ASSEMBLY OF THE UNION
Seventeenth Ordinary Session
30 June - 1 July 2011
Malabo, EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Assembly/AU/Dec.363-390(XVII)
Assembly/AU/Decl.1-2(XVII)
Assembly/AU/Res.1(XVII)

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DECISION ON THE THEME: “ACCELERATING YOUTH EMPOWERMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT”
Doc. Assembly/AU/2(XVII)

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the outcomes of the Youth Forum and related meetings on “Accelerating of Youth empowerment for sustainable development” held from 1 to 9 April, 2011 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and **APPROVES** the recommendations contained therein;

2. **WELCOMES** the Declaration of the Labour and Social Affairs Commission (LSAC) on Youth Employment for Social Cohesion and Inclusive Growth adopted by the Eighth Session of LSAC held in Yaoundé, Cameroon from 11 to 15 April 2011;

3. **WELCOMES** on-going efforts by Member States to prioritize the youth agenda in their respective countries and in particular those which have included the African Union (AU) concerns, mainly, the ratification of the African Youth Charter as well as those that promote awareness and implementation of the Youth Decade Plan of Action (2009 – 2018);

4. **COMMENDS** the Republic of the Sudan for hosting the Headquarters of the Pan African Youth Union (PYU), whose inauguration and official handover took place on May 25, 2011;

5. **DECIDES** that:
   
   (i) all Member States should advance the youth agenda and adopt policies and mechanisms towards the creation of safe, decent and competitive employment opportunities by accelerating the implementation of the Youth Decade Plan of Action (2009-2018) and the Ouagadougou 2004 Plan of Action on Employment Promotion and Poverty Alleviation;

   (ii) the Commission in collaboration with its partners should elaborate a Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) framework, addressing specifically the domains of Agriculture and ICT, while accelerating the implementation of the Youth Decade Plan of Action;

   (iii) Member States should provide to the Commission adequate resources for the advancement of the Youth Agenda, including the funding of the Pan African Youth Union;

   (iv) the Commission should organize on the margins of every June/July Summit a training programme for the Youth Volunteers
(v) all trained Young Volunteers should be deployed as soon as possible after their training including through placement in the AU organs and the Regional Economic Communities as part of capacity building for young professionals;

(vi) the Commission should lead the organization of a Side event on “Accelerating youth empowerment for Sustainable Development” under the leadership of the Chairperson of the AU, during the United Nations High-Level Meeting on Youth in July 2011 at the United Nations Headquarters whose theme is “Cooperation towards Financing Youth Development and Empowerment in Africa”;

6. REQUESTS:

(i) the Commission to report yearly on the implementation status of the youth development programmes, at all levels, with contributions from all Member States, Regional Economic Communities, the Pan African Youth Union and its organs;

(ii) the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) to incorporate the monitoring of the implementation of the African Youth Charter and the plan of Action of the Youth Decade with specific focus on youth social, political and economic development within Member States as also a basis for evaluation;

7. URGES Member States to develop and implement strategies and mechanisms for strengthening Public Private Partnership (PPP) in stimulating domestic resources for implementing Youth Programs, especially targeting employment creation;

8. CALLS ON all partners and stakeholders to align all youth-related development programs with the Youth Decade Plan of Action (2009-2018).
DECISION ON ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF FINANCING THE AFRICAN UNION
Doc. EX.CL/656(XIX)

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the recommendations of the Executive Council on alternative sources of financing the African Union (AU);

2. **RECALLS** the various decisions taken by the Executive Council and the Assembly on Alternative Sources of Financing the AU, including the 2001 Lusaka Summit Decision AHG/Dec. 1 (XXXVII, the June 2006 Banjul Decision EX.CL/Dec.285 (IX), and the July 2007 Accra Declaration Assembly/AU/Decl.2 (IX) which highlighted the need to identify additional sources of financing the activities of the AU;

3. **NOTES WITH CONCERN** the dire financial situation of the AU caused by delays in Member States honouring their assessed contributions and complexities of accessing partner funds;

4. **EXPRESSES DEEP CONCERN** over the growing reliance on partner funds to finance the continental integration and development agenda;

5. **REITERATES** the imperative need for Member States to provide the AU with predictable, reliable and sustainable resources to enable it fulfil its mandate;

6. **REQUESTS** the Commission to actively pursue the effective implementation of the various decisions of the Assembly on alternative sources of financing the AU;

7. **TAKES NOTE** of progress in the setting up of a High Level Panel of Eminent Personalities (the Panel) with a view to engaging with Member States and coming up with definitive proposals to this long outstanding issue as per the January 2011 Executive Council Decision EX.CL/Dec.643(XVIII);

8. **REQUESTS** the Commission to expedite the process of setting up the Panel and take all necessary measures to facilitate its work;

9. **APPEALS** to all Member States and the Regional Economic Communities to provide all the necessary support to the Panel to ensure a successful outcome of the consultations;

10. **REQUESTS** the Panel to undertake the consultations in a timely manner and report to the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly through the Executive Council, in January 2012.
The Assembly,


2. **ADOPTS**, in principle, the proposed detailed activities of the fourteen (14) STCs as contained in the Report of the Commission;

3. **DECIDES** that each STC should meet at the level of ministers and experts once every two (2) years, with the exception of the STC on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration, the STC on Gender and Women Empowerment and the STC on Defense and Security which shall meet once a year in ordinary session and an extra Ordinary Session if need be;

4. **REQUESTS** the Commission in collaboration with the Permanent Representatives’ Committee (PRC) through its Sub-Committee on Administrative, Budgetary and Financial Matters to determine the financial implications of meetings of each STC;

5. **DECIDES** that the Coordinating Mechanism of the STCs shall be made up of the Bureaus of the various STCs in order to ensure that the STCs have a global view of the policies, programmes and activities of the African Union; **AUTHORISES** that it meets once every year and that the Chairpersons of the various STCs attend the sessions of the Executive Council;

6. **ALSO DECIDES** that the Commission be responsible for convening and servicing all the meetings of the STCs in order to ensure synergy with other Organs and in particular with the Executive Council as well as other institutions;

7. **REQUESTS** the Commission to operationalize the STCs from January 2013 and that thereafter the Sectoral Ministerial Conferences be abolished.
The Assembly,


2. **REITERATES** its commitment to fight impunity in conformity with the provisions of Article 4(h) of the Constitutive Act of the African Union;

3. **STRESSES** the need to pursue all efforts and explore ways and means of ensuring that the request by the African Union (AU) to the United Nations (UN) Security Council to defer the proceedings initiated against President Bashir of The Sudan, in accordance with Article 16 of the Rome Statute of International Criminal Court (ICC) on deferral of cases by the UN Security Council, be acted upon, and in this regard, **REITERATES** its request to the UN Security Council; and **REQUESTS** the African members of the UN Security Council to place the matter on the agenda of the Council;

4. **ALSO STRESSES** the need to pursue all efforts in ensuring that the request by the AU to the UN Security Council to defer the investigations and prosecutions in relation to the 2008 post-election violence in Kenya under Article 16 of the Rome Statute be acted upon to allow for a National Mechanism to investigate and prosecute the cases under a reformed Judiciary provided for in the new constitutional dispensation, in line with the principle of complementarity;

5. **REAFFIRMS** that by receiving President Bashir, the Republic of Chad, Kenya, and Djibouti were discharging their obligations under Article 23 of the Constitutive Act of the African Union and Article 98 of the Rome Statute as well as acting in pursuit of peace and stability in their respective regions;

6. **EXPRESSES DEEP CONCERN** at the manner in which the ICC Prosecutor handles the situation in Libya which was referred to the ICC by the UN Security Council through Resolution 1970 (2011). The Assembly **NOTES** that the warrant of arrest issued by the Pre-Trial Chamber concerning Colonel Qadhafi, seriously complicates the efforts aimed at finding a negotiated political solution to the crisis in Libya, which will also address, in a mutually-reinforcing way, issues relating to impunity and reconciliation. In this regard, the Assembly **DECIDES** that Member States shall not cooperate in the execution of the arrest warrant, and **REQUESTS** the UN Security Council to activate the provisions of Article 16 of the Rome Statute with a view to deferring the ICC process on Libya, in the interest of Justice as well as peace in the country;
7. **REQUESTS** the Group of African States Parties in New York and in the Hague as well as the African Members of the UN Security Council to closely follow-up on the implementation of the Assembly’s Decisions on ICC;

8. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission in collaboration with the Permanent Representatives’ Committee to reflect on how best Africa’s interests can be fully defended and protected in the international judicial system, and to actively pursue the implementation of the Assembly’s Decisions on the African Court of Justice and Human and Peoples’ Rights being empowered to try serious international crimes committed on African soil;

9. **REQUESTS** the Commission to follow-up on this matter and to report regularly on the implementation of the various Assembly decisions on ICC.
The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Progress Report on the Roadmap and the preparations for the Global African Diaspora summit scheduled in South Africa in 2012;

2. **RECOGNIZES** the efforts and progress made by the Republic of South Africa and the Commission in ensuring the implementation of the Roadmap;

3. **REQUESTS** the Commission and the Republic of South Africa to continue their collaboration to ensure the successful planning and conduct of the Diaspora Summit;

4. **FURTHER REQUESTS** that such efforts should include the continuation of regional Consultative Conferences and the revitalization of Diaspora Regional Networks in the various regions of the world where the African Diaspora population lives as well as carrying out of feasibility studies on bankable projects;

5. **DECIDES** that the outcomes of the Technical Committee Meeting on the Diaspora be submitted for consideration to a Diaspora Ministerial Conference to be held on the side lines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, USA in September 2011 in preparation for the Global Diaspora Summit;

6. **REAFFIRMS** the Decision that the Diaspora issue remains a standing agenda for Summit meetings and **DECIDES** to convene the Global Diaspora Summit in 25 May 2012;

7. **CALLS UPON** Member States, AU Partners and the Diaspora communities worldwide to support this agenda and facilitate the implementation of the Roadmap and the holding of the Global Diaspora Summit.
DECISION ON THE THEME, DATE AND VENUE OF THE EIGHTEENTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE AFRICAN UNION

The Assembly,

1. **RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.347(XVI) adopted by the Sixteenth Ordinary Session of the Assembly in January 2011 on the theme of the January/February 2012 Summit which is: “Boosting Intra-African Trade”;

2. **ENDORSES** the recommendation of the Executive Council regarding the necessity to have henceforth one (1) theme per year and **CONFIRMS** that the above-mentioned theme will be for the whole year of 2012 including for the celebrations of Africa Day on 25 May 2012;

3. **DECIDES** that the dates of the Eighteenth Ordinary Session of the Assembly to be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, shall be the following:

   i) Twenty-third Ordinary Session of the Permanent Representatives Committee: 23 and 24 January 2012;

   ii) Twentieth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council: 26 and 27 January 2012;

   iii) Eighteenth Ordinary Session of the Assembly: 29 and 30 January 2012.
The Assembly,


2. RECALLS Decision Assembly/AU/Dec. 338 (XVI) Rev.1 adopted at its Sixteenth Ordinary Session held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 30 to 31 January 2011, and the Declarations on the State of Peace and Security in Africa, adopted by the 275th meeting, at ministerial level, of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) [PSC/MIN/BR.1 (CCLXXV)] and the Extraordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union, held in on 26 April and 25 May 2011, respectively in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia [EXT/ASSEMBLY/AU/ Decl. (01.2011)]. The Assembly UNDERSCORES the need for sustained efforts to ensure their effective implementation;

3. NOTES that Africa continues to face serious challenges in the area of peace and security, despite the significant progress made in conflict resolution and peace building. The Assembly UNDERSCORES the need to deploy greater and better coordinated efforts, based on Africa’s ownership and leadership, to promote sustainable peace, security and stability on the continent, and CALLS ON international partners to place their actions firmly within this framework;

4. TAKES NOTE of the efforts of both the Commission and the Regional Economic Communities/Regional Mechanisms for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution (RECs/RMs), to finalize the operationalization of the African Peace and Security Architecture, and UNDERSCORES the need to accelerate this process;

5. COMMENDS the Southern African Development Community (SADC) for its efforts to facilitate the return to constitutional order in Madagascar on the basis of its “Roadmap for a way out of the crisis in Madagascar,” as endorsed by the SADC Extraordinary Summit held in Sandton, South Africa, on 11 and 12 June 2011. The Assembly CALLS UPON SADC and the AU to continue to work together to find a consensual and sustainable solution to the crisis, in full compliance with the relevant instruments of the AU relating to unconstitutional changes of government, and to mobilise, to this end, the support of the international community, including through the early holding of a meeting of the International Contact Group on Madagascar;

6. WELCOMES the completion of the implementation process of the 16 June 2010 Agreement on the Management of the Interim Period in the Comoros, and URGES the Comorian stakeholders to persevere in their efforts to consolidate the gains made. The Assembly REAFFIRMS that Mayotte belongs to the Union of the
Comoros and **EXPRESSES ITS DEEP CONCERN** regarding the pursuit by France of its current policy, in particular the transformation of Mayotte into an overseas province (**Département**);

7. **WELCOMES** the signing, on 9 June 2011, of the Kampala Accord between the President of the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) of Somalia, Mr. Sheikh Sharif Sheikh Ahmed, and the Speaker of the Transitional Federal Parliament (TFP), Mr. Shariff Hassan Sheikh Aden, which seeks to end the current transitional period with deferral of elections for one (1) year. The Assembly **TAKES NOTE** of the resignation of Prime Minister Mohamed Abdullahi Mohammed “Farmajo” and the decision of the TFG President to appoint Mr. Abdiwell Mohamed Ali as the new Prime Minister, who has since been endorsed by the TFP, and **ENCOURAGES** the speedy completion of the consultations for the formation of a new cabinet and its subsequent endorsement by the Parliament. The Assembly **UNDERLINES** that the expeditious implementation of the Kampala Accord will go a long way in consolidating the important military gains made on the ground by the TFG, with the support of African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM);

8. **EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION** to AMISOM personnel for its valuable contribution to the peace and reconciliation process in Somalia, and **PAYS TRIBUTE** to the Troop Contributing Countries, namely Uganda and Burundi. The Assembly **APPEALS** to Member States that pledged troops to honor their commitments, as well as to the international community to lend the necessary support to AMISOM. The Assembly **REITERATES ITS CALL** to the United Nations Security Council to authorize the deployment of a UN peace keeping operation in Somalia and, in the meantime, to provide a more adequate support to AMISOM, in line with the requests contained in communiqué PSC/MIN/1(CCXXXXV) of the 245th meeting of the PSC, held on 15 October 2010;

9. **REITERATES ITS CONCERN** at the continued impasse in the peace process between Eritrea and Ethiopia. The Assembly **EMPHASIZES, ONCE AGAIN,** the need for renewed African efforts to help the two countries to peacefully resolve their dispute, normalize their relations and lay the foundation for lasting peace and security in the Horn of Africa, and **ENCOURAGES** the two countries to extend the necessary cooperation to any such efforts, including those to be deployed by the Chairperson of the Commission;

10. **REITERATES ITS CALL ON** Djibouti and Eritrea to pursue, in good faith, the scrupulous implementation of the 6 June 2010 Agreement, concluded under the auspices of Qatar, in order to resolve their border dispute and consolidate the normalization of their relations, and **REQUESTS** the Commission to closely follow the situation and make every effort to facilitate progress;

11. **FURTHER REITERATES** the need to develop a regional approach to the challenges of peace, security and stability in the Horn of Africa, as stressed in paragraph 12 of Decision Assembly/AU/Dec. 338(XVI) Rev.1. In this respect, the
Assembly WELCOMES the partnership between the Commission, the International Labor Organization (ILO) and IGAD, in convening a Stakeholders’ and Development Partners’ Conference on Employment for Peace, Stability and Development in the Horn of Africa, in Addis Ababa on 11 and 12 April 2011, and REQUESTS the Commission to pursue its efforts, including consultations with all stakeholders, with the view to facilitating the early convening of the envisaged regional conference on peace, security, stability and development in the Horn of Africa, as provided for in the above-mentioned decision;

12. RECALLS the Solemn Declaration on Sudan adopted at its 16th Ordinary Session, following the successful holding of the self-determination referendum for Southern Sudan, the main pillar of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA). The Assembly ACKNOWLEDGES the overwhelming choice for separation made by the people of Southern Sudan, and LOOKS FORWARD to welcoming the Republic of Southern Sudan as the newest member of the AU, immediately upon its independence on 9 July 2011;

13. URGES the Sudanese Parties to the CPA, in particular President Omar Hassan Al Bashir and First Vice-President Salva Kiir Mayardit, President of the Government of Southern Sudan (GoSS), to continue to demonstrate the commitment required to complete the implementation of the CPA and finalize the post-referendum negotiations, with the support of the AU High-Level Implementation Panel (AUHIP) and in the spirit of creating two viable States, mutually supportive and at peace with one another;

14. WELCOMES, in this respect, the signing, in Addis Ababa, on 20 June 2011, by the Government of Sudan (GoS) and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement (SPLM), of an Agreement on Temporary Arrangements for the Administration and Security of Abyei Area, under the facilitation of the AUHIP, which will enable security to be established and displaced persons to return to their homes in that district, as well as create conditions under which the Panel can make its recommendation on the final status of Abyei at a time to be agreed upon. The Assembly ENDORSES the Agreement and URGES the Parties to build on this breakthrough to resolve the pending issues in their negotiations. The Assembly ALSO CONGRATULATES the Government of Ethiopia, in particular Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, for the key role it played in facilitating this breakthrough and for its readiness to provide troops for the Interim Security Force for Abyei (ISFA) without delay. In this respect, the Assembly WELCOMES the adoption, on 27 June 2011, by the Security Council, of resolution 1990(2011), authorizing the deployment of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA), to facilitate the implementation of the Agreement, and STRESSES that this decision is an eloquent illustration of how best the AU and the UN can judiciously combine their respective comparative advantages to address peace and security challenges in Africa;
15. **WELCOMES** and **ENDORSES** the Framework Agreement on Political Partnership and Political and Security Arrangements in Blue Nile and Southern Kordofan, signed, under the facilitating of the AUHIP, in Addis Ababa, on 28 June 2011, by the GoS and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement (North), as a decisive step towards consolidating peace, security and democracy in the Republic of Sudan. The Assembly **CONGRATULATES** the parties on their commitment to the peaceful resolution of their differences and **CALLS UPON** them immediately to cease hostilities, permit humanitarian access, and allow the return of displaced persons to their homes;

16. **STRESSES THE NEED** for renewed efforts to bring about lasting peace, justice and reconciliation in Darfur. The Assembly **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the conclusion of the Doha political talks and the endorsement by the All-Darfur Stakeholders Conference held in Doha, from 27 to 31 May 2011, under the auspices of the Joint Chief Mediator and the Government of the State of Qatar, of the draft outcome document as a basis for the achievement of peace. The Assembly **LOOKS FORWARD** to the conclusions of the negotiations between the GoS and the Liberation and Justice Movement (LJM), as well as of the discussions with the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM);

17. **EXPRESSES FULL SUPPORT** to the efforts being made by the AUHIP, with the support of UNAMID, to expedite the launching of the Darfur Political Process (DPP), in line with relevant AU decisions, as a way of addressing in a comprehensive and inclusive manner the challenges of peace, justice and reconciliation in Darfur. The Assembly **WELCOMES** the commitment of the Government of Sudan to establish an enabling environment, and **CALLS ON** AU partners, in particular the UN Security Council and its members, to fully support this process and take the steps expected of them to facilitate the work of the AUHIP in this respect. The Assembly **COMMENDS** UNAMID leadership and personnel for their dedication and contribution to the search for peace in Darfur;

18. **PAYS TRIBUTE** and **REITERATES ITS FULL SUPPORT** to the work of the AUHIP under the leadership of former Presidents Thabo Mbeki, Abdulsalami Abubakar and Pierre Buyoya, which is making a major contribution to the quest for peace, justice and reconciliation in Sudan;

19. **WELCOMES** the encouraging progress made in consolidating peace and post-conflict reconstruction in Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Central African Republic (CAR), Liberia and Sierra Leone, and **ENCOURAGES** the Commission to vigorously pursue the implementation of the conclusions of the technical workshop on Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD), held in Addis Ababa from 2 to 3 June 2011, including the holding of an African
Solidarity Conference in October 2011. The Assembly WELCOMES the holding, in Brussels, on 15 June 2011, with the active support of the Commission, of the Donor's Round Table for the CAR, and URGES all concerned to honour the pledges made. In addition, the Assembly UNDERSCORES the importance of the smooth conduct of elections in the DRC in November 2011 and Liberia in 2012, and REQUESTS the Commission and the Panel of the Wise to support the electoral processes in these two countries and make contributions towards their success, including in the context of the follow-up on the recommendations of the Panel on election-related conflict and violence, as endorsed by the 13th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union held in Sirte, in July 2009:

20. WELCOMES the continued efforts to implement the 15 January 2010 Agreement between the Sudan and Chad and the impressive results achieved in this regard, especially with regard to securing the common border. The Assembly ALSO WELCOMES the holding of the Tripartite Summit that brought together, in Khartoum, on 23 May 2011, the Presidents of the CAR, Sudan and Chad, as part of the efforts to enhance security and regional cooperation. In this context, the Assembly ENCOURAGES the Commission to work towards effective implementation of the regional approach articulated in paragraph 4 of the Communiqué of the 70th Meeting of the PSC, held on 12 and 13 February 2007, and to discuss with the three countries the modalities of a support to cross-border cooperation initiatives already underway or planned, within the framework of the AU Border Programme;

21. WELCOMES the initiatives taken by the Commission on the implementation of paragraph 21 of Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.294 (XV) .2 on the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), in particular the dispatch, from March 16 to 4 April 2011, of a technical assessment mission in the five countries affected by the destabilizing activities of the LRA and the organization of the 2nd regional Ministerial meeting on the issue of the LRA, held in Addis Ababa, on 8 June 2011. The Assembly FULLY SUPPORTS the conclusions of this meeting and REQUESTS the PSC to swiftly authorize the proposed operation in all its components, including the Regional Intervention Force (RIF), the Joint Operations Centre (JOC) and Joint Coordination Mechanism (JCM). The Assembly REQUESTS the United Nations and other AU partners, to support this initiative aimed at protecting affected civilian populations, including through financial and logistical support;

22. WELCOMES the end of the post-election crisis in Côte d'Ivoire and the fact that the democratically elected President, Mr. Alassane Ouattara, now fully assumes full power. The Assembly NOTES WITH SATISFACTION the commitment of the new authorities to consolidate peace and promote reconciliation. The Assembly
REQUESTS the Commission, in consultation with ECOWAS and other partners, including the United Nations and the European Union, to accelerate the implementation of the measures envisaged under the relevant decisions of the PSC and the Extraordinary Summit, to support the process underway in Côte d'Ivoire, including support for the Dialogue, Truth and Reconciliation Commission, reform of the security sector, the implementation of pending aspects of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement and socio-economic recovery, through the dispatch of an assessment mission and the holding of an African Solidarity Conference;

23. WELCOMES the progress made in Guinea Bissau, in particular the adoption by the Government of the CPLP - ECOWAS Roadmap on the reform of the security sector, which responds to the objectives of the Tripoli Action Plan, and ENCOURAGES the Guinea-Bissau authorities to continue their efforts, particularly in the fight against impunity and drug trafficking, the establishment of the rule of law and socio-economic recovery. The Assembly URGES the international partners to continue to support Guinea Bissau, in particular through the holding, as soon as possible, of the Round Table of donors, postponed several times in the past;

24. UNDERSCORES the need for continued efforts on the part of all stakeholders in the Republic of Guinea in order to consolidate peace, national reconciliation, democracy and good governance. The Assembly ENCOURAGES the Guinean Government and all stakeholders to work towards the holding, within the agreed timeframe and under the required conditions of transparency and fairness, of the legislative elections to complete the process of building democratic institutions after the presidential election of November 2010. The Assembly CALLS ON development partners to provide the support needed for the economic and social rehabilitation of Guinea;

25. WELCOMES the positive evolution of the situation in Tunisia and the progress made in the transition, including the preparation for the election, of the Constituent Assembly, scheduled for 23 October 2011, and the establishment of a High Independent Body for Elections (HIIE), as well as the climate of freedom and democracy that now prevails in the country. The Assembly MAKES AN URGENT APPEAL to all partners of the AU to provide the necessary economic and financial support to facilitate the completion of the transition. The Assembly WELCOMES the visits to Tunisia by the Chairperson of the Commission and the Panel of the Wise, on 21 to 23 March and 12 to 14 April 2011, respectively, and REQUESTS the Commission to continue to support the on-going efforts in Tunisia;

26. NOTES the positive evolution of the situation in Egypt following the popular
uprising which took place in January/February 2011, in particular the atmosphere of freedom and democracy that now prevails, the opening of the political space and the adoption of a new legislation to facilitate the formation of political parties, the constitutional referendum of 19 March 2011, and the steps being taken to enable the Egyptian people to democratically choose their leaders and establish institutions that are truly representative and respectful of fundamental freedoms and human rights. The Assembly **ENCOURAGES** the Egyptian authorities and parties to persevere in their efforts to complete the transition and ensure that the aspirations and hope of the Egyptian people are fulfilled. The Assembly **REQUESTS** the Commission to spare no efforts in supporting and accompanying the transition, building notably on the outcome of the visits undertaken by the Chairperson and the Panel of the Wise to Egypt, on 26 and 27 March 2011 and from 4 to 6 June 2011, respectively. The Assembly **STRONGLY URGES** AU partners and the international financial institutions to provide the much-needed support to assist Egypt in addressing its socio-economic challenges and lay the foundation for sustainable democracy and development;

27. **REITERATES ITS DEEP CONCERN** at the prevailing situation in Libya, as well as its conviction that only a political solution will make it possible to fulfill the legitimate aspirations of the Libyan people and preserve the unity and territorial integrity of the country. In this respect, the Assembly **STRESSES** the continued relevance of the AU Roadmap as articulated by the PSC at its 265th Meeting held on 10 March 2011. The Assembly **REAFFIRMS** the decision on the peaceful resolution of the Libyan crisis adopted at its Extraordinary Session held on 25 May 2011. The Assembly **PAYS TRIBUTE** to the five Heads of State members of the AU High-Level ad hoc Committee on Libya and **EXPRESSES FULL SUPPORT** to them in the pursuit of their mandate;

28. **EXPRESSES THE PROFOUND APPRECIATION** of the AU to the Governments and peoples of Algeria, Egypt and Tunisia for the generosity with which they have welcomed hundreds of thousands of refugees, particularly African refugees, fleeing the conflict and NATO bombings in Libya. The Assembly **ALSO COMMENDS** UNHCR, IOM and other humanitarian agencies for their invaluable assistance;

29. **WELCOMES** the significant progress made in the implementation of the AU Border Programme (AUBP), as a follow-up to the Declaration on pursuing and accelerating the implementation of the AU Border Programme (AUBP), adopted at the 2nd Conference of African Ministers responsible for Border Issues held in Addis Ababa 25 March 2010, and endorsed by the 17th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council [EX.CL/Dec.563(XVII)], including the successful celebration of the First African Border Day, as well as support to field efforts on the delimitation/demarcation of frontiers, cross-border cooperation and capacity building. The Assembly **DECIDES**, in view of the many challenges yet to be overcome and the recommendation made by the Commission, to extend to 2017 the initial deadline of 2012, set by the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation in Africa (CSSDCA) of July 2002, for the completion of the delimitation/demarcation of all
African borders, where such an exercise has not yet been completed;

30. **WELCOMES** the steps taken by the Commission to follow up on Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.311(XV) on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism, in particular the elaboration of a Model Law, following the Member States experts meeting held in Algiers, in December 2010, which should be disseminated promptly and as widely as possible to all stakeholders. The Assembly **ENCOURAGES** Member States to fully take advantage of this Model Law to strengthen and/or update their national legislations, and **REQUESTS** the Commission to avail the expertise required, including through the establishment of standby teams of experts, to Member States that need technical assistance. The Assembly **CALLS ON** all AU Member States to take the steps expected of them to follow up on its relevant decisions, including, where required, expeditiously becoming parties to the relevant AU instruments, notably the Protocol to the OAU 1999 Convention on Terrorism, and fully implementing the provisions contained therein;

31. **FURTHER WELCOMES** the successful conclusion of the First Ordinary Session of the African Commission on Nuclear Energy (AFCONE), established under the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba), held in Addis Ababa, on 4 May 2011. The Assembly **ENCOURAGES** the States Parties to the Treaty to provide AFCONE with the necessary support to ensure the early and effective commencement of its activities, and **COMMENDS** the Commission for the steps already taken in this respect. The Assembly **CALLS UPON** all concerned States that have not yet done so, to take the steps required to become parties to the Treaty and to its Protocols without further delay, convinced that these instruments constitute a significant contribution to strengthening the global non-proliferation regime, promoting cooperation in the peaceful use of nuclear science and technology, as well as general and complete disarmament, with a view to enhancing regional and international peace and security;

32. **WELCOMES** the finalization by the Commission of a draft “African Union Strategy on Small Arms and Light Weapons, Ammunition, Explosives and Related Materials”, together with its Implementation Plan, and **LOOKS FORWARD** to the meeting of Member States experts planned for the third quarter of 2011 to review and adopt both documents. Furthermore, the Assembly **ENCOURAGES** the Commission to facilitate the elaboration of an African Common Position on the Arms Trade Treaty, including the convening of a meeting of Member States experts, ahead of the UN-sponsored Conference on the issue, to be held in New York, in July 2012, in pursuance of the General Assembly resolution 61/89 on developing a comprehensive, legally-binding instrument establishing common international standards for the import, export and transfer of conventional arms.
The Assembly,


2. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** of the recent developments in the intergovernmental negotiations and with **APPRECIATION** of the efforts of the African Permanent Representatives to the UN, in promoting and defending the continent’s interests in the UN Security Council reform process;

3. **WELCOMES** the growing support of Member states in the intergovernmental negotiations on the UN Security Council reform and for recognizing the compelling need to correct, first of all, the historical injustice done to the continent, which continues to be unrepresented in the permanent category and under-represented in the non-permanent category of the UN Security Council;

4. **ALSO WELCOMES** the growing recognition by Member states of the need in the on-going intergovernmental negotiations on UN Security Council reform, to treat Africa as a Special case;

5. **FURTHER WELCOMES** the growing support the African common position continues to receive from Member States in the intergovernmental negotiations;

6. **UNDERSCORES** the need for Africa to continue to speak with one voice and cohesively on all issues, whether of substance or procedure or both related to the UN Security Council reform, in order to build on the gains so far Africa has achieved in the on-going intergovernmental negotiations and ensure that the interests of Africa continue to be maintained and safeguarded at all times;

7. **REAFFIRMS** the Ezulwini Consensus and Sirte Declaration on the Reform of the UN Security Council containing the African common position;

8. **REQUESTS** the African Permanent Representatives of the Committee of Ten in participating in the on-going intergovernmental negotiations on the UN Security Council reform to work closely with other African Permanent Representatives to the UN and the African Permanent Representatives to the AU, and to continue to dialogue with and engage other Member States and interest groups in the reform process, with a view to building more alliances in support of the African common position;
9. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Committee of Ten to continue to intensify its efforts in advocating, canvassing and promoting the African common position as well as endeavouring to reach out at the highest political levels for the purpose of garnering more support for the African common position and of galvanising the required political will to keep the reform process moving forward;

10. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to continue to facilitate the activities of the African Permanent Representatives of the Committee of Ten to the UN in the intergovernmental negotiations on UN Security Council reform and related consultations thereon;

11. **CALLS ON** the Committee of Ten to remain seized of this matter until Africa achieves its objectives on the reform of the UN Security Council, and to report to the Assembly on progress made at the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly in January 2012 and on any further guidance deemed necessary in furtherance of its mandate.
The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Progress Report of the Commission on the Implementation of Assembly Decisions on the Hissene Habre case;

2. **REITERATES** its commitment to fight impunity in conformity with the provisions of Articles 4(h) and (o) of the Constitutive Act of the African Union;

3. **REITERATES** its decision in January 2011 confirming the mandate given to Senegal to try Hissene Habre on behalf of Africa and **URGES** Senegal to carry out its legal responsibility in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Torture the decision of the United Nations (UN) Committee against Torture as well as the said mandate to put Hissene Habre on trial expeditiously or extradite him to any other country willing to put him on trial;

4. **CALLS ON** other Member States, Parties to the United Nations Convention against Torture willing to try Hissene Habre to notify the Commission of their willingness to do so and to take necessary measures to put Hissene Habre on trial;

5. **REQUESTS** the Commission to closely monitor the implementation of this Decision and to report to the next ordinary session of the Assembly in January 2012.
The Assembly,


2. DECIDES to defer consideration of this item to the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly in January 2012.
DECISION ON THE ALLOCATION OF THE PAN AFRICAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE ON WATER AND ENERGY SCIENCE, INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE

The Assembly,

1. **RECALLS** its Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.290(XV) on the Establishment of the Pan-African University and inviting the North Africa region to designate the host country for the Pan-African university institute on Water and Energy Science, including climate change;

2. **DECIDES**, based on the agreement reached between the North African region countries, to allocate the Pan African University Institute on Water and Energy Science, including climate change, to Algeria;

3. **CONGRATULATES** Algeria for accepting to host this Institute;

4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to take, in collaboration with the Algerian Government, all necessary measures to ensure the establishment of this Institute.
DECISION ON THE BUDGET OF THE AFRICAN UNION
FOR THE 2012 FINANCIAL YEAR
Doc. EX.CL/657(XIX)

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the recommendations of the Executive Council to defer consideration of the 2012 budget until after the Malabo Summit;

2. **DELEGATES** its power to adopt the 2012 budget to the Executive Council;

3. **AUTHORIZES** the Executive Council to convene an extraordinary session in September 2011 to consider and adopt the said budget.
DECISION ON AFRICA’S PREPARATION FOR SEVENTEENTH
CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES / SEVENTH MEETING OF
THE PARTIES TO THE KYOTO PROTOCOL
Doc. Assembly/AU/7(XVII)

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Coordinator of the Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC), H.E. Meles Zenawi, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, on Africa’s preparation towards the Seventeenth Conference of the Parties (COP 17) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Conference of the Parties/Seventh Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP7) to be held in Durban, South Africa from 28 November to 9 December 2011;

2. **COMMENDS** all the African Ministers, Negotiators as well as the Commission for the efforts made to uphold the African Common Position on Climate Change;

3. **FURTHER COMMENDS** the Republic of South Africa, the Commission, the African Development Bank (AfDB) and Partners for the efforts being exerted towards Africa’s preparation for COP17/CMP7;

4. **URGES** CAHOSCC to convene a meeting to consider and take forward the Updated African Common Position on Climate Change to COP17/CMP7, which the African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN) will have considered and endorsed at its Extra-Ordinary Session to be held in September 2011;

5. **URGES** all Member States to attend and participate in COP17/CMP7 in large numbers and, individually and collectively, provide support to the Presidency of South Africa in order to ensure the success of the Conference;

6. **CALLS ON** African negotiators to concentrate on completing the negotiations on climate finance in Durban and in that regard build on the work of the Transitional Committee and other experts to ensure adequate resources flows to address Africa’s Climate Change challenge;

7. **CALLS ON** AfDB to complete the design of the African Green Fund ahead of Durban and to engage in consultation with African countries to ensure adequate voice for Africa in the governance of the Fund;

8. **ENCOURAGES** AfDB to coordinate its design of the Africa Green Climate Fund in consultation with Member States and obtaining insights from the Africa Group representatives to the Transitional Committee designing the Green Climate Fund;
9. **REQUESTS** AfDB to accordingly present a report reflecting modalities and progress in the design of the African Green Climate Fund to the next meeting of African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN);

10. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to report on the implementation of this Decision to the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly in January 2012.
DECISION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GREAT GREEN WALL PROGRAM
Doc. EX. CL/656 (XIX)

The Assembly,


2. **STRESSES** the need for coordination of efforts between the Commission, the implementation structures and the Member States of the Great Green Wall project;

3. **COMMENDS** the efforts of Member States concerned in the implementation of the GGW, including the establishment of an Executive Agency of the project located in N'djamena;

4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to play its coordinating role in mobilizing resources for the GGW and provide the necessary support to the Executing Agency of the GGW;

5. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission and the Agency to monitor, evaluate the project and report regularly to the Assembly through the Executive Council.
DECISION ON THE ELECTION OF ONE MEMBER OF THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL LAW
Doc. EX.CL/682 (XIX)

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the election of one (1) Member of the African Union Commission on International Law (AUCIL) conducted by the Nineteenth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea;

2. **DECIDES** to appoint the following person as a member of the African Union Commission on International Law for a **one (1)-year term**, being the remainder of the term of a member who resigned:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonaventure Makenga MPASI</td>
<td>Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the election of five (5) Members of the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights conducted by the Nineteenth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea;

2. **DECIDES** to appoint the following persons as members of the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Term of Office</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Ms. Reine Adélaïde ALAPINI</td>
<td>Benin</td>
<td>6-year term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Mr. Med S. K. KAGGWA</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>6-year term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Ms. Maya SAHLI FADEL</td>
<td>Algeria</td>
<td>6-year term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Ms. Faith Pansy TLAKULA</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>6-year term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Mr. Pacifique MANIRAKIZA</td>
<td>Burundi</td>
<td>4-year term</td>
</tr>
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</table>
The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the proposal by the Republic of Namibia, supported by other Member States, on the African Union (AU) decision-making process, lack of implementation of decisions, and the need to uphold and respect the integrity of the decisions of the AU Assembly by all Member States;

2. **DECIDES** to defer consideration of the item proposed by Namibia to its next ordinary session in January 2012.
DECISION ON THE CONCLUSIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES

Doc. Assembly/AU/12(XVII) Add.2

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the proposal by the Government of the Republic of Benin on the establishment of a Group of Experts in charge of ensuring the effective implementation of the principles spelt out in the Manifesto of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Independence of African Countries;

2. **WELCOMES** the pertinence of the conclusions of the deliberations of the International Symposium held in Cotonou, Benin, from 16 to 20 November 2010;

3. **RECOGNIZES** the crucial importance of the cooperation agreements established between Member States of the African Union and other regions of the world with a view to strategic partnership;

4. **ADOPTS** the proposal of Benin and **REQUESTS** the Commission in collaboration with the Permanent Representatives’ Committee to take all necessary measures to implement this Decision.
The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the proposals by the Republic of Congo on “Africa’s preparedness for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD Rio+20): common position and strategies to face the Green Economy and an institutional framework for sustainable development”; and **COMMENDS** the relation between this Decision, and the theme of the Summit “Accelerating Youth empowerment for sustainable development” as well as Article 19 of the African Youth Charter: “Sustainable development and protection of the environment”;

2. **RECOGNIZES** in the theme of the Malabo Summit: “Accelerating Youth Empowerment for Sustainable Development”, the importance for Africa to prepare itself for the Conference of the United Nations on Sustainable Development (Rio + 20);

3. **COMMENDS** the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and its partners for their commitment and initiatives to prepare Africa for Rio + 20, and by this, **COMMENDS FURTHER** UNECA for having organized, in partnership with the Commission, the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), two (2) workshops within the framework of Africa’s preparations for Rio +20 on “Institutional and strategic frameworks for sustainable development in Africa” (March 2011), and the “Sustainable development indicators framework for Africa” (10-11 March 2011);

4. **URGES** Member States to take note of the schedule of negotiations of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio + 20) and the preparatory meetings at regional and world levels, to ensure the active participation of African negotiators and experts and to ensure that Africa’s interests on the Green Economy issues within the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and institutional frameworks for sustainable development are defined and taken into account;

5. **URGENTLY INVITES** Member States to work for a Common African Position on the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio + 20), which will be finalized in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in October 2011, and **ENCOURAGES** the African Group to support the said position in a consensual manner during preparatory meetings for Rio + 20 at regional and world levels and during the Conference itself to be organized in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 4 to 6 June 2012;
6. **FURTHER INVITES** the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN), AfDB, UNEP and Africa’s sustainable development partners, to support Africa’s efforts by mobilizing the necessary resources to facilitate the implementation of this decision;

7. **REQUESTS** Member States, AMCEN and other Technical Specialized Organs of the AU, the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), UNECA, and AfDB, to put in place financial and institutional measures necessary at national, sub-regional and regional levels for the implementation of this Decision; and in this regard warmly **WELCOMES** the initiative of UNECA and partners for the organisation of the future conference on Africa’s preparations for Rio + 20 scheduled for October 2011;

8. **RECOGNISES** that current institutional structures do not fully address Africa’s needs in matters of the environment, sustainable development and climate change; within the context of revision of institutional frameworks for sustainable development, **TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION** the need to strengthen, consolidate and transform UNEP into an international specialized institution for the environment based in Nairobi, Kenya;

9. **APPROVES** the proposal that Africa be represented by a spokesperson for the purpose of negotiating with one single voice at the international preparatory meetings for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio + 20), and **MANDATES** the Republic of Congo to coordinate at the political level, in consultation with Member States, Africa’s preparations for Rio + 20, in close collaboration with AMCEN and ECA;

10. **REQUESTS** the Commission to take all necessary measures to implement this Decision and the President of the Republic of the Congo, H.E. Denis SASSOU NGUESSO, to report to his peers, at the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly in January 2012 on the common African Position and strategies arrived at for Rio +20, for consideration and adoption.
DECISION ON THE JACQUES DIOUF PRIZE ON FOOD SECURITY
Doc. Assembly/AU/12(XVII) Add.4

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the proposal by the Republic of Mali and co-sponsored by the Republic of Malawi to create a “Jacques DIOUF Prize”;

2. **RECALLS** the importance of Agriculture and Food Security in Africa and **ENCOURAGES** initiatives aimed at strengthening Food Security and the eradication of hunger and poverty on the continent;

3. **CONGRATULATES** Dr. Jacques DIOUF for his remarkable commitment to the development of Agriculture and Food Security in Africa throughout his three (3) terms of office as Director General of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO);

4. **APPROVES** the proposal by the Republic of Mali and co-sponsored by the Republic of Malawi to create a “Jacques DIOUF Prize”, on the basis of the recommendations of the Twenty Sixth Session of FAO Regional Conference for Africa held in Luanda, Angola, from 4 to 7 July 2010;

5. **DECIDES** to award every two (2) years, the “Jacques DIOUF Prize” to a Member State or institution that has made an outstanding contribution towards achieving food security, in particular, through the improvement of small-scale farming and elimination of post-harvest losses in rural communities, agriculture innovation and environmental sustainability;

6. **INVITES** Member States and all partners to support the proposed “Jacques Diouf Prize” through voluntary contributions and to ensure its financial and environmental sustainability;

7. **REQUESTS** the Commission to prepare and submit to the next Ordinary Session of the Executive Council in January 2012 draft modalities for the process of selecting recipient Member States or institutions including resources mobilization.
The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the proposal by Burkina Faso for a resolution to be adopted at the Sixty Sixth Ordinary Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations to ban female genital Mutilation (FGM) in the world;

2. **RECOGNIZES** that female genital mutilation (FGM) is a gross violation of the fundamental human rights of women and girls, with serious repercussions on the lives of millions of people worldwide, especially women and girls in Africa;


4. **ALSO RECALLS** the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, adopted on 11 July 2003 in Maputo, Mozambique which in its Article 5 requires State Parties to prohibit and condemn all forms of female genital mutilation through legislative measures enforced by sanctions;

5. **COMMENDS** Member States and African Union initiatives to ban FGM and efforts to pursue the necessary steps for full implementation of the Maputo Protocol. At the same time, **EXPRESSES DEEP CONCERN** at the continued practice of FGM in spite of numerous campaigns conducted over the last thirty (30) years;

6. **CALLS UPON** the United Nations (UN) General Assembly to adopt a resolution at its Sixty-sixth session to ban female genital mutilation worldwide, by harmonizing the actions of Member States and providing recommendations and guidelines for the development and strengthening of regional and international legal instruments and national legislations;

7. **URGES** all Member States to provide strong support for efforts to adopt a draft resolution to ban female genital mutilation worldwide, which draft will be submitted to the Sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations;

8. **INVITES** all Member States of the United Nations and other international organizations to support this initiative and contribute to its adoption after submission to the Sixty-sixth session of the UN General Assembly;

9. **REQUESTS** the Commission to report on the implementation of this Decision next Ordinary Session of the Assembly in January 2012.
DECISION ON THE PROJECT TO ESTABLISH THE AFRICAN CENTRE
OF EXCELLENCE IN INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION
TECHNOLOGIES (CAETIC) IN TUNIS, REPUBLIC OF TUNISIA
Doc. Assembly/AU/12 (XVII)Add.7

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the proposal by the Republic of Tunisia to establish an African Centre of Excellence in Information and Communication Technologies in Tunis;

2. **UNDERSCORES** the strategic dimension of the ICT sector for socio-economic development and the attainment of the MDGs in Africa;

3. **RECALLS** the Abuja Declaration adopted by the Third Session of the Conference of African Ministers in charge of Communications and Information Technologies held in Abuja, Nigeria in 2010, which supports the establishment of an African, Continental ICT Centre of Excellence;

4. **RECOGNIZES** the importance of the role that the Centre will play in promoting ownership of ICTs by the Continent, developing African competence and raising the awareness of decision-makers on the major issues of the sector;

5. **REQUESTS** the Commission, in collaboration with the Government of the Republic of Tunisia, to begin the necessary negotiations with the various partners of Africa in order to implement the project;

6. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to submit a report on the implementation of this Decision to the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly in January 2012.
DECISION ON THE SITUATION IN LIBYA

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE, WITH APPRECIATION**, of the report of the AU High-Level *ad hoc* Committee on Libya on its activities since the Extraordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union, held in Addis Ababa, on 25 May 2011;

2. **PAYS TRIBUTE** to the *ad hoc* Committee and to its members for the commitment and determination with which they are carrying out the mandate entrusted to them by the 265th meeting of the Peace and Security Council (PSC), held on 10 March 2011, and reaffirmed by the Extraordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union, held on 25 May 2011;

3. **REAFFIRMS** all earlier AU decisions on the situation in Libya and its conviction that only a political solution will make it possible to fulfil the legitimate aspirations of the Libyan people and preserve the unity and territorial integrity of the country. In this respect, the Assembly **STRESSES** the continued relevance and validity of the AU Roadmap as articulated by the PSC at its 265th meeting;

4. **ENDORSES** the Proposals for a Framework Agreement on a Political Solution to the Crisis in Libya, as presented by the *ad hoc* Committee, within the context of the AU Roadmap and the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions;

5. **REQUESTS** the *ad hoc* Committee to submit these proposals to the Libyan parties, namely the Government of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the Transitional National Council (TNC) of Libya, and to engage them on that basis, including through the early convening of negotiations under the auspices of the AU and the United Nations, with the support of the League of Arab States, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the European Union;

6. **URGES** the Libyan parties to demonstrate the required political will, place the supreme interest of their country and people above any other considerations, and extend the necessary cooperation to the High-Level *ad hoc* Committee;

7. **FURTHER URGES** AU international partners, in particular the United Nations Security Council and its members and relevant bilateral partners, to support the African initiative and the search for a political solution, as the best way of achieving the mutually-reinforcing objectives of peace, democracy, the rule of law and national reconciliation in Libya. The Assembly **UNDERSCORES** that the role of the AU is formally recognized by UN Security Council resolution 1973 (2011) and is fully consistent with the provisions of Chapter VIII of the UN Charter and the unique contribution that the *ad hoc* Committee can make for the resolution of the current crisis;

8. **REQUESTS** the *ad hoc* Committee to report regularly to the PSC and to its 18th Ordinary Session on its efforts towards a political solution to the crisis in Libya.
DECISION ON THE REPORT OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT ORIENTATION COMMITTEE ON THE NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR AFRICA’S DEVELOPMENT

Doc. Assembly/AU/5(XVII)

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE WITH APPRECIATION** of the Report by the Chairperson of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD) Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC), H.E. Meles Zenawi, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia;

2. **ENDORSES** the conclusions of the Twenty-Fifth NEPAD HSGOC Meeting convened as a special session focusing on mobilizing domestic resources for NEPAD implementation in commemoration of the Tenth Anniversary of the adoption of NEPAD in Lusaka, Zambia in July 2001;

3. **WELCOMES IN PARTICULAR** the Tenth Anniversary of NEPAD as a key milestone and unique occasion to deeply reflect on the mixed results over the past decade, lessons learned and the future of NEPAD within the context of Africa’s development;

4. **REAFFIRMS** the continued relevance and uniqueness of the vision, sector priorities and core values enshrined in NEPAD as the flagship programme of the African Union (AU) to help realize Africa’s development goals and **APPRECIATES** the inspiring leadership and foresight of NEPAD initiators to ensure that Africa takes its rightful place in the global system;

5. **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the substantial progress made in the integration of NEPAD into the structures and processes of the AU pursuant to Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.282(XIV) of the Fourteenth Ordinary Session of the Assembly held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in January 2011 and **COMMENDS** the Chairperson of the Commission and the Chief Executive Officer of the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) for working to strengthen NPCA’s institutional capacity to deliver on its mandate;

6. **REITERATES** the urgent need for Member States to adequately fund NPCA and its programmes to ensure the delivery of its mandate given the current financing constraints and **REQUESTS** the PRC through its Sub-Committee on Structural Reforms to finalize consideration of the structure of NPCA and make appropriate recommendations to the Assembly, through the Executive Council in January 2012;

7. **ALSO ENDORSES** the implementation of key NEPAD regional and continental programmes and projects as reflected in the Activity Report for the period January to June 2011 specifically noting the progress on African Science Technology and Innovation Indicators (ASTII); strategic engagement on rural
futures; technical support to Regional Economic Communities (RECs) under the Partnership for African Fisheries (PAF); National Agriculture and Food Security Investment Plans (NAFSIPs) under CAADP; Orphan Crops initiative; support for African Mining Vision on natural resources management; NEPAD-OECD Africa Investment Initiative; institutional development support to RECs under the Capacity Development Strategic Framework (CDSF) and the launch of the second phase of NEPAD Spanish Fund for African women empowerment;

8. **APPRECIATES** progress recorded to date relating to the implementation of the AU-NEPAD Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative through the work of HSGOC High Level Sub-Committee under the leadership of H.E. Jacob Zuma, President of the Republic of South Africa and **NOTES** the technical coordination led by the Commission and NPCA on the seven (7) prioritized projects while highlighting the need for enhanced coordination and sustained engagement with relevant countries and RECs;

9. **UNDERSCORES** the historic opportunity for Africa to individually and collectively, scale-up the mobilization of additional domestic resources in support of NEPAD implementation to advance ownership, self-reliance and development effectiveness particularly noting the innovative forms of development finance including the broadening of the tax base, public-private partnerships (PPPs), sub-regional levies for multi-country projects, tackling illicit capital flows, climate financing and capital market options;

10. **STRESSES** the need to transform existing political will on domestic development finance into concrete policy responses and actions. **ACCORDINGLY REQUESTS** the Commission and NPCA in conjunction with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and other partners to recommend appropriate mechanisms on domestic resource mobilization and present to the next HSGOC for consideration;

11. **WELCOMES** the outcomes of the G8-Africa Partnership Summit held in Deauville, France in May 2011 relating to shared values and responsibilities in consolidating the continent’s good progress in peace and security, economic growth with mutual accountability as the main pillars of the partnership;

12. **COMMENDS** the finalization of Africa’s first assessment report on the G8-Africa partnership commitments arising from the close collaboration between AUC and NPCA and **ALSO WELCOMES** the newly established practice of negotiating G8 joint declaration on Africa initiated under the French Presidency of the G8 and **URGES** the continuation of this practice;

13. **REAFFIRMS** full support for the G20 Seoul Development Consensus on Shared Growth as the new development paradigm and its consistency with the NEPAD vision and **REITERATES** Africa’s call for adequate and effective representation in the G20 and the underlined desire to continuously and constructively engage the G20 High Level Infrastructure Panel on creative financing and investment options
for the continent’s infrastructure projects with the expressed position that the public sector remains the major player in infrastructure development;

14. **RECOGNIZES** the invaluable opportunity provided by upcoming global processes to convey the African voice and consensus on development policy issues including Climate Change and Aid Effectiveness;

15. **WELCOMES** the hosting of the Seventeenth Conference of the Parties (COP 17) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) by the Government of the Republic of South Africa in December 2011 signifying Africa’s key interests in the global discourse on climate change and the joint coordination of the Continent’s preparations for the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Busan, Korea by the Commission and NPCA under the Africa Platform for Development Effectiveness (APDev) and in liaison with African stakeholders and regional institutions including African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) and **REITERATES** the need for Africa to present unified positions at these global events.
DECISION ON THE OFFER BY THE REPUBLIC OF EQUATORIAL GUINEA TO HOST THE THIRD AFRICA-SOUTH AMERICA SUMMIT

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** with appreciation of the offer of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea to host the Third Africa–South America Summit (ASA) in Malabo, in October/November 2011;

2. **NOTES** that the prevailing circumstances in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya which was to host this Summit do not make it possible for it to do so at the present time;

3. **ACCEPTS** the offer by the Republic of Equatorial Guinea to host this Summit;

4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to take necessary measures, in collaboration with the host country, to ensure the success of this Summit;

5. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to submit a report on the implementation of this Decision to the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly in January 2012.
DECISION ON THE USE OF SPANISH WITHIN THE AFRICAN UNION

The Assembly,

1. **RECALLS** its previous decision on the Introduction of Spanish within the African Union and the relevant provisions of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly in this regard;

2. **REQUESTS** the Commission to take all the necessary measures to operationalize the use of Spanish within the African Union as soon as possible.
DECISION ON THE UNITED NATIONS EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION-OBIANG-NGUEMA MBASOGO INTERNATIONAL PRIZE FOR RESEARCH IN LIFE SCIENCES

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the communication by the Republic of Equatorial Guinea regarding the United Nations Education, Science and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)-Obiang Nguema Mbasogo International Prize for Research in Life Sciences;

2. **SUPPORTS** this Prize which will contribute to the promotion of research in the Life Sciences;

3. **URGES** UNESCO to implement the commitments already made in this respect as reflected in Decision 180 EX/57 of the Executive Board of this Institution.
DECISION ON THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WORLD CONFERENCE AGAINST RACISM, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, XENOPHOBIA AND RELATED INTOLERANCES (WCAR) AND THE DURBAN DECLARATION AND PLAN OF ACTION (DDPA)

The Assembly,

1. **NOTES** that 2011 will mark the Tenth Anniversary of the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa from 31 August to 8 September 2001 and the subsequent adoption of the Durban Declaration and Plan of Action;

2. **RECALLS** all relevant Resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly, in particular Resolution 65/240 (2011) to hold a one (1)-day, high-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the Tenth Anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action at the level of Head of State and Government on 22 September 2011, on the margins of the general debate of the sixty-sixth Session of the UN General Assembly, on the theme “Victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance; recognition, justice and development”;

3. **EMPHASIZES** that the commemoration of the Tenth Anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Plan of Action represents an important opportunity for the international community to reaffirm its commitment to the eradication of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

4. **UNDERSCORES** the importance of international cooperation in achieving the goal of eradication of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

5. **DECIDES** to fully support this commemorative event, **ENCOURAGES** Member States to participate at the highest possible political level and **SUPPORTS** the adoption of a political Declaration aimed at mobilizing political will.
DECLARATIONS
DECLARATION ON CREATING EMPLOYMENT FOR ACCELERATING YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND EMPOWERMENT

We, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, meeting at our Seventeenth Ordinary Session in Malabo, Republic of Equatorial Guinea, from 30 June to 1 July 2011;

DEEPLY CONCERNED about the rise in unemployment and under-employment in Africa, particularly among the youth and the serious threat they pose to social cohesion, political stability and the future socio-economic development prospects of our various countries;

RECALLING the African Youth Charter and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa;

ALSO RECALLING the Ouagadougou Declaration and Plan of Action on Employment Promotion and Poverty Alleviation; the AU Social Policy Framework; the AU Migration Policy Framework; the African Women Decade 2010-2020; the African Youth Decade Plan of Action, 2009-2018; and other related policy documents, as well as the Millennium Development Goals, all together aimed at improving the well-being of African people;

WELCOMING outcomes of the G20 Summits in London and Pittsburgh on strong, sustained and balanced global growth;

CONVINCED that employment promotion measures should be driven by interventions based upon solidarity and equality, transparency and accountability, and supported by the State, Private Sector, Employers and Trade Unions, and Civil Society Organizations to foster cohesion and social integration in African societies;

FURTHER CONVINCED that the promotion of productive youth employment is vital to youth empowerment;

Hereby COMMIT to the following:

1. REAFFIRM individually and collectively, our previous commitments aimed at accelerating job creation, reduction of poverty, social protection for our people and the social development of Africa. In this regard, we re-dedicate ourselves and commit our countries to accelerate efforts to reduce unemployment and under-employment of Africa’s Youth and Women and thereby attain all MDGs by 2015;

2. REDUCE Youth and Women unemployment by at least two percent annually over the next five years as contained in the Youth Decade Plan of Action 2009-2018;

3. MAINTAIN, extend and harmonize Labour Market Information Systems in support of employment policy formulation, implementation and evaluation;
4. **IMPROVE** and increase responsiveness of the education and training systems to current and future labour market needs in order to address the pervasive and structural skills mismatch;

5. **PROVIDE STEWARDSHIP** as national Governments and achieve policy coherence in National and Regional Certification Frameworks for Education and Vocational Training, as well as the development of integrated and cross-sectoral National and Regional Youth Employment Action Plans;

6. **ACCELERATE** appropriate social protection coverage expansion for the youth, women, informal economy and rural workers and members of their families, in order to reduce poverty and vulnerability;

7. **CALLS** on Member States which have not yet done so to sign; and ratify the African youth Charter;

8. **REQUEST** the Commission to work with the African Development Bank (AfDB), the RECs and international partners, on a comprehensive youth employment pact, with mechanisms that will ensure its implementability at national level through strong ownership by the key Line Ministries, Employers and Trade union organisations, women and youth organisations and the Private Sector, with clear Monitoring and Evaluation system;

9. **REQUEST** the Commission, in close collaboration with the AfDB, to advocate for effective implementation of the G20 commitments made on labour and social protection during the London and Pittsburgh Summits to the benefit of African countries;

10. **URGE** the Commission, in close collaboration with the AfDB, to prepare and submit to the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly, the modalities for funding of the Plan of Action on Employment Promotion and Poverty Alleviation;

11. **REQUEST** the Commission to annually report to this Assembly on progress made in the implementation of this Declaration.
SOLEMN DECLARATION ON THE SUDAN

We, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union (AU), meeting at our 17th Ordinary Session in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, from 30 June to 1 July 2011, reviewed the situation in Sudan. Our deliberations were informed by the progress that the Sudanese parties continue to make in their quest for lasting peace, justice and reconciliation in their country, in spite of the many challenges confronting them;

We reiterate our appreciation to the people of Sudan, under the leadership of President Omar Hassan Al Bashir and First Vice-President and President of the Government of Southern Sudan (GoSS), Salva Kiir Mayardit, for having successfully conducted the self-determination referendum of January 2011 for Southern Sudan, the main pillar of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA). In so doing, the people and leaders of Sudan have, once again, demonstrated their capacity, with genuine support from the international community, to address the myriad of challenges confronting them. We commend President Al Bashir for having promptly accepted the results of the referendum, in keeping with the undertaking that he made to respect the will of the people of Southern Sudan, whatever their choice is;

As we look forward to welcoming Southern Sudan as the newest Member State of the African Union, immediately upon its independence on 9 July 2011, we would like to commend the people of northern Sudan, who have taken the unprecedented and generous step of accepting self-determination for their brethren. We emphasize that northern and southern Sudan are equally African nations;

We note with appreciation that our present Summit coincides with further progress in the resolution of the pending issues in the implementation process of the CPA. In this respect, we welcome the signing, in Addis Ababa, on 20 June 2011, by the Government of Sudan (GoS) and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement (SPLM), of an Agreement on Temporary Arrangements for the Administration and Security of Abyei Area, under the facilitation of the AU High-Level Implementation Panel (AUHIP). This Agreement will enable security to be established and displaced persons to return to their homes in that district, as well as create conditions under which the Panel can make its recommendation on the final status of Abyei at a time to be agreed upon. We commend the Government of Ethiopia for its invaluable contribution to the conclusion of this Agreement and for its decision to deploy a force, under a UN mandate, to facilitate its implementation;

We hail the Framework Agreement on Political Partnership and Political and Security Arrangements in Blue Nile and Southern Kordofan, signed, under the facilitation of the AUHIP, in Addis Ababa, on 28 June 2011, by the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People’s Liberation Movement (North), as a decisive step towards consolidating peace, security and democracy in the Republic of Sudan. We congratulate the parties on their commitment to the peaceful resolution of their differences and call upon them immediately to cease hostilities, allow humanitarian access, and facilitate the return of displaced persons to their homes;

We are confident that the Sudanese Parties to the CPA will continue to demonstrate the commitment required to complete the implementation of the CPA and finalize the post-referendum negotiations, with the support of the AUHIP and in the spirit of creating two viable states, mutually supportive and at peace with one another;
We stress the need for renewed efforts to settle in a peaceful and comprehensive manner, the conflict in Darfur: the people of Darfur have suffered too much and for too long, and a lasting solution must be found for their predicament. In this respect, We note with satisfaction the conclusion of the Doha political talks and the endorsement by the All Darfur Stakeholders Conference held in Doha, from 27 to 31 May 2011, under the auspices of the Joint Chief Mediator and the Government of the State of Qatar, of the draft outcome document, which provides a basis for the achievement of peace;

Aware of the exceptional circumstances that the Sudan is currently going through, We pledge, once again, our continued support to its efforts to decisively deal with the challenges facing it;

We strongly call on our partners within the international community to extend all the supports required to enable Sudan successfully complete the processes it is engaged in. In particular, We, once again, urge:

i) the United Nations Security Council to positively respond to the AU’s request for the deferral of the process initiated by the International Criminal Court (ICC), in line with Article 16 of the Rome Statute. In this respect, We request the African members of the Security Council, working closely with the Commission, to speedily table a draft resolution for consideration by this organ;

ii) the complete normalization of relations between the international community and Sudan, as well as speedy steps for the cancellation of Sudan’s debt, to ensure that its people can enjoy peace, dignity, democracy and development;

We express our support to the Doha Framework Document, and call upon all our partners and the other members of the international community to fully support it;

We urge all the armed movements in Darfur that have not yet done so, to, wholeheartedly and without any further delay, join the peace efforts. We request the Peace and Security Council to consider taking measures against armed movements refusing to join the peace process, and urge our partners, including the UN Security Council, to support such measures;

We reiterate our full support to the early launching of the Darfur Political Process led by the AUHIP and UNAMID, so as to achieve a comprehensive and inclusive peace in Darfur, and express our appreciation to the commendable work being done on the ground by UNAMID;

We commit the AU and engage the international community as a whole to continue to assist the peoples of Sudan as they open a new chapter in their history.
RESOLUTION ON THE LIFTING OF THE ECONOMIC AND TRADE EMBARGO IMPOSED ON THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

We, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union meeting in our Seventeenth Ordinary Session in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, from 30 June to 1 July 2011;

1. RECALL our Resolution Assembly/AU/Res.1(XV) adopted by our Assembly at its 15th Ordinary Session held in Kampala, Uganda, on 27 July 2010, and in particular, the call made to the Government of the United States of America to lift the long-standing and unjustifiable economic and trade embargo imposed on the Republic of Cuba, and thus enable it to enjoy all the legitimate prospects for its sustained development;

2. REITERATE our call and once again INVITE the United States of America to lift the long-standing and unjustifiable sanctions imposed on the Republic of Cuba.