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DECISIONS OF THE SEVENTY-SIXTH
ORDINARY SESSION

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**DECISION ON THE FINANCIAL SITUATION OF
THE ORGANIZATION AS AT 31 MAY 2002**

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **COMMENDS** the following 8 Member States which have made advance payments towards the Financial Year 2002/2003: Angola, Cote d'Ivoire; Libya, Mali, Uganda, Tanzania, Tunisia and Zambia;
3. **COMMENDS** the following 21 Member States which have fully settled their assessed contributions to the regular budget towards the Financial Year ended 31 May 2002:

Algeria, Angola, Botswana, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Lesotho, Libya, Mali, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Uganda, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Tunisia and Zambia;
4. **DECIDES** that the financial year of the African shall begins on 1st January and end on 31 December;

**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE EIGHTEENTH ORDINARY
SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONTRIBUTIONS**

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **EXPRESSES SERIOUS CONCERN** about the increasing arrears of contributions, thus undermining the capacity of the Secretariat to carry out approved programmes and activities;
3. **GRANTS** temporary and exceptional exemption from sanctions to Niger on account of default of payment of contribution to the regular budget till the approval of the budget for the Financial Year 2002/2003;
4. **MAINTAINS** the sanctions imposed on the following countries: Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Guinea Bissau, Sao Tome and Principe, Union of The Comoros, Liberia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone and Somalia;
5. **ENCOURAGES** defaulting Member States to submit rescheduling plans and fulfill their financial obligations;
6. **APPROVES** the setting up of a Sub-Committee of the Committee on Contributions to look into the ways and means of encouraging Member States to pay their contributions promptly, and **REQUESTS** that the Sub-Committee submit proposals and appropriate recommendations to the Council of Ministers at its next session.

**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE EXPERTS' MEETING HELD
ON 3 - 4 JUNE TO REVIEW THE PROPOSALS OF THE
UN EXPERT ON THE OAU SCALE OF ASSESSMENT**

Council:

- 1. TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
- 2. DECIDES** that the Report be re-examined by a Committee of Experts of Member States, as well as by the Standing Committee on the Review of the OAU Scale of Assessment for appropriate recommendations to the next session of the Executive Council.

**DECISION ON IMPROVEMENT IN THE CONDITIONS
OF SERVICE OF OAU STAFF**

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **DECIDES** to grant, as an interim measure, a 15% salary increase, across the board, to the entire staff retroactively, with effect from 1st March 2002;
3. **REQUESTS** the General Secretariat to determine in absolute terms, the financial implications of the salary increase granted and to take necessary steps to implement immediately the decision for the benefit of the current Staff;
4. **ALSO REQUESTS** the General Secretariat to incorporate in the Organization's Budget for 2002/2003 Financial Year, the financial implications as determined in (3) above;
5. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the General Secretariat to complete, as a matter of urgency, the study on the conditions of service including salary structure in Botswana and at the SADC Secretariat to complement the work already undertaken by the Consultant on the matters.

DECISION ON THE DRAFT PROGRAMME BUDGET
FOR THE 2002-2003 FINANCIAL YEAR

Council:

1. **REQUESTS** the Secretariat to continue to operate on provisional monthly supply vote till 31 December 2002. The monthly vote will be calculated on the basis of the 2001-2002 Programme Budget which stands at US\$31 million (Thirty One million United States Dollars)
2. **DECIDES** that the contributions payable by Member States for the period 1 June to 31 December 2002) should be calculated on the basis of the previous budget (2001/2002);
3. **FURTHER DECIDES** that the financial implications of the meetings and conferences, etc. to be organized during the period, should be calculated by the Secretariat and submitted for the approval of the Advisory Committee on Administrative, Financial and Budgetary Matters, prior to the convening of such meetings, Conferences, etc.

**DECISION ON THE WTO-COMPATIBLE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS
OF THE COTONOU PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT**

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Council:

- 1. TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
- 2. RECALLS** the ACP-EU trade negotiations for WTO-compatible trade arrangements scheduled to start on 27 September, 2002;
- 3. COMMENDS** Member States that have ratified the Cotonou Partnership Agreement and urges that those that have not yet done so, to ratify without further delay;
- 4. CALLS** on all Member States and Regional Economic Communities in the negotiations of Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) with the European Union, to ensure the consistency of these EPAs with the programme of African economic integration under the Abuja Treaty establishing the African Economic Community (Abuja Treaty) and the Constitutive Act of the African Union;
- 5. ALSO CALLS** on all Member States and Regional Economic Communities, as EPAs are expected to be notified to the WTO, to participate actively in the current WTO negotiations so as not only to inject flexibility in the WTO rules, especially those relating to regional trading arrangements and to have the development dimension better taken into account, but to make the future EPAs compatible with the WTO;
- 6. REITERATES** its call on all Member States and Regional Economic Communities to maintain the solidarity of the African and the ACP Groups and to negotiate as a single bloc;
- 7. FURTHER CALLS** on African Member States of the Bi-Regional Group under the Africa-Europe Cooperation to raise the issue of the ratification of the Cotonou Partnership Agreement by the European countries at the meetings of the Group.

**DECISION ON THE PROGRESS REPORT ON THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT ON ASSISTANCE
FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS
INDUSTRY IN AFRICA (INDAFTEL)**

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **WELCOMES** the initiative taken by the ITU to launch the project on Assistance for the Development of Telecommunications Industry in Africa (INDAFTEL);
3. **URGES** the ITU to continue to provide support to the project through, among others, allocating more resources for the implementation of the project;
4. **APPEALS** to all Member States to support the project and actively participate in its implementation by appointing national focal persons and allocating resources for the work of the national focal persons;
5. **FURTHER APPEALS** to Africa's development partners to support the project and to provide resources for its implementation;
6. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General of the OAU to consult with the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Matters with a view to allocating resources as the contribution of the OAU to the funding of the implementation of the project;
7. **ENDORSES** the establishment of the Inter-agency Coordinating Committee composed of the OAU as Chairman, the ECA as the Vice Chairman, the ITU as the Lead and Executing Agency, and with UNIDO, ATU, RASCOM and the RECs as members, and entrusts it with the responsibility of supervising and monitoring the implementation of the project; and
8. **REQUESTS** the Inter-agency Coordinating Committee to regularly report to it through the Secretary General of the OAU.

**DECISION ON THE PROGRESS REPORT OF THE SECRETARY
GENERAL ON THE FOLLOW-UP ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE ABUJA DECLARATION AND FRAMEWORK PLAN OF
ACTION ON HIV/AIDS, TB AND OTHER RELATED
INFECTIOUS DISEASES (ORID)**

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **ACKNOWLEDGES AND ENDORSES** the Mechanism for Monitoring and Reporting on the Implementation of the Abuja Declaration and Plan of Action on HIV/AIDS, TB and ORID as well as the Guidelines on how to operationalise use the Mechanism as adopted by the African Ministers of Health;
3. **REITERATES** its commitment to using its leadership position at all levels in order to mobilize the whole society in the fight against HIV/AIDS, TB and ORID;
4. **COMMENDS** Member States for establishment, through the participatory process, of national HIV/AIDS Strategies and Plans of Action, creation of National HIV/AIDS Councils, adoption of multisectoral approaches and the channeling of public resources directly to communities and civil society organizations for the fight against the pandemic;
5. **APPEALS** to Member States to likewise establish and operationalise National Strategies to implement Directly Observed Treatment-Short Course (DOTS) in the fight against Tuberculosis;
6. **URGES** Member States to commit adequate domestic resources to research into ways and means of fighting against HIV/AIDS, TB and ORID;
7. **ALSO APPEALS** to the International Community and stakeholders to support Member States in the implementation of the Abuja Declaration and Framework Plan of Action;
8. **FURTHER APPEALS** to UNAIDS, WHO and all UN Agencies, Stakeholders and Donors to support Africa in a quest for debt-relief in favour of the fight against these diseases and **FURTHER URGES** Member States to target

funds thus saved to accelerate Health Systems Reform with a focus to fighting against HIV/AIDS, TB and ORID;

- 9. REQUESTS** the General Secretariat in collaboration with UNAIDS to facilitate negotiations with multinational drug corporations with a view to promoting access to drugs at affordable price;
- 10. REQUESTS** UNAIDS, WHO, UNICEF and all other relevant partners to assist the General Secretariat both technically and financially to strengthen its capacity in order to be able to follow-up, monitor and report on the implementation of the Decision and Plan of Action on HIV/AIDS, TB and ORID;
- 11. FURTHER REQUESTS** the Secretary General in collaboration with WHO, UNICEF, ECA, UNAIDS, ADB and RECs to follow-up on the implementation of National Strategic Plans on HIV/AIDS and TB as outlined in the Abuja Framework Plan of Action and report regularly to Council about progress made by member States.

**DECISION ON REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE
PROGRESS BEING MADE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
ABUJA DECLARATION AND PLAN OF ACTION
ON ROLL-BACK MALARIA**

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **REITERATES** its commitment to use its leadership position in mobilizing the whole society in the fight against Malaria in order to reduce the mortality rate due to malaria in Africa by half by year 2010;
3. **COMMENDS** Member States for the inception and implementation of country Strategic Plans for Roll-Back-Malaria;
4. **APPEALS** to Member States to accelerate antimalarial Drug Policy change in order to overcome the challenge of drug resistance of the malaria parasites and vector resistance to insecticides;
5. **FURTHER APPEALS** to UN Agencies, Donors and other international partners to support Member States in building research capacity necessary to prevent and control Malaria;
6. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General, in collaboration with WHO and UNICEF to assist Member States in follow-up, monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of Roll-Back Malaria Strategic Plan and report to the next Session of the Executive Council.

**DECISION ON THE PROGRESS REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION OF THE
EDUCATION DECADE IN AFRICA**

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **REITERATES** its recommendations to Member States to implement the Programme of the Decade of Education at national level;
3. **APPROVES** the strategy of the Secretary General who has opted for a regional approach to, and regional management of the Decade, particularly through the organization of regional seminars and establishment of regional coordination structures;
4. **EXPRESSES GRATITUDE** in this regard, to the countries which hosted the five (5) regional seminars on the Decade, as well as the countries hosting the regional coordination secretariats, and those which accepted to second officials to work for the Decade, while remaining in their respective countries, namely: The Gambia, Cameroon, Gabon, Kenya, Mozambique and Libya;
5. **ALSO EXPRESSES GRATITUDE** to the partners which so readily provided invaluable assistance towards implementation of the Programme of Action of the Decade, particularly UNESCO/IICBA, ECOWAS, SADC, CEN-SAD, and others;
6. **CALLS UPON** the Regional Economic Communities to develop integrated education programmes for inclusion in their overall development programmes with a view to strengthening human resource capacities in Africa;
7. **ENDORSES** the recommendations of the Second ordinary session of the Decade Steering Committee which took place in Tripoli in April 2002, particularly the call on African Member States to accede to the Pan-African Institute for Development Education (IPED), and **URGES** the Pan-African Union to provide financial assistance to the Institute;

8. **INVITES** international institutions/organizations as well as concerned bilateral and multi-lateral partners to extend their support to the General Secretariat towards mobilizations of the additional resources needed to implement the Programme of Action of the Decade and the regional projects identified at the level of each Regional Economic Community.

**DECISION ON THE REPORT ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUMMIT DECISION ON THE
ERADICATION OF TSETSE FLIES FROM AFRICA**

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **RECALLS** Decision AHG/Dec.156 (XXXVI) urging Member States to rise collectively to the challenge of eliminating the scourge of tsetse-transmitted diseases from Africa and assigning the Secretary General the task of initiating and coordinating a Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomosis Eradication Campaign (PATTEC) as well as Decision AHG/Dec.169 (XXXVII) endorsing a Plan of Action prepared by the Secretariat for the implementation of the Pan African tsetse eradication campaign;
3. **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the establishment of the PATTEC Policy and Mobilisation Committee and **URGES** its members to actively seek ways of guiding and generating support for the PATTEC initiative;
4. **COMMENDS** the efforts of those African countries which had already embarked on tsetse eradication projects and **EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE** to the International Atomic Energy Agency for the support and assistance extended to Member States and the Secretariat in the implementation of the PATTEC initiative;
5. **URGES** all affected countries to include tsetse eradication in their national priorities, within their Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers so as to qualify for debt relief mechanisms or other forms of budgetary support to ensure its implementation;
6. **APPEALS** to the international community to lend technical and financial support to the efforts of Member States and the Secretariat in implementing the PATTEC initiative;

7. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General to continue reminding all Member States about their individual and collective obligations in the struggle to eliminate the scourge of tsetse-transmitted diseases from Africa, to monitor the progress made in this endeavour and to report on the issue every year;
8. **CALLS UPON** the Secretary General to include a budgetary provision in the Budget of the African Union to cater for the activities of the General Secretariat in coordinating the PATTEC initiative.

DECISION ON THE SITUATION IN LIBERIA

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **CONDEMNS** all attempts to seize power by force in Liberia;
3. **CALLS ON** all States in the region to cease support for armed groups from neighbouring countries and prevent armed groups from using their territories to prepare and stage attacks on neighbouring countries;
4. **URGES** all the parties to the conflict in Liberia to urgently engage in a process of dialogue and reconciliation;
5. **ENCOURAGES** ECOWAS, working together with the OAU and other members of the International Community, to persevere in current efforts to launch that process of dialogue between the parties;
6. **COMMENDS** the leaders of the Mano River Union for the progress achieved so far in implementing the decisions of the Mano River Union summit of 27 February 2002, at Rabat, Morocco;
7. **CALLS ON** the United Nations Security Council to lift the sanctions imposed by it on Liberia, in the light of their grave socio-economic impact on the populace;
8. **EXPRESSES** concern at the grave humanitarian situation obtaining in Liberia and the neighbouring countries as a consequence of the fighting in that country and **CALLS** on OAU Member States and the International Community, as a whole, to provide the required assistance to the affected population;
9. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General to continue with the initiatives and consultations that are aimed at contributing to the efforts to bring peace to Liberia.

**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY
GENERAL ON THE SITUATION IN THE DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)**

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **REAFFIRMS** its commitment to the unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the DRC, as well as its sovereignty over its natural resources and the commitment made by all neighbouring countries of the DRC, under the provisions of the OAU and UN Charters, as well as of the Constitutive Act, to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the DRC;
3. **WELCOMES** the commitment of the parties, renewed during the Fourth Summit held in Lusaka, Zambia, on 3 April 2002, to comply with the provisions of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement, as the only framework negotiated and accepted by all the Parties for a lasting solution to the conflict in the DRC. In this respect, Council **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** that, in general, the parties have respected the ceasefire and implemented the combatants' disengagement and redeployment plans and sub-plans as laid down by the Kampala and Harare plans and sub-plans;
4. However, **EXPRESSES** concern over serious violations of the ceasefire reported in some parts of the DRC, including military operations by armed groups in the Eastern part of the DRC;
5. **URGES** all concerned parties including those who supply them to take the necessary measures to put an end to such incursions including the cessation of all political, military and economic support which enabled them to continue their activities;
6. **TAKES NOTE** of the progress made during the negotiations which took place in Sun City, South Africa, from 25 February to 19 April 2002 within the framework of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue and **URGES** the parties to work towards the conclusion of an inclusive and comprehensive agreement, in compliance with the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement;

7. **EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE** to the Facilitator, Sir Ketumile Masire, for his commitment to the cause of reconciliation in the DRC as well as to President Thabo Mbeki for his active involvement in the Dialogue and for South Africa's generous contribution which facilitated the Dialogue, as well as its material support which made it possible;
8. **WELCOMES** the appointment, by the United Nations Secretary General, of a Special Envoy for the Inter-Congolese Dialogue in the person of Mr. Moustapha Niasse and **REQUESTS** the Secretary General to continue to provide him with all the necessary support;
9. **ALSO WELCOMES** the appointment of a Special Representative of the Secretary General in the DRC in the person of Mr. Martin BONGO of the Republic of Gabon;
10. **ENCOURAGES** the countries signatory to the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement to pursue their contacts with a view to establishing conditions conducive to the implementation of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement;
11. **CONDEMNS** the incitements to violence and acts of violence perpetrated in Kisangani in mid-May, as well as reprisals against local civilian populations and **URGES** RCD-Goma to demilitarize the city of Kisangani and its environs without delay, in compliance with UN Security Council Resolutions 1304 and 1355 and the commitment made by the DRC to that effect;
12. **WELCOMES** adoption by the Security Council, of Resolution 1417 (2002) of 14 June 2002 which, inter-alia, decided to extend the mandate of MONUC until 30 June 2003. Council however remains concerned by the fact that the Security Council neither accepted the increase of MONUC Forces, as recommended by the United Nations Secretary General, nor reinforced the latter's mandate to turn it into a peace-keeping force, as recommended by the Fourth Summit of Signatory Parties and the Political Committee during its meeting in Luanda on 1 May 2002;
13. **ALSO URGES** the UN to increase the capacity and mandate of MONUC on the ground in the DRC so that it can effectively implement the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement;

14. **URGES** the parties to the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement to take the necessary measures to enable MONUC to successfully carry out the tasks assigned to it under Phase III of its deployment, namely, the combatants' Disarmament, Demobilization, Repatriation, Resettlement and Reintegration (DDRRR) Programme;
15. **REITERATES** the importance of total withdrawal of all Foreign Forces from the DRC. To this end, **EXPRESSES** concern over the slowing down observed in the process for withdrawal of foreign troops and **UNDERScores** the obligation of all concerned States to honour their specific commitments according to the terms of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement;
16. **RENEWS ITS APPEALS** to OAU Member States and the international community at large to continue to support the peace process in the DRC, including assistance to the DDRRR Programmes and the withdrawal of foreign troops, as well as the Inter-Congolese National Dialogue;
17. **EXPRESSES** serious concern over the humanitarian situation and repeated violations of international human rights perpetrated in DRC;
18. **APPEALS** to all Member States and the international community at large to provide further assistance to the needy populations and **URGES** all concerned parties to put an end to acts of violence against civilians and respect international human rights.

**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL
ON THE SITUATION IN THE COMOROS**

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **WELCOMES** the restoration of the unity and territorial integrity of the Comoros and the establishment of the Executive of the Union of the Comoros and the Autonomous Islands;
3. **EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION** at the election of the President of the Union of the Comoros, Colonel Azali Assoumani, and the Presidents of the Autonomous Islands of Anjouan, Grand Comoros and Moheli;
4. **CONGRATULATES** the newly elected authorities of the Union and the Autonomous Islands and exhorts them and all the other Comorian parties involved in the reconciliation process to continue to demonstrate the same spirit of dialogue and accommodation to enable them to complete the setting up of the institutions of the Union and the Autonomous Islands, and to further the reconciliation process;
5. **PAYS TRIBUTE** to the countries of the Region, under the coordination of the Republic of South Africa, and the Secretary General and his collaborators for their sustained efforts aimed at preserving the unity and territorial integrity of the Comoros and facilitating the establishment of constitutional rule in the country;
6. **EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION** to all OAU Partners in the Comoros, namely: l'Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie, the European Union, the United Nations, the League of Arab States and others, for their continuous support for the efforts of the OAU in the Comoros;
7. **APPEALS** to OAU Member States and the international community at large to provide to the Comoros the necessary financial assistance aimed at improving the living conditions of the population and promoting the socio-economic development of the country;

- 8. REQUESTS** the Secretary General, in consultation with the Comorian authorities and the Government of Mauritius, to finalize the preparations for the convening, as soon as possible, of the donors conference on the Comoros.

DECISION ON THE SITUATION IN ANGOLA**Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **WELCOMES** the Signing in April 2002 by the respective military Chiefs of the Angola Armed Forces and UNITA troops, of a Memorandum of Understanding supplementary to the Lusaka Protocol for the Cessation of Hostilities and the Resolution of Pending Military Issues under the Lusaka Protocol, as well as progress made in the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding;
3. **ALSO WELCOMES** the commitment of the Angolan Government to a lasting peace and reconciliation in the country in accordance with the Lusaka Protocol. In this connection, Council **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the communiqué issued on 13 March 2002 by the Angolan Government, in which it announced the measures it intends to take within the context of the peace process;
4. **UNDERScores** the need to maintain the sanctions against UNITA until the peace process is consolidated. To this end, Council **WELCOMES** the decision of the Security Council of 18 April 2002 to extend the mandate of the United Nations Monitoring Mechanism for a further period of six months;
5. **TAKES NOTE** of the report of the OAU Ad-Hoc Committee on the Monitoring of the UN Security Council Sanctions against UNITA as presented by its Chairman, **COMMENDS** the efforts of the Committee and expresses support for the work carried out by the Committee;
6. **SUPPORTS** the initiative of the Angolan Government to embark on public investment programme aimed at mobilizing resources for the post-conflict reconstruction and rehabilitation, as well as for socio-economic development;

7. **APPEALS** to the International Community to continue to contribute to the post-conflict reconstruction efforts and provide Angola with humanitarian assistance including integration of UNITA combatants into the national army or their return to civilian life, demining, as well as rehabilitation of displaced persons and repatriation of refugees. To this end, Council **EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION** of the Angolan Government's commitment to work closely with the International Community;
8. **REITERATES** the readiness of the OAU/AU to support the efforts of the Angolan people and their leaders for a lasting peace and sustainable development.

**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CSSDCA PROCESS**

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **TAKES NOTE WITH SATISFACTION** of the outcome of the Experts' meeting on the Development and Cooperation Calabashes and the Experts' meeting on the Security and Stability Calabashes, convened in Midrand, South Africa and Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 9 – 13 December 2001 and 14 – 17 May 2002 respectively;
3. **WELCOMES** the convening of the second OAU-Civil Society Conference on Developing Partnership between the OAU and African Civil Society Organizations, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 11 – 15 June 2002;
4. **TAKES NOTE** of the recommendations of the second OAU-Civil Society Conference, in particular, those relating to the African Union and the CSSDCA Process;
5. **COMMENDS** Nigeria and South Africa for their generous contribution of five hundred thousands dollars (US\$500,000) each for the implementation of the CSSDCA Process, and **CALLS** on other Members States to also provide financial support to the process;
6. **ENDORSES** the Memorandum of Understanding on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation adopted by the two Experts meeting as enriched by the OAU-Civil Society Conference;
7. **DECIDES** to submit the Memorandum of Understanding on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation and the recommendations of the second OAU-Civil Society Conference for the consideration of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government.

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL
ON THE SITUATION OF REFUGEES, RETURNEES
AND DISPLACED PERSONS

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **EXPRESSES GRAVE CONCERN** over the magnitude, complexity and recurrence of the refugee phenomenon in Africa, as well as the serious violations of human rights of which refugee populations particularly children, are victims;
3. In this connection, **DENOUNCES AND CONDEMNS** sexual violence and exploitation of refugee children and **DEMANDS** that the perpetrators of such acts be brought to justice and punished;
4. **EXPRESSES SATISFACTION** at the commendable efforts deployed by some asylum countries and countries of origin to promote the voluntary repatriation of refugees in conditions of security and dignity;
5. **REITERATES** the civilian and humanitarian nature of asylum and **CALLS UPON** host countries in particular to take the necessary steps to ensure that it is provided in conformity with the conventions in force and the relevant OAU Convention on the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa;
6. **EXPRESSES ITS DEEP GRATITUDE** to the asylum countries for their hospitality and generosity and **APPEALS** to the international community as a whole to share the burden by providing sustained increased and considerable assistance to the populations and States concerned;
7. **ENCOURAGES** African States to ensure the implementation and regular follow-up of the Global Plan of Action adopted by the special conference of technical, governmental and non-governmental experts which was convened in Conakry by OAU and the UNHCR on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the 1969 Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee problems in Africa;

- 8. CALLS UPON** Member States to incorporate, as much as possible, in their national and regional development plans, the specific problems of refugees, especially since they constitute an important human potential which is able to contribute fully in the socio-economic development of their asylum countries;
- 9. REQUESTS** the Secretary General and the OAU Commission on Refugees to continue to monitor the situation of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa, and to work in close collaboration with the United Nations, more particularly with the UNHCR as well as concerned humanitarian Organisations, in the search for a lasting solution to this problem.

**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON
EXTERNAL SUPPORT TO ECONOMIC INTEGRATION
PROGRAMME IN AFRICA**

Council:

- 1. TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
- 2. COMMENDS** the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) and the United Nations Development Programme for the technical and financial assistance they have provided to the process of economic integration in Africa;
- 3. CALLS ON** development partners to accord priority in their development assistance to capacity building for the effective implementation of programmes of regional integration in Africa.

**DECISION ON THE OUTCOME OF THE 15TH SESSION OF THE
CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN MINISTERS OF INDUSTRY
(CAMI-15)**

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE** to the Government and People of the Republic of Cameroon for hosting the 15th Session of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry (CAMI-15) held in Yaounde, Cameroon from 22 to 24 October 2001;
3. **CALLS UPON** all Member States to take the necessary measures and actions for the implementation of the Resolution adopted by CAMI-15 as well as the recommendation of the Private Sector Forum;
4. **INVITES** the African Regional Economic Communities in collaboration with ADB, ECA, UNIDO and other agencies of the UN System, other financing institutions to develop effective programmes for industrial integration, through coordination and harmonization of policies and strategies in the sector;
5. **REQUESTS** UNIDO to provide the necessary technical assistance to OAU and its Member States as well as to RECs with the view to accelerating the implementation of the recommendations adopted by CAMI-15;
6. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Secretary General in cooperation with all relevant partners and through coordination with CAMI-15 Bureau, to ensure that Africa's industrialization is accorded high priority in the agenda of the African Union.

**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE 4TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE AFRICAN POPULATION COMMISSION (APC)**

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report:
2. **RECOGNIZES** the challenges African countries are facing in regard to population issues particularly relating to the HIV/AIDS pandemic, Youth and Migration;
3. **EMPHASIZES** the need to strengthen effective and new strategies and priorities for dealing with HIV/AIDS, TB and Other Related Infectious Diseases from an African perspective and resource mobilization context within the framework of the implementation of the Abuja Summit on these diseases;
4. **CALLS UPON** Member States to develop appropriate reproductive health and population growth and development policies and design clearly defined strategies for policies formulated, and fully involve the population at grassroot level, the NGO sector, women's groups, youth groups, etc.. in policy dialogues and consultations;
5. **FURTHER CALLS UPON** Member States to focus on the family, to better identify its roles in the population and development interrelationships as well as to stress the content of policy-decisions and collective responsibilities at national and regional levels;
6. **ENCOURAGES** Regional Economic Communities to establish networks of Member States and strengthen partnerships among them to ensure an effective implementation of the South-South programmes in the field of population and development and to promote regional cooperation in the field of Population and Development through sensitization;
7. **STRESSES** that the APC should continue its advocacy role on population and development matters and that financial and human resources should be provided in the new African Union structure;

8. **APPEALS** to the International Community and donor agencies in particular UNFPA, USAID, NGOs to continue supporting and providing the necessary assistance to achieve the above objectives and to support our efforts for the implementation of the Dakar/Ngor Declaration and the ICPD-PA;
9. **EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** to UNFPA for supporting the OAU in organizing the 4th General Assembly of the African Population Commission (APC);
10. **FINALLY REQUESTS** the Secretary General of the OAU in collaboration with the Executive Secretary of the ECA and the President of the ADB and other Population Institutions to monitor developments in population activities in Africa and to submit reports regularly on the progress made in implementing the APC recommendations.

**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH ORDINARY
SESSION OF THE OAU LABOUR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
COMMISSION/MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON EMPLOYMENT
AND POVERTY REDUCTION IN AFRICA**

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **ENDORSES** the recommendations as contained in the report of the Twenty-fifth Ordinary Session of the OAU Labour and Social Affairs Commission/Ministerial Conference on Employment and Poverty Reduction in Africa held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso from 16 – 21 April 2002;
3. **CALLS UPON** Member States to share experiences on building the appropriate infrastructure, reducing illiteracy, enhancing the skills and capacity of employees and surveying the labour markets with a view to creating more job opportunities in Africa;
4. **REQUESTS** Member States to include social protection and work safety areas in their national development priorities and facilitate the development of self-employment strategies, in collaboration with social partners;
5. **REITERATES** its appeal to Member States which have not yet done so to sign and/or ratify the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child as well as the ILO Convention 182 on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour;
6. **CALLS ON** Member States to include compulsory education, the elimination of child labour as well as children in conflict situations and child trafficking in their priority programmes on children;
7. **ENDORSES** the Plan of Action for the African Decade of People with Disabilities (1999-2009) and **CALLS UPON** Member States to provide the necessary resources for its implementation at national level;
8. **REQUESTS** Member States to accord priority to the Migration for Development in Africa (MIDA) and promote the return of migrants to their countries of origin, create

job opportunities for them and encourage them to invest in their countries with a view to reducing poverty. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is called upon to assist African countries in this regard;

9. **REQUESTS ALSO** the Secretary General, in collaboration with the ILO and other interested stakeholders and in consultation with Regional Economic Communities, to convene a meeting at Experts level to develop a Social Policy Framework for the Continent;
10. **SUPPORTS** the re-election of Mr. Juan Somavia as Director General of the ILO for a second mandate during the 286th Session of the ILO Governing Board in March 2003.

**DECISION ON THE REPORT MINISTERIAL
CONFERENCE ON DRUG CONTROL IN AFRICA**

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Ministerial Conference on Drug Control in Africa;
2. **ENDORSES** the recommendations contained therein and **MANDATES** the Secretary General to follow up and monitor their implementation;
3. **EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE** to the Government of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire for hosting the First Ministerial Conference on Drug Control in Africa from 6 to 11 May 2002;
4. **EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION** to, in particular, the UNDCP and all the UN Agencies and other stakeholders for their technical and financial support and assistance in the preparation and holding of the Ministerial Conference on Drug Control in Africa;
5. **RECOGNIZES** that illicit drug trafficking, abuse, cultivation as well as alcoholism and other related problems are fast gaining momentum on the Continent;
6. **ENDORSES** the revised Declaration and Plan of Action on Drug Control and Illicit Drugs Trafficking and Abuse in Africa as adopted by the Ministerial Conference;
7. **FURTHER ENDORSES** the African Common Position for the Ministerial Segment of the 46th Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drug (CND) scheduled to be held in April 2003, in Vienna, Austria, and **CALLS UPON** the Bureau of the Ministerial Conference on Drug Control, in collaboration with the OAU Secretariat, the UNDCP and the African Group in Vienna to strengthen the document as they deem appropriate;
8. **INVITES** Member States to renew their commitment to fight the drug scourge as contained in the Declaration and mobilize requisite human and financial resources to implement the Plan of Action at their national levels;

- 9. APPEALS** to the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) and World Health Organization (WHO) to consider further financial assistance towards implementation of the revised and updated OAU Plan of Action on Drug Control in Africa;
- 10. REQUESTS** the Secretary General, consistent with the decisions of the 1st OAU Ministerial Conference on Drug Control, to organize training workshops on alternative development for the eradication of illicit cultivation of cannabis in Africa, initiate measures to integrate drug control policies and activities within the NEPAD programmes and undertake studies on the effects of Drugs, HIV/AIDS and conflicts on socio-economic development in Africa.
- 11. CALLS UPON** the Secretariat, in collaboration with its developing partners and donor countries, to explore the possibilities of establishing an African Fund for Drug Control;
- 12. EXPRESSES GRATITUDE** to the Government of the Republic of Mauritius for offering to host the next Ministerial Conference to be held in 2004;
- 13. FURTHER REQUESTS** the Secretary General to strengthen the Drug Control Focal Point of the General Secretariat, give it more visibility in the new structure of the African Union and provide it with necessary funds within its budget;
- 14. FINALLY REQUESTS** the Secretary General to submit progress reports on implementation of the Declaration and Plan of Action to subsequent sessions of Council.

**DECISION ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
FOR HEALTH IN AFRICA: CHALLENGES AND
OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTION**

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **REAFFIRMS ITS COMMITMENT** to its 1987 Addis Ababa Declaration on Health as a Foundation for Development;
3. **RECOGNIZES** the vital role played by human resources, in the promotion of health and general well-being of all communities worldwide and that inadequate human resources has been one of the major challenges to health systems development in Africa;
4. **ACKNOWLEDGES** that brain drain has compounded the shortage of human resources on the Continent;
5. **CALLS UPON** each Member State to develop a realistic plan for development of human resources for health, motivate existing personnel through problem-oriented training and improvement of conditions of service, as well as upgrade skills of personnel working in the health sector in order to adequately respond to existing and emerging health issues especially preventive care;
6. **DECLARE** year 2004 as the Year for Development of Human Resources in Africa;
7. **REQUESTS** WHO, OAU/AU, World Bank and other relevant partners to establish an International Partnership for Human Resources Development (HRD) for Health for the purpose of conducting Health Sector Reforms on a sustainable basis at country level, and promote a code of ethics in international recruitment of health staff especially from Africa with the view to establishing a mechanism on how African countries can be compensated for such brain drain;
8. **ALSO REQUESTS** WHO, World Bank and other relevant partners and Institutions to regularly provide financial support to Member States in their efforts to promote and develop Human Resources in the Health Sector;

- 9. FINALLY REQUESTS** the Secretary General, in collaboration with WHO and other interested partners, to call for a special Summit in 2003/2004 to consider the issue of Human Resources Development and its impact on Health Sector Reforms with special focus on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

**DECISION ON AFRICAN SOLIDARITY IN THE CELEBRATION
OF THE 8TH ALL-AFRICA GAMES IN NIGERIA**

Council:

1. **RECALLS** Resolution CM/Res.1305 (LII) of its Fifty-Second Ordinary Session conferring OAU patronage on and support for the All-Africa Games;
2. **RECOGNIZES** the critical financial situation of SCSA caused by the non-payment by Member States of their statutory subscriptions to the budget of the Organization;
3. **CALLS UPON** Member States to contribute to the success of the 8th All-Africa Games in Nigeria by ensuring the participation of their best athletes in the Games;
4. **STRONGLY APPEALS** to all Member States to take all appropriate measures to honour their pledges of financial contributions to SCSA in good time to enable it prepare adequately for the successful organization of the 8th All-Africa Games in Nigeria;
5. **REQUESTS** the Chairman of the Commission to assist the SCSA Secretariat in its efforts to organize successful games

**DECISION ON THE PARTICIPATION OF OAU MEMBER STATES
IN THE WORLD SUMMIT ON INFORMATION SOCIETY**

1. **RECALLING** Resolution 1179 endorsed by the Council of the International Telecommunications Union at its meeting of June 2001 which approved the organization of a World Summit on Information Society in two phases: Geneva 2003 and Tunis 2005,
2. **FURTHER RECALLING** Resolution 56/183 adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2001 in support of the convening of this Summit,
3. **ALSO RECALLING** the Bamako Declaration adopted at the African Regional Conference preparatory to the Summit held in Bamako from 28 to 30 May 2002 and the recommendations emanating from the Conference,
4. **NOTING WITH SATISFACTION** the final Declaration of the Ministerial Conference of the PNA held in Durban from 27 to 29 April 2002 and the appeal launched by the Ministers for active participation of developing countries in the Summit process,
5. **UNDERSCORING** the stakes of the second phase of the Summit to be held in Tunis in 2005 and whose deliberation will focus on major development themes particularly identification of the most appropriate ways and means of reducing the digital gap,
6. **FURTHER UNDERSCORING** the importance of the information society on economic, socio-political and cultural development and the strategic objectives of developing countries in this area,
7. **CALLS UPON** Member States to participate actively and consistently in the preparation of, and in the Tunis Summit to guarantee the adoption of a real partnership strategy that will reduce the digital gap and ensure better adaptation to this new global technological environment, and thus give the information society a stable foundation anchored on the equality of the various partners;

8. **FURTHER CALLS UPON** Member States to set up a national coordination and follow-up mechanism to prepare for the two phases of the Summit;
9. **APPEALS** to Member States to engage in brainstorming to develop a common information society approach and ensure better access to information and communication technologies within the framework of global and balanced development with due respect for diversity.

**DECISION ON THE PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE
AFRICAN DECADE OF DISABLED PERSONS**

Council:

1. **RECALLS** Decision CM/Dec.535 (LXXII) proclaiming 1999-2009 as the African Decade of Disabled Persons;
2. **EXPRESSES DEEP CONCERN** about the increasing number of people with disabilities in the Continent due to social and political crises;
3. **RECOGNIZES** the need to integrate people with disabilities in the society, empower them and involve them in the formulation and implementation of the social and economic development policies of the Continent;
4. **ENDORSES** the Plan of Action for the African Decade of People with Disabilities as adopted by the 25th Session of the Labour and Social Affairs Commission held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, from 16 – 21 April 2002;
5. **URGES** Member States to allocate sufficient funds to all relevant Ministries dealing with people with disabilities to ensure effective implementation of disability programmes and to establish National Coordinating Committees (NCC) to coordinate all disability issues and include people with disabilities in their national programmes;
6. **CALLS UPON** relevant United Nations Institutions as well as other partners to assist in the implementation of the Plan of Action;
7. **CALLS UPON** Member States to report to the OAU Secretariat through the African Rehabilitation Institute (ARI) on the implementation of the Plan of Action;
8. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General to submit progress reports to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government every two years.

**DECISION ON THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UN
CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION (UNCCD) IN
COUNTRIES SERIOUSLY AFFECTED BY DROUGHT AND/OR
DESERTIFICATION, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA, AND ITS
CONSIDERATION DURING DELIBERATIONS OF THE
WORLD SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Council:

1. **AFFIRMS** that the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification constitutes an innovative and vital instrument for realizing the objectives of sustainable development as contained in Agenda 21, and the objectives of poverty elimination as spelt out in the Millennium Summit Declaration;
2. **FURTHER AFFIRMS** that desertification is one of the main causes of poverty due particularly to the correlation between degradation of soils and poverty in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-tropical regions, especially in Africa,
3. **WELCOMES** the convening on African soil of the World Summit on Sustainable Development scheduled to take place in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002, ten years after the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992;
4. **RECOGNISES** that the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), underscores desertification control as a major component of the Environment and Sustainable Development programme in Africa;
5. **TAKES DUE NOTE** of the conclusions of the Africa – Latin America and Caribbean Inter-regional Forum, held in Caracas, Venezuela, from 18 to 20 February 2002; the conclusions of the Eminent Persons' Panel held in Agades, Niger, from 24 to 28 February 2002, as well as the Forum on CCD Implementation held in Praia, Cape Verde, from 5 to 8 March 2002 preparatory to the World Summit on Sustainable Development;
6. **ALSO EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** of the messages addressed to the Johannesburg Summit and the contents of the Caracas Declaration, the Agades Appeal and the Praia Ministerial message, all pertaining not only to the recognition of the correlation between poverty reduction and desertification control,

but also to effective financing by the International Community of Desertification Control Programmes of Action in affected developing countries, particularly in Africa;

- 7. URGES** the Second General Assembly of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) due in Beijing, in October 2002, to appoint the Facility as the Convention's funding mechanism;
- 8. INVITES** all participants in the Johannesburg Summit to take cognisance of the contents of this decision during their deliberations and take appropriate measures and decisions with a view to ensuring the successful implementation of a desertification control programme;
- 9. REQUESTS** the Secretary General to follow up on the implementation of this decision in collaboration with the CCD Executive Secretary and South Africa the host country of the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

**DECISION ON PROTOCOL RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF A PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL WITHIN
THE AFRICAN UNION**

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Special Session of the Council of Ministers of 1 and 2 July 2002;
2. **COMMENDS** the Committee of Ambassadors and the General Secretariat for the work accomplished to implement the Lusaka Summit Decision of AHG/Dec.160 (XXXVII) of July 2001, on a review of the working methods, structures and procedures of the Central Organ of the OAU Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution, including the possibility of changing its name;
3. **TAKES NOTE** of the Draft Protocol on the establishment of a Peace and Security Council within the African Union and **RECOMMENDS** the Protocol to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, for consideration.

DECISION ON THE SITUATION IN BURUNDI

Council:

1. **EXPRESSES SATISFACTION** at the progress made in the implementation of the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement, especially the establishment of Transition Institutions and the commencement of the process of repatriating Burundian refugees living in Tanzania;
2. **PAYS TRIBUTE** to the Facilitator Nelson Mandela for his commitment to work with the people of Burundi to ensure the return of lasting peace to the country;
3. **EXPRESSES GRAVE CONCERN** over the continuing armed clashes in Burundi which mainly affect the civilian population and pose a serious threat to the peace process;
4. **UNDERScores** the need to intensify efforts aimed at the cessation of hostilities, followed by a cease-fire agreement. To this end, Council **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the Mediation effort under the leadership of President El Hadj Omar Bongo of Gabon and the South African Vice-President, Jacob Zuma, as well as the initiatives taken by H.E. President Benjamin Mkapa of Tanzania and his Government, the countries of the Regional Initiative under the leadership of President Yoweri K. Museveni of Uganda, and the Tanzania and the OAU Secretary General to bring the armed groups to enter into negotiations in good faith and in a constructive manner with a view to an immediate end to the fighting, and the signing of a cease-fire agreement;
5. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General, in close consultation with the Mediation and the Regional Initiative, to intensify his contacts with the various armed groups with a view to encouraging them to seriously pursue negotiations with the Burundian Government and contributing in a constructive manner to the search for a lasting peace in Burundi;
6. **URGES** the parties signatory to the Arusha Agreement to continue to exhibit the same commitment to the peace process and to demonstrate the spirit of compromise and tolerance necessary for the pursuit and consolidation of the peace process;

7. **MAKES AN URGENT APPEAL** to the International Community to provide the necessary assistance to enable Burundi to cope with the economic difficulties facing the country. To this end, Council **RENEWS ITS APPEAL** to the concerned countries and multilateral institutions to honour the commitments they had made during the Paris and Geneva meetings;

8. **ALSO APPEALS** to the international community to provide increased humanitarian assistance to the Burundian population and, in this regard, **HAILS** the efforts deployed by the General Secretariat to help alleviate the suffering of the needy population.

**DECISION ON THE CANDIDATURE OF DR. KAMIL IDRIS FOR HIS
RE-ELECTION TO THE POST OF DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE
WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
(WIPO)**

Council:

1. **RECALLS** Decision CM/Dec.650 (LXXV) by which the Council of Ministers decided to support the candidature of Dr. Kamil Idris (The Sudan) presented by the African Group in Geneva for re-election to the post of Director General of WIPO;
2. **RE-AFFAIRS** that Intellectual Property is a strong tool for development and **EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE** to WIPO for the assistance provided by WIPO to Africa in this field;
3. **WELCOMES** the very positive achievements of Dr. Kamil Idris at the Head of WIPO, and the overwhelming support of the Member States of WIPO for his re-election as Director General of WIPO;
4. **CALLS UPON** all Member States of WIPO to support the African candidate Dr. Kamil Idris for the post of Director General of WIPO;
5. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General to take appropriate action in support of the candidature of Dr. Kamil Idris.

**DECISION ON THE REVISION OF THE 1968 AFRICAN
CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF NATURE AND
NATURAL RESOURCES (ALGIERS CONVENTION)**

Council:

1. **COMMENDS** the OAU General Secretariat, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), for their endeavour to update the 1968 African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources to the level and standard of modern international environment and natural resources instruments;
2. **FURTHER COMMENDS** the Governments of Algeria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon and Nigeria, Parties to the 1968 Convention, for their initiative to bring about the revision of the Convention;
3. **ENDORSES** the revised African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources;
4. **REQUESTS** the Assembly of Heads of State and Government to adopt the Revised Convention;
5. **CALLS UPON** the Secretary General, UNEP, IUCN and relevant agencies of the United Nations system to ensure that the Revised Convention is opened for signature at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in August/September 2002.
6. **URGES** all Member States to, as soon as possible, sign and ratify the said Convention, upon its adoption by the Heads of State and Government, in order to bring it into force at the earliest possible time.
7. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General to take the necessary measures to ensure that Member States sign and ratify the revised Convention.

**DECISION ON THE FOLLOW UP ON THE FIRST AFRICA-EUROPE
SUMMIT AND PREPARATIONS FOR THE SECOND
AFRICA-EUROPE SUMMIT**

Council:

1. **RECOGNIZES** the need for effective preparation for the Second Africa-Europe Summit, in view of the limited progress in the implementation of the Cairo Plan of Action adopted by the First Summit;
2. **REQUESTS** the OAU Follow-up Committee and the OAU Core Group to ensure that the fifth meeting of the Africa-Europe Bi-Regional Group take place during the second half of September 2002;
3. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the OAU Follow-up Committee to ensure that all aspects of the preparatory arrangements for the second Africa-Europe Ministerial Conference in Ouagadougou, due in November 2002, are fully coordinated with the Government of Burkina Faso, the host country and in cooperation with all the RECs, ECA and ADB;
4. **CALLS UPON** all Member States to participate in the Second Ministerial Conference and **ALSO APPEALS** to all EU Member States to honour their commitments under the Cairo Plan of Action and to cooperate with the African side, so as to ensure that the Conference adopts concrete measures and actions for implementation of the Cairo Plan of Action, and for identification of specific issues to be addressed by the second Africa-Europe Summit in 2003;
5. **URGES** all African Union and European Union Member States to be represented at the Ouagadougou Conference by Ministers;
6. **SUBMITS** the offer by Portugal to host the Second Africa-Europe Summit in Lisbon from 4 to 5 April 2003 to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, for approval;
7. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General in cooperation with the RECs, to take all the necessary measures to provide technical support for all the preparatory arrangements, as well as to the 5th Meeting of the Bi-regional Group, the Ouagadougou Ministerial Conference and the Second Africa-Europe Summit.

**DECISION ON INTRODUCING KISWAHILI AS A WORKING
LANGUAGE OF THE AFRICAN UNION**

Council:

1. **RECALLS** Article 25 of the Constitutive Act of the African Union (AU) on the working languages of the African Union providing for, if possible, the use of African languages;
2. **ALSO RECALLS** Rule 15 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council;
3. **FURTHER RECALLS** Resolution C/MAC/16 (I) on the use of Kiswahili as one of the African Languages in OAU meetings, adopted by the First Conference of African Ministers of Culture in 1986 in Port-Louis, Mauritius, and approved by the Council of Ministers of the OAU;
4. **REQUESTS** the General Secretariat to put in place appropriate arrangements to operationalise the decision to adopt Kiswahili as one of the working languages of the African Union as soon as possible.

**DECISION ON MAINSTREAMING GENDER AND
WOMEN'S ISSUES IN THE AFRICAN UNION**

Council:

1. **REITERATES** its call, enshrined in Article 4 (1) of the Constitutive Act, for the African Union, to promote gender equality;
2. **TAKES NOTE** of the efforts so far made by the Secretary General to ensure that the African Union pays due attention to gender considerations;
3. **MANDATES** the Secretary General to continue with his efforts to mainstream gender into the African Union and its programmes, and to undertake consultations with Member States and other interested parties, with a view to submitting recommendations for consideration by the Executive Council;
4. **REAFFIRMS** that the gender issue cuts across all the portfolios of the Commission and **WELCOMES** the establishment of a special unit in the Office of the Chairperson of the Commission to coordinate all activities and programmes of the Commission related to gender;
5. **APPEALS** to Assembly, the Executive Council and the Secretary General/Chairperson of the Commission to make sure that, at the time of setting-up the Commission, due consideration should be given to gender balance;

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 support the following Candidatures:
 - a) The Republic of Angola for the position of Non-Permanent Member of the United Nations Security Council for the period 2003-2004;
 - b) Chief Superintendent Abdatt Ould Senny, of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, for the post of delegate for Africa within the Executive Committee of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) at elections to be held during the 71st Session of the General Assembly of the Organization scheduled for October 2002 in Yaounde, Cameroon;
 - c) Judge Abdul G. Koroma, of the Republic of Sierra Leone, for re-election to the International Court of Justice at elections to be held during the 57th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York;
 - d) The Republic of Kenya to represent the East Africa Region within the ILO Governing Body;
 - e) Mr. Guy Alain Emmanuel Gauze, of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, for the post of Executive Director of the International Cocoa Organization (ICCO).
 - f) The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia for the post of: Vice-President of the 57th Session of the United Nations General Assembly;
 - g) Mr. Abdelfattah Amor, of the Republic of Tunisia for re-election, as a member of the United Nations Human Rights Committee for the period 2003-2006;
 - h) Mr. Hamadoun Ibrahim Touré of the Republic of Mali for re-election to the Telecommunications Development Bureau (TDB) at elections to be held

during the next Plenipotentiary Conference of Member States scheduled to take place between 23 September and 18 October 2002 in Marrakech, Morocco;

- i) The Republic of Senegal for a seat on the Industrial Development Board of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization for the year 2003;
- j) Mr. Nebout Jean Francois Anoma, of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire for the post of Vice President for Africa on the INTERPOL Executive Committee at elections scheduled to take place during the 71st Session of the INTERPOL General Assembly in October 2002, in Yaounde, Cameroon;
- k) Mr. Mohamed Charfi, Judge, of the People's Democratic Republic Of Algeria for the post of Expert on the Civil and Political Rights Committee at elections due to take place in New York in September 2002;
- l) Professor Kamel Filali, of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria for a seat as Expert on the Committee on the Rights of Children, at elections scheduled to hold in New York, in February 2003;
- m) The Federal Republic of Nigeria for membership of the International Atomic Energy (IACA) Board of Governors for the period 2003-2004 at elections to be held during the 46th Ordinary Session of the General Assembly in September 2002;
- n) Mr. Doudou Ndir, Judge and Director of Criminal Affairs and Pardons, of the Republic of Senegal, for a post as Judge at the International Criminal Court;
- o) Mr Evans Arthur Mukolwe, of the Republic of Kenya, for the post of Secretary General of the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) at elections scheduled to take place at the WMO Congress in May 2003;
- p) Mr. Abdelkeri Boussaid, of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria for the post of Deputy Secretary General of the ITU, at elections due to take place in Marrakech from 23 September to 18 October 2002.

- q) The Republic of Mauritius as a member of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Council for the term 2002-2006 during the forthcoming Plenipotentiary Conference which will be held in Marrakech, Morocco, from 23 September to 8 October 2002;
 - r) The Republic of Mali for the membership of the Council of the International Telecommunications Union during the Conference of Plenipotentiaries due to be held from 23rd September to 18th October 2002 in the city of Marrakech, Morocco.
 - s) The Arab Republic of Egypt for the membership of the Council of the International Telecommunications Union during the Conference of Plenipotentiaries due to be held from 23rd September to 18th October 2002 in the city of Marrakech, Morocco.
 - t) Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for the post of President of the 59th Session of the Human Rights Commission at election due to take place during 2003
3. **TAKES NOTE** also of the candidatures of Professor Akua Kuenyehia of the Republic of Ghana, Ms. Pramila Patten, Lawyer of the Republic of Mauritius, Mrs Meriem Belmihoub Zerdani of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria Judge Mary Atieno Ang'awa of the Republic of Kenya, and Mrs Tadeletch Haile Michaelae of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia for one of the twelve (12) seats to be filled at elections to be held on 29 August 2002, in New York, at the 12th Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and REQUESTS the concerned Member States to hold consultations on equitable geographical distribution. In any case, candidates for this post shall be elected on the basis of their personal merit.

4. **TAKES NOTE** also of the candidature of the Central African sub-Region, submitted by the Republic of Gabon, on behalf of all Member States of the Sub-Region, for the post of President of the 59th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in 2004, in addition to that of The Sudan whose candidature Council had already noted, by Decision CM/Dec. 650 (LXXV) in March 2002 and REQUESTS the African Group in New York to examine these candidatures and come up with appropriate recommendations.

**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY
GENERAL ON THE PROCLAMATION OF THE
“AFRICAN ENVIRONMENT DAY”**

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;
2. **WELCOMES** the proposal by the Great Socialist Peoples' Libyan Arab Jamahiriya regarding the institutionalization of the Africa Environment Day and its celebration on 3 March each year;
3. **DECIDES** that Member States celebrate the Africa Environment Day, by urging enterprises, institutions and centers concerned by environmental problems to undertake the following:
 - a) Organization of conferences/debates, symposia and information campaigns to sensitize African populations on environmental problems;
 - b) Organization of visits and excursions to beaches, forests, zoological parks and natural reserves with a view to involving the African population in the preservation of the environment;
 - c) Focusing efforts on desertification and drought control programmes, as well as an maximum and judicious exploitation of natural resources;
 - d) Mobilization of all available means of information to cover the celebration of the Africa Environment Day.

**DECISION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF
ELECTION MONITORING UNIT IN AFRICA**

Council:

- **HAVING TAKEN NOTE** of the Report of the Secretary General
- **RECALLING** decision AHG/Dec.142(XXXV) adopted by the OAU Summit in Algiers in 1999 on rejection of unconstitutional changes and promotion of democracy in Africa;
- **REFERRING ALSO** to the Lomé Declaration of July 2000 on the role of the Civil Society in ensuring gender equity in the political process;
- **STRESSING** the importance of OAU/AU involvement in election observation and monitoring as well as the promotion and advancement of the political process in Africa through the use of a more credible and effective approach:
 - i) **DECIDES** to establish an administrative unit for election monitoring within the Office of the Commission responsible for Political Affairs to be responsible for coordinating and streamlining participation in election monitoring in collaboration with the competent authorities of the countries concerned;
 - ii) The election observer team shall comprise the following:
 - a) OAU/AU
 - b) Other members who should be experienced and competent in the area of election monitoring shall be selected from OAU/AU Member States and other independent persons. Membership of the team should include women.
- Those providing members of the team shall bear the cost of their participation where possible.
- The observer team shall submit a report on its participation in the election monitoring to the Secretary General, who shall in turn submit it to the Council of Ministers/the Executive Council.