3. **ONCE AGAIN URGES** the stakeholders in the political life in the Central African Republic to seek a rapid solution to the crisis rocking the country through dialogue and respect for democratic principles and good governance;
4. **APPEALS** to Member States and the rest of the International Community to provide the necessary economic and financial assistance for the reconstruction of the Central African Republic and in particular **CALLS ON** the countries which have promised to provide funds at the Pledging Conference in favour of the Central African Republic in New York in May 2000 to honour their commitments.

DECISION ON THE SIGNING OF THE FINAL PEACE
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF
DJIBOUTI AND THE FRUD-ARME

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE WITH SATISFACTION OF the signing in Djibouti on 12 May 2001 of the final peace Agreement between the Government of Djibouti and the Front for the Restoration of Unity and Democracy (FRUD-ARME) and COMMENDS the Parties concerned, particularly President Ismael Omar Guelleh, for the efforts deployed for the definitive return of peace and stability in Djibouti;
2. URGENTLY URGES Member States and the rest of the International Community to provide material and financial assistance to facilitate the implementation of the Final Peace Agreement and back up the efforts deployed by the Parties.

DRAFT DECISION ON THE RECONCILIATION PROCESS
IN THE REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Council:

1. WELCOMES the convening of an all inclusive national dialogue in the Republic of Congo from 17 March to 14 April 2001, and the signing of the Convention for Peace and Reconciliation, in Brazzaville on 14 April 2001;
2. COMMENDS President Denis Sassou-Nguesso and the parties which participated in the national dialogue for their commitment to the cause of peace;
3. URGES the parties which did not take part in the dialogue to reconsider their position and contribute to the on-going national reconciliation process in the country.
4. PAYS TRIBUTE TO H.E. El Hadj Omar Bongo, President of the Republic of Gabon, for the tireless efforts he has invested, in his capacity as International Mediator, which culminated in the convening of the all inclusive national dialogue;
5. APPEALS to Member States and the International Community to lend their full support towards the consolidation of peace and national reconciliation in the Republic of Congo.

**DRAFT DECISION ON OAU/CIVIL
SOCIETY CO-OPERATION**

Council:

1. **RECALLS** the decisions and policies adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government calling for the strengthening of and co-operation with the African Civil Society, calling in particular, the African Charter for Popular Participation in Development (1990), the Declaration on the Political and Socio-Economic situation in Africa and the Fundamental changes taking place in the world (1990) the Abuja Treaty establishing the African Economic Community (1991), and the Constitutive Act of the African Union (2000);
2. **WELCOMES** the successful convening and outcome of the OAU/Civil Society Conference held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 11 to 15 June 2001, particularly the adoption of the proposed Framework for co-operation between the OAU/African Union and African Civil Society Organizations;
3. **ENCOURAGES** the Secretary General to pursue his efforts aimed at engaging African Civil Society Organizations on the basis of the proposed Framework for Cooperation.

DECISION ON THE CHAGOS ARCHIPELAGO
INCLUDING DIEGO GARCIA

Council:

1. REITERATES its unflinching support to the Government of Mauritius in its endeavours and efforts to restore its sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago, which forms an integral part of the territory of Mauritius and CALLS UPON the United Kingdom to put an end to its continued unlawful occupation of the Chagos Archipelago and to return it to Mauritius thereby completing the process of decolonization;
2. FURTHER EXHORTS the United Kingdom authorities not to take any steps or measures likely to adversely impact on the sovereignty of Mauritius;
3. ENJOINS the international community to support the legitimate claim of Mauritius and extend all assistance possible to it to secure the return of the Chagos Archipelago to its jurisdiction thereby enabling it to exercise its rightful sovereign responsibilities on the totality of its territory.

DECISION ON THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
TREATY ESTABLISHING THE
AFRICAN
ECONOMIC COMMUNITY (AEC)

Council:

1. TAKES NOTES of the Report;
2. REITERATES ITS REQUEST to the Member States which have not yet done so, to ratify or accede to the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community as expeditiously as possible;
3. REQUESTS Member States, the General Secretariat and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to effectively implement all Community Decisions and Regulations, as well as the recommendations of the Committee on Coordination;
4. ALSO REQUESTS the General Secretariat, in collaboration with the RECs, the ECA, the ADB and BADEA, to identify projects having regional and continental coverage, and propose measures for their implementation;
5. EXPRESSES APPRECIATION to the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) for the financial assistance it has continued to provide for strengthening the capacity of OAU and the Regional Economic Communities in the implementation of programmes of regional integration and development;
6. ALSO EXPRESSES APPRECIATION to the UNDP for its continued financial support to the OAU in the implementation of the Treaty establishing the AEC;
7. URGES the UNDP to formulate, with the OAU, a new programme of assistance, in support of the establishment and functioning of

the African Union, including the accelerated implementation of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community;

8. ENCOURAGES the General Secretariat to exert more effort at the mobilization of extra-budgetary resources in support of the priority programmes of the Organization.

DECISION ON THE FOLLOW-UP ON THE AFRICA-EUROPE
SUMMIT AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE CAIRO PLAN OF ACTION

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report of the Secretary General on the Follow up on the Africa-Europe Summit, and of the minutes of the Second Meeting of the Bi-Regional Group at Senior Officials' level, held in Lome, Togo on 25 - 26 June 2001;
2. RECALLS its Regulations CM/OAU/AEC/Regl.1(VIII) of February 2001 on the Follow-up on the Africa-Europe Summit, particularly the convening of the meetings of the Bi-Regional Committee at the Headquarters of the two institutions, and on the possibility of any Member State hosting one of the two meetings;
3. REITERATES OAU's support for the candidature of Burkina Faso to host one of the follow-up ministerial meetings;
4. MANDATES the OAU Follow-up Committee, through its Core Group, to assume full responsibility for resolving all outstanding problems with the European Union and to this end:
 - (a) URGES the two sides to comply with the provisions of the Cairo Plan of Action, particularly the convening of at least two Ministerial meetings to follow-up on the implementation of the Plan of Action, including Africa's external debt, cultural goods and funds illegally taken out of the Continent;
 - (b) CALLS on the two sides to ensure adequate preparation of these meetings with specific agenda, and the adoption of a joint document on the implementation status of the Cairo Plan of Action;

5. **APPEALS** to the European side to fully cooperate with the African side in clearing all obstacles in order for both parties to focus on substantive issues in the implementation of the Cairo Plan of Action, thereby preserving and sustaining the new partnership between the two sides;
6. **URGES** all Member States to provide the General Secretariat with the required information and inputs so as to facilitate the formulation of a strong African negotiating position on the implementation of the Cairo Plan of Action;
7. **COMMENDS** the Government of Togo for having hosted the Second Meeting of the Bi-Regional group at Senior Officials' level in Lome, Togo from 25 - 26 June 2001;
8. **REQUESTS** all the RECs, the ADB and ECA to cooperate with the OAU in formulating African negotiating positions.

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH
ORDINARY SESSION OF THE OAU LABOUR AND
SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the report;
2. ENDORSES the recommendations as contained in the report by the Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session of the OAU Labour and Social Affairs Commission and all relevant documents contained therein;
3. CALLS UPON the General Secretariat to put in place a follow-up mechanism to monitor the implementation of the various recommendations and decisions taken by the Commission;
4. REQUESTS Member States to seriously promote the issues of tripartism and social dialogue at national level with all civil society groups, including women and youth;
5. REITERATES the wish of Member States for the ILO and other Development Partners to extend the “Jobs for Africa” programme to all Member States and develop sustainable jobs to bring an end to Contractual condition” of the labour market in Africa;
6. URGES the ILO to expedite its programme of technical cooperation to promote fundamental principles and rights at work, strengthen the capacities of the multidisciplinary teams and support Member States in implementing the eight fundamental ILO Conventions;
7. REQUESTS the General Secretariat to convene a high level Seminar to further consider the draft OAU Policy Framework and Plan of Action on Ageing and submit the recommendations to the 25th Session of the OAU Labour and Social Affairs Commission;

8. **CALLS UPON** Member States to consider the issue of trafficking in children and women as an abuse of human rights and enact and implement national legislation against trafficking in children and women;
9. **FURTHER CALLS UPON** Member States to establish National Youth Councils or other permanent institutions for youth and involve youth in the formulation and implementation of youth programmes and to participate actively in the Fourth World Youth Forum to be held in Dakar, Senegal in August 2001;
10. **REITERATES** the need for Member States to adopt strategies to extend social security and protection based on economic, social and political context of each country and to respect gender equality in social security issues;
11. **CALLS UPON** the Pan-African Youth Movement to expand its programmes and activities in the area of HIV/AIDS and extend its programmes in all parts of Africa, including southern Africa;
12. **REQUEST** Member States to implement the provisions of the Declaration on the African Decade of Disabled Persons and **CALLS UPON** the African Rehabilitation Institute (ARI) to elaborate an African Common Position on people with disabilities.

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE FIRST

EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN MINISTERS OF AGRICULTURE LOME, TOGO, 20-21 APRIL 2001

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report;
2. REQUESTS the Secretary General to urgently convene a meeting of the Committee on Rural Economy and Agriculture as provided for in Article 25 (1, a) of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community and Article 14 of the Constitutive Act of the African Union which would have the following essential duties:
 - i) prepare a comprehensive programme, including a definite timetable for the establishment of an African Common Market of basic food commodities; and
 - ii) prepare a methodology for implementing the recommendations of the First Extraordinary Conference of Ministers of Agriculture held in Lome, Togo from 20 to 21 April 2001; in order to address as a priority the problem of food security in the Continent.
3. EXPRESSES HIS GRATITUDE to the Government of the Republic of Togo for having hosted the First Extra-ordinary Session of the Conference of African Ministers of Agriculture;
4. CALLS ON all Member States of the African Centre for Fertilizer Development to exert maximum effort to meet their financial obligations to the Centre, in order to enable it carry out its programmes;

5. **URGES** all Member States which have not yet done so to sign the Convention of the African Centre for Fertilizer Development and accede to membership of the Centre;

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6. **REQUESTS** FAO to provide technical assistance to the OAU General Secretariat, its member States and the RECs in the implementation of strategies and programmes aimed at improving food security in Africa;
7. **RECOMMENDS** that a decision be taken at the level of Heads of State and Government to ensure that the Plan of Action for the Eradication of Tse-Tse Flies be forwarded to the mandated national offices dealing with health, agriculture, livestock, rural development and poverty reduction for inclusion among the objectives of their national plans and programmes for implementation;
8. **CALLS UPON** all Member States to support and participate actively, at the highest level, in the Conference of the World Food Summit Five Years Later scheduled to take place from 5 to 9 November, 2001 in Rome.

DECISION OF THE 12TH SESSION OF THE STANDING
COMMISSION FOR AFRO-ARAB COOPERATION

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the report and the final communiqué;
2. ENDORSES the recommendations of the Commission as contained in the report and final communiqué;
3. EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE to the government and people of Algeria for the efforts deployed and the excellent facilities provided for the holding of the 12th Ordinary Session of the Standing Commission;
4. COMMENDS Member States, the Secretary General of the OAU and the Secretary General of the League of Arab States for the efforts deployed for the holding of the 12th Ordinary Session of the Standing Commission;
5. REQUESTS the Secretary General to initiate the necessary consultations with the Secretary General of the League of Arab States and the other parties concerned for the implementation of the recommendations adopted at this 12th Session including the proposals made by Sudan, Egypt and Libya on the reactivation of Afro-Arab Cooperation and submit a report to the Seventy-fifth session of Council;
6. ALSO REQUESTS the Secretary General to hold the necessary consultations with Member States for the holding of the 13th Ordinary Session of the Commission to be hosted by the OAU or the African Union to be held before the end of 2001.

DECISION ON SINGING/PLAYING OF THE OAU
ANTHEM
AND HOISTING THE OAU FLAG

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE WITH APPRECIATION the proposal of the Republic of Namibia on the singing/playing of the OAU Anthem and hoisting of the OAU Flag during official ceremonies in Member States;
2. CONSIDERS that the implementation of this proposal will assist in the popularization of the principles of African common identity, unity, solidarity and integration, especially among the youth and children;
3. ENDORSES the proposal and RECOMMENDS it to Member States for implementation.

DECISION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
AFRICAN ACADEMY OF LANGUAGES

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the report;
2. CONGRATULATES His Excellency, Mr. Alpha Oumar KONARE, President of the Republic of Mali for the initiative he took in proposing the establishment of the African Academy of Languages as a factor of development and mutual understanding which could contribute to building and consolidating peace and African renaissance;
3. ENDORSES the idea of establishing such an institution and REQUESTS that the General Secretariat deploy all efforts to set up and launch activities of the Academy;
4. INVITES all Member States, the civil society as well as the entire African and international scientific communities concerned to actively participate in the Academy's activities;
5. APPEALS to all Africa's development partners to provide the necessary financial and technical support for the establishment and implementation of the Academy's activities.

RESOLUTION (REGULATION) ON ESTABLISHMENT
OF A STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR A POLICY
OF MIGRATION IN AFRICA

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the report;
2. RECOGNIZES the challenges African countries are facing in regard to the flow of irregular migration, trafficking and migrant right as well as HIV/AIDS and related issues;
3. NOTES WITH CONCERN the “Brain-Drain” issue affecting our continent in a moment where our countries need their qualified and skilled manpower to face the globalization challenges;
4. RECOMMENDS to Member States to work towards free movement of people and to strengthening intra-regional and inter-regional co-operation in matters concerning migration on the basis of the established processes of migration dialogue at regional and sub-regional levels and to create enabling conditions for the participation of migrants, in particular, African Diaspora in the development of their home countries;
5. ENCOURAGES Member States to work towards the development of a strategic framework for migration policy in Africa that could contribute to addressing the challenges posed by migration, but also make effective use of the opportunity presented by the phenomenon and thereby ensuring the integration of migration and related issues into their national and regional agenda for security, stability, development and cooperation;

6. REQUESTS the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in partnership with the OAU, ADB, the International community and funding organizations and other stakeholders, to strengthen their activities in the Continent by promoting specific development projects in areas pre-disposed to international migration; as well as health and legal protection of the rights of migrants in their capacity as vulnerable persons, specially in conflict and transit areas and to set-up, in collaboration with Member States, research networks into the Continent in order to enhance Member States ability to formulate migration policies;
7. CALLS UPON IOM to continue to help African countries to encourage and facilitate the return of their qualified expatriate nationals and promote the initiated programme of Migration for the development of Africa (MIDA);
8. FINALLY REQUESTS the Secretary General, in collaboration with IOM and other interested partners, to establish such modalities that would enable monitoring and support of the activities relating to migration in the Continent and submit regular reports thereon to the Council.

DECISION ON OAU'S CONTRIBUTION TO AFRICAN
TRANSBOUNDARY DESERTIFICATION
CONTROL PROJECTS

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report on the implementation of the Protocol Agreement with the Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification;
2. EXPRESSES SATISFACTION AT the proper utilization of the subvention of US \$300,000 granted in accordance with decision CM/Dec.426 (LXVIII), adopted by the 68th Ordinary Session of Council held in Burkina Faso in July 1998;
3. AUTHORIZES the Secretary General, in close cooperation with the Management Committee of the Fund, to make a fresh contribution from the Special Emergency Assistance Fund for Drought and Famine in Africa towards the pursuit of on-going activities in the concerned African countries;
4. WELCOMES the fact that all African countries have ratified the Convention and embarked upon the various stages of its implementation;
5. INVITES developed countries, and multilateral and donor institutions to provide the necessary support to countries affected by drought and desertification, particularly African countries, for the successful implementation of the Convention.

DECISION ON THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE
8TH ALL-AFRICA TRADE FAIR

Council:

1. ENDORSES 22-26 April 2002 as the date for the 8th All-Africa Trade Fair scheduled to be held in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt;
2. URGES all member states to take note of the above date, disseminate it as widely as possible and ensure that no major national, sub-regional or continental event is organized to clash with the date of the Fair;
3. CALLS on all member states and all collaborating institutions designated as members of the Technical Organizing Committee (TOC) to participate actively in the preparatory process of the Fair;
4. INVITES all member states to begin the preparations at the national level for the Fair and to mobilize all potential participants, especially the private sector agents, the chambers of commerce and all economic operators to participate in the Fair.

DECISION ON HOLDING THE MEETING OF AFRICA'S
EXTERNAL DEBT EXPERTS AND REGIONAL
SEMINAR ON AFRICA'S EXTERNAL DEBT

Council:

1. **NOTES** that the General Secretariat has started the preparations for the holding of the Meeting of the Africa's Independent Experts' Group and the Regional Seminar on Africa's External Debt, respectively;
2. **ACCEPTS** the offer of the Government of Senegal to host the meeting of the Independent Experts' Group on Africa's External Debt during the month of November 2001, in Dakar, Senegal and the African Regional Seminar on Africa's External Debt also in Dakar, Senegal at a date to be determined;
3. **URGES** all Member States to respond favourably to the offer of Senegal by sending their national experts to participate in the Meeting of the Independent Experts' Group and the Regional Seminar on Africa's Debt;
4. **CALLS** on all Member States to support these two initiatives to ensure that they contribute to the search for a durable solution to the African External Debt Problem;
5. **CALLS** on the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Matters to consider allocating the necessary budgetary provisions to enable the General Secretariat engage the services of the Independent Experts and/or Consultants to provide the required technical assistance to support the preparatory process;
6. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General, in consultation with relevant institutions, to finalize arrangements for the composition of the Independent Experts Group in order to organize the Meeting of the Independent Experts' Group in November 2001.

**DECISION ON THE WORLD CONFERENCE AGAINST
RACISM, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, XENOPHOBIA
AND RELATED INTOLERANCE**

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the information provided by the Republic of South Africa on the status of the preparation of the World Conference against Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance due to take place in Durban, South Africa from 31 August to 7 September 2001 in particular, the African Preparatory Conference held in Dakar, Senegal from 22-24 January 2001;
2. **TAKES NOTE WITH SATISFACTION** of the report on the Dakar Consultation of June 2001 on the World Conference on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, and **APPROVES** the conclusions and recommendations contained therein;
3. **EXPRESSES ITS DEEP APPRECIATION** on the efforts made by South Africa to ensure the success of the Conference;
4. **REQUESTS** Member States to prepare adequately and to ensure their effective high level and gender balanced participation at the conference given the important issues to be discussed;
5. **REQUESTS** the General Secretariat to follow closely the preparation and the holding of Durban Conference and provide necessary assistance to Member States and African Organizations attending the Conference.

ON THE DRAFT PROTOCOL TO THE AFRICAN CHARTER
ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS RELATING
TO THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN IN AFRICA

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE WITH SATISFACTION of the report on the Dakar Consultation of June 2001 on the process of formulation of the Draft Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa, and APPROVES the conclusions and recommendations contained therein;
2. INVITES Member States to ensure adequate preparation of the experts meetings on the Draft Protocol relating to the Rights of Women in Africa;
3. REQUESTS the General Secretariat to take necessary measures in order to convene the experts meetings and report to the Seventy-fifth Ordinary Session of Council

DRAFT DECISION ON ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
WORLD SOLIDARITY FUND

Council:

1. **RECALLS** Decision AHG/Decl.4 (XXXVI) supporting the appeal made by H.E. Mr. Zine El Abidine BEN ALI, President of the Republic of Tunisia for the establishment of a World Solidarity Fund;
2. **ALSO RECALLS** Decision CM/Dec.570 (LXXIII) inviting Member States as well as African Organizations and institutions to transmit to the United Nations Secretary General their positive and concrete proposals concerning the establishment of a World Solidarity Fund;
3. **RECOGNIZES** the important role of the World Solidarity Fund in the realization of the objectives set by the International Community in the Declaration adopted by the Millennium Summit “to reduce by half, by the year 2015, the percentage of the world population whose income is below one dollar a day and that of people suffering from hunger ...”;
4. **UNDERScores** the importance of the consultations by the United Nations Secretary General pursuant to paragraph 14 of the UN General Assembly Resolution 55/210 to enlist the views of countries as well as regional and international organizations and institutions on the establishment of a World Solidarity Fund and **COMMENDS** Member Countries and African Organizations and institutions on the responses received to date;
5. **TAKES NOTE OF** the importance accorded by the Millennium Declaration to solidarity as a fundamental value in international relations in the twenty-first century, bearing in mind the voluntary nature of contributions to this Fund;

6. **CALLS ON** Member Countries which have not yet responded positively to the letter of the United Nations Secretary General to do so as soon as possible, as a further demonstration of the interest of the countries of our Continent in this Fund as an instrument to combat poverty by the International Community;
7. **CALLS ON** the United Nations Secretary General to lend his personal support towards the establishment of the Fund to enable it to become operational as soon as possible;
8. **APPEALS** to all Member States of the United Nations and international organizations to contribute to the realization of this noble initiative;
9. **REQUESTS** the Current Chairman of the Assembly to seize the United Nations Secretary General of this Decision as the common position of Member States of the Organization of African Unity within the framework of the consultations held in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 14 of the United Nations Resolution 55/210;
10. **CALLS ON** the Secretary General of the Organization of African Unity to monitor the progress made in this matter and initiate the necessary contacts for the implementation of this Decision during consideration of the report of the Secretary General by the United Nations General Assembly.

DECISION ON THE ACP/EU NEGOTIATIONS

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** that negotiations of WTO-compatible Trade Arrangements under the Cotonou ACP-EC Partnership Agreement is scheduled to be launched in September, 2002 and that the ACP Ministerial Committee on Trade has been established and has begun its work;
2. **URGES** all Member States which are members of the ACP Group and which have not yet done so, to take the necessary steps to ratify the ACP/EC Cotonou Partnership Agreement; and **CALLS** on all EU States to do likewise;
3. **DIRECTS** the OAU Panel of Experts, working in close consultation with the African Ambassadors in Brussels, to provide an analysis of the various options of Trade Arrangements for the consideration of Member States, with emphasis on the issue of geographical configuration and other issues envisaged for negotiations under the Cotonou Partnership Agreement with the EU, taking into account the objectives of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community and the Constitutive Act of the African Union;
4. **CALLS** on all eligible member States and regional groupings and organizations to submit requests to the ACP Secretariat for financial assistance in preparation for the forthcoming ACP/EU and WTO negotiations.

DECISION ON AFRICA'S PARTICIPATION IN THE
FOURTH WTO MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE,
DOHA, QATAR, 9-13 NOVEMBER 2001

Council:

1. NOTES that a High-level Brainstorming Meeting for Africa's Trade Negotiators was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 26-29 June, 2001 preparatory to the 4th Ministerial Conference of the WTO scheduled for 9-13 November, in Doha, Qatar;
2. CALLS ON the forthcoming 4th Ordinary Session of the OAU/AEC Ministers of Trade scheduled to take place in Abuja, Nigeria on 17-21 September, 2001 to review the Conclusions and Recommendations of the High Level Meeting, and provide the necessary political leadership for Africa's participation in the Doha Ministerial Conference of the WTO, including the designation of Spokespersons to articulate Africa's interest during the negotiations;
3. URGES all African countries, which are members of the WTO, to take the necessary steps to attend the 4th WTO Ministerial Conference scheduled to take place in Doha, Qatar in November 2001 and maintain their unity and solidarity throughout the negotiations;
4. URGES that all identifiable interests of Member States and/or groups of states, should be taken into account for the formulation of a Common African Position for further negotiations;
5. INVITES Member States participating in the 4th WTO Ministerial Conference to be vigilant so that the international negotiations and initiatives for Africa do not undermine the regional integration process and operationalisation of the African Union;

6. INVITES the UNDP and other donors to provide the required financial assistance for the OAU Panel of Experts and all the activities prior to the 4th OAU/AEC Ministers of Trade Conference scheduled to take place in Abuja, Nigeria in September 2001;
7. REQUESTS the General Secretariat to coordinate the preparatory activities for the conference in collaboration with the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and other institutions that support Africa's interests. To this end, the work of the OAU Panel of Experts on Trade Negotiations should be strengthened in order to provide the required technical assistance to Member States;
8. FURTHER REQUESTS the General Secretariat to ensure effective coordination of Member States and facilitate the sharing of experiences and harmonization of their positions and views emanating from all the RECs during the preparatory process.

**DRAFT DECISION ON AFRICAN CANDIDATURES FOR
POSTS WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM**

Council:

1. APPROVES the recommendations of the Ministerial Committee on Candidatures as contained in its Report;
2. DECIDES therefore to endorse the following candidatures:
 - i) Mr. Sayed K. El Masry of the Arab Republic of Egypt for membership of the United Nations Committee Against Torture, during elections scheduled for November;
 - ii) The Republic of Guinea and the Republic of Cameroon for the non-permanent seats reserved for Africa on the United Nations Security Council, during elections to be held at the 56th Regular Session of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2001;
 - iii) Egypt and Nigeria as Category II members, and Algeria, Cameroon, Mauritius, Senegal and Uganda as Category III members of the Council of the International Civil Aviation Association (ICAO), during elections scheduled for September/October 2001 in Montreal (Canada), these candidatures having been endorsed by the 16th Plenary Session of the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) in Cairo, Egypt in April 2001;
 - iv) Algeria and Egypt for membership of the Executive Council of UNESCO, during elections scheduled to take place at the 31st Session of the Council in Paris, France in October/November 2001;
 - v) Egypt for membership of UNIDO Industrial Development Council;

- vi) Egypt and Tunisia for membership of the Programmes and Budgets Committee of UNIDO, during elections due to take place in Vienna, Austria in December 2001;
 - vii) Tunisia for membership of the International Coordination Council for Man and the Biosphere and of the Special Committee for the Restitution of Cultural Goods to their Countries of Origin, subsidiary organs of UNESCO, during elections scheduled to take place in Paris, France in October 2001.
3. SUPPORTS the action initiated by the Union of National African Paediatric Societies and Associations (UNAPSA) for the election of Professor Adenike Grange of Nigeria, to the post of President of the International Paediatric Association, during elections scheduled to be held in Beijing, Republic of China in September 2001.

**DECISION ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, GENETIC
AND BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES, TRADITIONAL
KNOWLEDGE AND FOLKLORE IN AFRICA**

Council:

1. **COMMENDS** the Secretary General on his initiative and efforts in developing the draft African Model Law on the Protection of the Rights of Local Communities, Farmers and Breeders and for the Regulation of access to Biological Resources, as well as the draft African Model Law on bio-safety and an Africa-wide Bio-Safety System;
2. **SUPPORTS** the convening of the proposed experts meetings intended to further examine the draft model laws within the framework of the African common positions on intellectual property, generally, and the Trips Agreement in particular; and

URGES MEMBER STATES TO:

- i) **Participate** effectively in the two on-going processes of developing model laws and to use these models as a basis for finalizing their national legislations by adapting their provisions to the national context and within the framework of the WTO negotiations, whilst maintaining, as much as possible, the principle of uniformity of national laws of integrating African economies;
- ii) **Examine** ways and means of raising awareness about the protection of genetic resources, indigenous knowledge and folklore, taking into account the need to protect the rights of local communities;

- iii) Identify, catalogue, record and document the genetic and biological resources and traditional knowledge, including expressing of folklore held by their communities, within the framework of national laws;
- iv) Exchange information and experiences and continue, within the framework of the OAU, with the search for joint solutions to problems of common concern, and with the efforts aimed at developing common positions, policies and strategies in relation to these issues.

DECISION ON THE INTRODUCTION OF SPANISH
AS A WORKING LANGUAGE OF THE OAU/AU

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the proposal to introduce Spanish as a working language of the OAU/AU;
2. **APPROVES** the introduction of Spanish as a working language;
3. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General to work out the modalities for its inclusion in the next budget of the Organization.

DRAFT DECISION ON THE LAND QUESTION
IN ZIMBABWE

Council:

1. REAFFIRMS that the inequitable colonial distribution of land where 1% of the population (mainly white British settlers) own over 70% of the best arable land in Zimbabwe has always been at the core of the political, economic and social struggle in Zimbabwe;
2. RECALLS that the liberation struggle was essentially, inter alia, a struggle by the people of Zimbabwe to reclaim the land which they were dispossessed of by British colonialism;
3. FURTHER RECALLS that, at the Lancaster House Conference, the British Government undertook to fund a land settlement programme in Zimbabwe;
4. NOTES that the land resettlement programme has been repeatedly frustrated by Britain's refusal to honour this commitment which it undertook at the Lancaster House Conference;
5. NOTES FURTHER that the introduction of extraneous political issues into the land question is aimed at shifting focus away from Britain's responsibilities;
6. REAFFIRMS that, despite efforts to internationalize the issue, the land question in Zimbabwe remains essentially a bilateral dispute between Zimbabwe and Britain;
7. NOTES that British lobbying has led to the European Union demanding a deep and wide-ranging political dialogue with Zimbabwe under Article 8 of the Cotonou Agreement;

8. **URGES** Britain to fulfill the outstanding commitment it undertook during the decolonization process by honouring its obligations on the land question made at Lancaster House;
9. **APPLAUDS** Zimbabwe's determination to solve this colonial issue once and for all by engaging in a dialogue with Britain;
10. **CALLS** on Britain to respond positively to Zimbabwe's readiness to enter into dialogue;
11. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the progress that has been achieved through the "fast track" resettlement programme instituted by the Government of Zimbabwe, in spite of severe resource constraints;
12. **WELCOMES** the tireless efforts exerted by Presidents Obasanjo and Mbeki and other African leaders to mediate in this bilateral dispute between Zimbabwe and Britain;
13. **NOTES WITH CONCERN** British moves to mobilize European and North American countries to isolate and vilify Zimbabwe leading to the imposition of formal and informal sanctions against it;

In the light of the above the OAU therefore:

14. **RESOLVES** to participate in the Zimbabwe-EU dialogue as provided for under paragraph 7 of Article 8 of the Cotonou Agreement which states that regional and sub-regional groupings shall be associated with such a political dialogue;
15. **DECIDES** to establish an OAU Committee consisting of Nigeria (Chair), Algeria, Cameroon, Kenya, South Africa and Zambia to coordinate with Zimbabwe at all fora wherever the Zimbabwe land issue is raised.