

CM/Res. 395 (XXIV)



**CM/Res.384 (XXIV)**

**To**

**CM/Res.418 (XXIV)**

**CM/ST.14 (XXIV)**

**COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**

**Twenty Fourth Ordinary Session**

**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 13 - 21 February 1975**

**RESOLUTIONS ON THE TWENTY SECOND ORDINARY SESSION OF  
THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**

**RESOLUTION ON THE GRANTING OF  
SUBVENTIONS TO AFRICAN ORGANIZATIONS**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its 24<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, from 13 to 21 February 1975,

Having considered report CM/614 Rev.1 (XXIV) of the Advisory Committee on budgetary and Financial Matters,

Recalling its relevant resolutions on the rules governing the granting of subventions.

1. DECIDES, without prejudice to established rules governing the granting of subventions, to approve:
  - US\$ 170,000 for the Supreme Council of Sport in Africa “SCSA”
  - US\$ 60,000 for the Pan-African Youth Movement “PYM”
  - US\$ 35,000 for the International Relations Institute for Cameroon “IRIC”
  - US\$ 35,000 for the International Association for the Development of Documentation, Libraries and Archives in Africa
  - US\$ 50,000 for the All-African Women’s Organization “AAWO”
  - US\$ 130,000 for the Organization of African Trade Union Unity “OATUU”
  - US\$ 20,000 for the anti-Apartheid Committee
  - US\$ 10,000 for the Union of African Journalists (UAJO)
  - US\$ 40,000 for the Union of African National Radio and Television Networks “URTNA”
  - US\$ 50,000 for the Association of African Universities

RESOLUTION ON THE RULES GOVERNING THE GRANTING OF  
SUBVENTIONS

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its 24<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, from 13 to 21 February 1975,

Concerned over the ever-increasing number of applications for subventions submitted to the OAU by several African organizations or associations, and particularly over their effect on the increasing budget of the Organization;

Considering the need for stricter rules for the granting of subvention by the OAU;

Recalling in this respect its previous resolutions and decisions, especially those of the Nineteenth Session of the Council endorsed by the Ninth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government in Rabat;

1. DECIDES that the granting of OAU subvention shall be governed by the following conditions:
  - a) That the recipient shall be an African Organization or Association whose activities, programmes and objectives fall within the purview of the aims of the OAU as defined in the charter of 25 May 1963;
  - b) that it should already have observer status at the OAU;
  - c) that these Organizations or Associations which have previously received such subventions should first account for them before applying for new ones.
2. REAFFIRMS that the granting or enjoyment of observer status does not, per se, give right to OAU subvention.
3. REAFFIRMS that OAU subventions merely assistance, a temporary contribution to an African Organization or Association satisfying the criteria set out in operative

paragraph 1 of the present resolution in view of OAU's limited resources and its financial difficulties, so as to enable it to fulfill its mission in the service of Africa.

4. DECIDES that the dossiers should first be examined by the Secretary General who will thereafter refer them to the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters and the Council of Ministers.
5. REQUESTS the Administrative Secretary General to abide scrupulously by the provisions of operative paragraph 4 of the present resolution.

**RESOLUTION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR THE  
STRUCTURAL REFORM OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its 24<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, from 13 to 21 February 1975,

Taking cognizance of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters, document CM/614 Rev.1 (XXIV);

Having heard the statements made by the representatives of TANZANIA, ZAMBIA, SIERRA LEONE and GHANA;

Recalling the various statements made by African Leaders particularly during the 11<sup>th</sup> Summit meeting in Mogadishu;

1. DECIDES to establish an ad hoc committee composed of Cameroon, Ghana, Egypt, Senegal, Tanzania, Zaire, Algeria, Nigeria and Guinea to undertake studies on structural reform of the Organization of African Unity, particularly as regards administrative and financial matters.
2. This committee will later submit its recommendations to the council and the Assembly for consideration, in accordance with article XXIII of the Charter and the relevant provisions of OAU regulations.

## **RESOLUTION ON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE CAPE VERDE ISLANDS**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its 24<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, from 13 to 21 February 1975,

Having heard the statement by the representative of Guinea Bissau on the famine in the Cape Verde Islands,

Considering the urgent need for aid to the Cape Verde Islands;

1. DECIDES to grant to the Cape Verde Islands immediate financial assistance amounting to +- 25,000 to be taken from the funds of the Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa;
2. REQUESTS Member States which have not yet done so, to kindly pay their contributions to the Special fund for Assistance to Guinea-Bissau, in conformity with the relevant resolutions of the Twenty Third and Twenty Fourth Sessions of the Council of Ministers;
3. APPEALS to Member States to grant, at bilateral level, accrued financial, material, food, health and other assistance to the Republic of Guinea-Bissau so as to enable it cope with the famine prevailing in the Cape Verde Islands and, as far as possible, before 30 June 1975;
4. INVITES the Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa in close co-operation with the high parties concerned, to submit to the next session of the council a report on the new orientation needed and the actions capable for reinforcing the work of national reconstruction undertaken by the newly independent states or by those states which are about to become independent.

**RESOLUTION ON THE ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE AND THE BOARD OF EXTERNAL AUDITORS**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its 24<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, from 13 to 21 February 1975,

Having considered Report CM/619 (XXIV) on the election of Members of the Advisory committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters and of the Board of External Auditors:

DECIDES :

1. That the following countries have been elected members of the Advisory committee on budgetary and Financial matters;

Algeria	Tunisia
Egypt	Zaire
Ethiopia	Zambia
Gabon	Morocco
Ghana	Liberia
Guinea	Sudan
Kenya	Uganda
Libya	Somalia
Nigeria	Senegal
Sierra Leone	Tanzania
Cameroon	

2. That the following countries have been elected members of the Board of External Auditors:

Niger	Burundi
Upper Volta	Central African Republic
Mauritania	Lesotho

3. That the mandate of the members of the Advisory committee and of the Board of External Auditors shall extend for a period of three years ending in February 1978.

**RESOLUTION ON THE COLONIAL ENCLAVES  
ON THE NORTHERN COAST OF MOROCCO**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its 24<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, from 13 to 21 February 1975,

Taking note of the content of the document CM/612/AD 8 dealing with the question of the Moroccan towns of Sebta, Melilia, Alhuceima and Velez Islets and Jaafarines islands under Spanish colonial domination and whose registration has been requested by the Moroccan Government at the United Nations Committee of 24 on January 30, 1975 in its agenda under the number A/AC/109/475,

Reaffirming the firm determination of the Member States to complete the total liberation of the African continent as soon as possible,

Considering that the maintenance by Spain of the colonial enclaves on Moroccan territory constitutes a threat to the African countries,

1. EXPRESSES its entire solidarity with the Kingdom of Morocco for the recuperation of the colonial enclaves on his northern coast;
2. REQUESTS INSISTENTLY the United Nations Committee of Decolonisation to apply the proper procedure in order to realize the decolonisation of the above-named towns and territories;
3. LAUNCHES AN URGENT CALL to Spain to accelerate the process of the decolonization of the enclaves and to start negotiations on the subject with Morocco;
4. REQUESTS the Administrative Secretary General of the Organization of African Unity to make a report on the developments of this question at the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of the council of Ministers.



## **RESOLUTION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its 24<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, from 13 to 21 February 1975,

Taking note of the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 2460 (XXIV) and 2416 (XXV) and the ECOSOC resolution 1408 (XLVI);

Recognizing the existence of the Pan-African Women's Organization with Headquarters in Algeria as the only continental Women's Organization in Africa;

Concerned with the social and economic emancipation of women in general and of Pan African womanhood in particular;

Mindful of the need for each of our national governments to renew and evaluate their various programs for the role of women in the development of their countries.

Fully aware of the participation of women in multiple roles in the development of the continent;

1. ENDORSES the UN General Assembly Resolution on International Women's Year, 1975;
2. CONGRATULATES the Pan-African Women's Organization for its efforts towards the social, political and economic emancipation of women on the Continent;
3. URGES all national Governments of Member States of the OAU to encourage, initiate or intensify the participation of their National Women's Organizations in the Pan African Women's Organization;
4. INVITES all Member States to pay special attention to increasing opportunities for the increased participation of women in the development of their countries through intensified programs for education and training availability of health facilities, water

supplies and other labour saving technologies, access to employment, including self employment and participation on policy making bodies.

## RESOLUTION ON SOUTH AFRICA

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its 24<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13 to 21 February 1975,

Bearing in mind the commitment of African States to the total liberation of Africa as embodied in the Charter of the Organization of African Unity;

Bearing in mind the international community's abhorrence of and opposition to the racist policies of South Africa;

Mindful of the desire of the majority of black people in South Africa, whose wishes are total freedom and self-determination without fragmentation of their country on racial or ethnic grounds;

Bearing in mind the implications of the decision of the 29<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly, which prevented South Africa from participating in its work;

Recalling United Nations General Assembly Resolution 324 (XXIX) on the policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa, and the Mogadiscio Declaration on Southern Africa, appeals to all States and Organizations to provide appropriate political, moral and material assistance to the oppressed people of South Africa, and their liberation movements, in their struggle for the eradication of apartheid and the establishment of a society based on equal rights for all inhabitants irrespective of race, colour or creed;

Gravely concerned over the intransigence of South Africa which continues to perpetrate its policy of apartheid and of racial segregation;

1. REQUESTS all OAU Member States to reject the obnoxious philosophy of apartheid and the Bantustan policies of the Vorster regime;
2. EXPRESSES its solidarity with the oppressed people of South Africa in their struggle against apartheid;

3. REQUESTS the international community to condemn the arrest, detention and torture of political opponents of apartheid in South Africa;
4. DEMANDS the unconditional release of all political prisoners, including those under restriction or house arrest;
5. REQUESTS the Administrative Secretary General of the OAU to undertake a study on the situation of immigrant workers for independent African States in South Africa and to report to the Council of Ministers,
6. REAFFIRMS its policies of total trade embargo and other economic relations with the racist and minority regimes of South Africa and appeals to the international community to respect and implement the pertinent decisions of the United Nations.

**RESOLUTION ON THE EXPULSION OF SOUTH AFRICA FROM THE TWENTY  
NINTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its 24<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13 to 21 February 1975,

Reaffirming the resolution No.CM/Res.342 (XXIII) of the council of Ministers held in Mogadishu concerning the status of South Africa at the United Nations;

Having taken note of the report of the Administrative Secretary General of the OAU concerning the activities of the African Group at the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations, in particular the results achieved by Africa during the XXIXth Session of the United Nations General Assembly chaired by Mr Abdelaziz Bouteflika, Foreign Minister of Algeria;

Having heard the statements made by the member of council;

1. MAKES a point of renewing the expression of its confidence and full solidarity with the Chairman of the XXIXth Session of the General Assembly, Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, and congratulates him on his decisive role in defending Africa's stand,
2. CONGRATULATES the African Group at the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations on the cohesion it displayed and its positive role within the group of non-aligned countries;
3. EXPRESSES its gratitude to the other United Nations Group for their contributions towards the success of the African initiative,
4. REQUESTS the African Group at the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations to step up its efforts and vigilance in order to consolidate, in the interests of Africa and all the countries of the Third World, the results achieved during the XXIXth Session of the General Assembly,

## **RESOLUTION ON THE QUESTION OF PALESTINE AND THE MIDDLE EAST**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its 24<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13 to 21 February 1975,

Having heard the statements delivered during the conference,

Having received the report of the OAU Administrative Secretary General (CM.644 (XXIV)),

Gravely concerned over the deteriorating and explosive situation in the Middle East due to the aggressive and rigid Israeli attitude and to its expansionist ambitions obstructing the process of reaching a just settlement,

Convinced, therefore, that the responsibility of delaying the achievement of any progress falls squarely on Israel,

Recalling its resolution 332 (23) adopted during the Council's Twenty Third Ordinary Session held in Mogadishu, Somalia, (6 – 15 June 1975),

Reaffirming its established position according to which the total withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Arab territories, and the recognition of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people are basic prerequisites for any just and lasting peace in the Middle East,

Recalling further its resolution 321(22) which declared the total support of the OAU to the heroic struggle of the Palestine Liberation Organization as the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people in their struggle against zionism and racism,

Bearing in mind its resolution 337 (23) by which the Council declared its desire to foster the African Arab Co-operation in all its fields in a practical and effective way,

1. TAKES NOTE of the report of the OAU Administrative Secretary General (CM/644 (XXIV)),

2. STRONGLY CONDEMNNS Israel for the perpetuation of its occupation of the Arab Territories, its denial of the existence and rights of the Arab People of Palestine, as well as for its procrastinating Policy which has hindered all efforts aiming at achieving the just settlement called for by the many resolutions adopted by the United Nations,
3. DENOUNCES Israel for its failure to comply with all the relevant U.N. resolutions calling upon it to effect an immediate withdrawal from the Arab occupied territories, and to desist forthwith from all measures adversely affecting the political, economic, administration, cultural and demographic status of the occupied territories,
4. URGES all states to refrain from providing all forms of military aid to Israel which will only help consolidating its occupation, thus making the prospect of peace more remote,
5. EXPRESSES its indignation at the repeated flagrant Israeli acts of aggression against Lebanon, particularly against the Southern region of Lebanon, the people of this country and the Palestinian People in defiance of all relevant resolutions of the Security Council,
6. EXPRESSES its full appreciation for the assiduous efforts exerted by the Arab countries in order to mobilize their potentialities with a view to liberating their occupied territories from the Israeli aggressors,
7. REITERATES the fundamental principles set out in its resolutions 332 (23) recognizing the natural rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination, and emphasizes – in this regard – the provisions of the resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations 3236 (29) mainly:
  - (a) the inalienable right of the Palestinian to return to their homes and to recover their properties,
  - (b) The right of the Palestinians to independence and sovereignty,
  - (c) That the Palestinian people is a principal party in the establishment of a just and durable peace in the Middle East.

8. COMMENDS the invitation extended to the Palestine Liberation Organization to participate in the sessions and works of the General Assembly and all international conferences in the capacity of an observer in accordance with the General Assembly resolution 3237 (29),
9. DEEMS IT advisable for the success of the Palestine Liberation Organization in their struggle for establishing the future state of the Palestinian People that they be given all opportunities to keep permanent contacts with the governments of Member States, and that this may take the form of representations in their respective capitals,
10. PLEDGES to continue its unqualified support to the Arab cause against the Israeli Zionist designs which are detrimental to the cause of peace, not only in the area, but also in the entire world; and further continues to uphold the measures incorporated in its resolution No. 28(8) adopted during the Council's Special Session on 26 November 1973,
11. REQUESTS the OAU Administrative Secretary General to closely follow up developments in the Middle East and to report thereon to the 25<sup>th</sup> session of the Council of Ministers, and decides to keep the situation in the Middle East as one of the important items on the agenda of the next session of the OAU Council of Ministers.



**RESOLUTION ON THE CONVENING OF AN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE  
OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ON THE QUESTION OF SOUTH AFRICA**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its 24<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13 to 21 February 1975,

Having heard the brilliant statement made by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Peoples Democratic Republic of Algeria on the danger posed by South Africa's efforts to divide the OAU,

Reaffirming its relevant resolutions on the question of South Africa as well as its principles against apartheid,

Considering the gravity of this matter in the present circumstances,

DECIDES to request the OAU Administrative Secretary General to consult Member States with a view to convening an extraordinary session in Dar-es-Salaam in the first fortnight of April 1975 on the question entitled: "The Situation in South Africa".

**RESOLUTION ON AFRO-ARAB CO-OPERATION**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February, 1975,

**Recalling** its Resolution ECM/Res. 20 (VIII) adopted by the Eighth Extraordinary Session of the Council of Ministers in Addis Ababa from 19<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> November, 1973;

**Recalling further** its Resolution CM/Res. 337 (XXIII) adopted by the 23<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Council of Ministers held in Mogadiscio, Somalia, from 6<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> June, 1974;

**Bearing in mind** the comments of the Administrative Secretary-General in the introduction of his report (Document CM/613 Part I Paragraph 74);

**Noting with satisfaction** the declaration of the Algiers and Rabat Arab Summit Conference and the proposals made thereat for Afro-Arab Co-operation;

**Convinced** that Afro-Arab Co-operation is a necessity and indeed an exigency founded on the philosophy of solidarity built on the community of destiny and objectives;

**Mindful** of the need to consolidate the necessary conditions for Afro-Arab Co-operation;

1. **DECIDES** that the Committee of Seven set up by the Eighth Extraordinary Session of the Council of Ministers as reconstituted by the Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers comprises the following twelve countries:

Cameroon	Sudan
Tanzania	Algeria
Ghana	Senegal
Mali	Sierra-Leone
Botswana	Burundi
Zaire	Egypt

2. **DECIDES** that the new Committee, assisted by the Administrative Secretary-General, shall also serve as Co-ordinating Committee for Afro-Arab Co-operation, that its mandate shall be extended for the purpose of exploring new horizons in that respect and that complementary measures shall be adopted for the preparations of the Arab Summit and the implementation of the decisions and resolutions of the Council of Ministers and the Heads of State and Government.
3. **REQUESTS** the Administrative Secretary-General to set up within his Cabinet a unit entrusted with the responsibility of servicing the activities for the co-ordination of Afro-Arab Co-operation.
4. **APPROVES** the Report of the Committee of Seven and congratulates its Members for the excellent work they have done.
5. **DECIDES** that in the fulfillment of its tasks, the Co-ordinating Committee shall be guided by Resolution CM/Res. 337 (XXIII).

**RESOLUTION ON THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF  
THE CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE OF THE BPEAR**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February, 1975,

**Recalling** its Resolution CM/346 (XXIII) on the BPEAR.

**Having studied** the report of the 9<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the OAU Commission of Ten on Refugees;

**ADOPTS** the Rules of Procedure of the Co-ordinating Committee of the BPEAR as recommended by the Commission of Ten on Refugees.

**RESOLUTION ON WITHDRAWAL OF THE TROPICAL  
AFRICA REFUGEE SERVICE (TARS) FROM THE  
COORDINATING COMMITTEE OF THE BPEAR**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February, 1975,

**Recalling** its Resolution CM/Res. 346 (XXIII) on the BPEAR;

**Having studied** the Report of the 9<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the OAU Commission of Ten on Refugees;

**Noting** the decision of TARS to withdraw from the Co-ordinating Committee of the BPEAR;

**ENDORSES** the recommendation of the Commission of Ten on Refugees and takes note of the withdrawal of TARS from the BPEAR Co-ordinating Committee.

**RESOLUTION ON AFRICA REFUGEE DAY**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February, 1975,

**Recalling** its various resolutions calling on Member States to observe yearly and Africa Refugee Day in order to raise funds for assistance to refugees;

**Having studied** the report of the 9<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the OAU Commission of Ten on Refugees;

**Considering** the progress realized in the field of decolonization in Africa and the repercussions on refugee problems in Africa;

**Noting** with satisfaction the entry into force on 20<sup>th</sup> June 1974, of the OAU Convention governing the specific aspects of the refugee problem in Africa;

1. **ADOPTS** the report and recommendations of the OAU Commission of Ten on Refugees concerning Africa Refugee Day,
2. **DECIDES** that the 20<sup>th</sup> of June of every year be observed by Member States as Africa Refugee Day,
3. **CALLS** on Member states to observe the Day for the first time on 20<sup>th</sup> June 1975 and to adopt “Voluntary Repatriation” as the theme of the occasion,
4. **REQUESTS** the OAU Administrative Secretary-General to ensure that the necessary publicity be given to the Day, to provide Member States with all the necessary documentation for the occasion and to raise the necessary funds required for the preparation and observance of the Day,
5. **REQUESTS** Member States to implement, where possible, the draft programme drawn up by the Commission of Ten on Refugees for the observance of the Day.

**RESOLUTION ON VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION OF AFRICAN REFUGEES**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February, 1975,

**Recalling** Resolution CM/Res. 346 (XXIV) on the BPEAR;

**Considering** the UN Convention of 1957, the 1967 and the OAU Convention on Refugees and the need for those Member States, which have not yet ratified the OAU Convention, to do so;

**Having studied** the Report of the 9<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the OAU Commission of Ten on Refugees;

**Considering** the progress achieved in the field decolonization in Africa and the need for repatriating refugees;

**Aware of** the necessity of the participation of these refugees in the reconstruction of their countries;

**Considering** the need to create an atmosphere conducive to the return of these refugees to their countries of origin;

**Bearing in mind** the wide experience of the UNCHR and other international organizations in the field of voluntary repatriation:

1. **URGES** those Member States which have not ratified the OAU Convention on Refugees to do so as soon as possible in order to facilitate services to African refugees particularly in respect of their voluntary repatriation;
2. **ADOPTS** the report and recommendations of the OAU Commission of Ten on Refugees;
3. **CALLS** upon Member States to:-

- a) Accept and abide scrupulously by the international agreements and the OAU Convention on Refugees, particularly as regards the voluntary nature of repatriation;
  - b) Undertake a campaign to raise funds and collect materials to help the new States to create conditions, congenial for the return of the refugees;
  - c) Make available, if possible, to the new nations the technical staff and equipment needed to cope with the exigencies of the situation, in collaboration with Member States having experienced in repatriation and with the OAU General Secretariat;
  - d) Accept, and facilitate the establishment on their territories, of transit facilities and make available the services of their staff with experience in this field, whenever necessary;
  - e) Launch a campaign to encourage the refugees to return to their countries, of their own free will;
  - f) Facilitate the full transfer of the refugees' savings and property especially working tools and personal effects;
  - g) Allow couples of mixed marriage to decide freely on their repatriation;
  - h) Prevent the formation on their territories of subversive groups, which would hinder the tasks of rehabilitation and reconstruction of the newly independent countries and which would be inimical to the efforts of reconciliation.
4. **MANDATES** the Commission of Ten to make contacts with the leaders of the Liberation Movements and the Governments concerned on the question of repatriating their compatriots;
5. **REQUESTS** the Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU to study the possibility of assisting financially in the repatriation of the refugees as well as in their settlement;



6. **INVITES** to this and the Liberation Movements and Governments concerned to define their priorities and needs to repatriation and to communicate such information to the OAU Administrative Secretary-General as soon as possible;
7. **AUTHORIZES** the Administrative Secretary-General to set up an appropriate machinery to co-ordinate repatriation operations with the UNCHR and other interested international Organizations, and Governments having experience in this field in order to avoid any duplication of efforts;
8. **INVITES** the UNCHR and other international organizations and voluntary agencies to put at the disposal of the Liberation Movements concerned in consultation with OAU their expertise and financial means in order to effectively assist in the repatriation of these refugees and their resettlement;
9. **APPEALS** to the Governments concerned to solemnly declare a long lasting general amnesty in order to facilitate the tasks of reconciliation and the return of their refugees;
10. **EXPRESSES** its appreciation of all Member States which have given aid and asylum to African refugees, to UNCHR and all other International Organizations which have contributed to relieve the sufferings of African Refugees.

**RESOLUTION ON THE CLOSURE OF THE OAU OFFICE**  
**FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO GUINEA-BISSAU**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February, 1975,

**Recalling** its resolution CM/323 (XXII) on technical assistance to Guinea-Bissau;

**Having heard** the Report of the Administrative Secretary-General on the closure of the OAU Office for Technical Assistance to Guinea-Bissau;

**Taking cognizance** of the statement made by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau in which he thanked OAU Member States for the assistance extended to the PAIGC and his country;

1. **DECIDES**, in accordance with the expressed wishes of the Government of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, to close down the OAU Office for Technical Assistance to Guinea-Bissau;
2. **INSTRUCTS** the Administrative Secretary-General to take the necessary administrative measures to implement this decision;
3. **EXPRESSES** its gratitude to the Republic of Guinea for having hosted the Sub-office of the OAU Liberation Committee.

**RESOLUTION ON THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE PAN-AFRICAN  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February, 1975,

**Having heard** the statement made by the representative of the Republic of Zaire;

**Taking note** of the facilities and privileges which the Republic of Zaire will accord and its willingness to contribute to the development of Pan-African telecommunications system;

1. **DECIDES** that the Headquarters of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union be based in Kinshasa.
  
2. **WARMLY** congratulates the Executive Council of Zaire for its co-operation and for the facilities offered in regard to the establishment of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union in Kinshasa.

**RESOLUTION ON THE EGYPTIAN CANDIDATURE**  
**OF DR. M.F. TAHA TO THE PRESIDENCY OF THE**  
**WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION (WMO)**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February, 1975,

**Having heard** the statement made by the representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt on the Egyptian candidature of Mr. M.T. TAHA to the Presidency of the WMO during its 7<sup>th</sup> Congress (April – May 1975);

1. **DECIDES** to support the candidature of Dr. TAHA to the Presidency of the WMO.
2. **REQUESTS** the African Group in the WMO to ensure the successful implementation of this decision.

**RESOLUTION ON THE SITUATION IN**  
**SAO TOME E PRINCIPE**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February, 1975,

**Considering** the positive successes scored by the people of Sao Tome e Principe in their national liberation struggle, particularly the signing on 26 November, 1974 in Algiers of the Protocol Agreement between the Liberation Movement of Sao Tome e Principe and the Government of Portugal fixing 12 July, 1975 as the date for the independence of that country;

**Having heard** the statement made by the representative of the Liberation Movement of Sao Tome e and Principe (MLSTP);

**Noting** the economic, social and cultural situation prevailing in Sao Tome e Principe on the eve of the accession of that country to full sovereignty;

1. **PAYS** special tribute to the people of Sao Tome e Principe for their resounding victory during the independence struggle;
2. **REAFFIRMS** its total solidarity with the people of Sao Tome e Principe in their national reconstruction efforts;
3. **REQUESTS** the OAU General Secretariat in co-operation with the MLSTP to seek ways and means of giving top priority technical assistance to that country;
4. **DECIDES** that immediate financial assistance be given to the MLSTP to enable it solve the serious problems now facing Sao Tome e Principe.

**RESOLUTION ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PAN-AFRICAN  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February, 1975,

**Having** considered the report of the Administrative Secretary-General as presented in document CM/638 (XXIV),

**Noting** the report of the Co-ordinating Committee on its activities,

**Encouraged** by the progress made in the implementation of the Pan-African Telecommunications Network,

**Aware** of the need for continued co-operation of member States with the Co-ordinating Committee for the harmonious development of the Network,

**Mindful** of the desirability of permanent machinery for consultations among African States to ensure an orderly development and operation of regional telecommunications services,

**Noting further** the draft constitution for a Pan-African Telecommunications Union as such a permanent machinery,

1. **EXPRESSES** its appreciation to the Co-ordinating Committee on the report on the implementation of the Pan-African Telecommunications Network;
2. **DECIDES** to forward to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government for their consideration the report of the Co-ordinating Committee on its activities;
3. **WELCOMES** the progress so far achieved in the implementation of the Pan-African Telecommunications Network;
4. **URGES** all Member States to give maximum co-operation to the Co-ordinating Committee to ensure a harmonious development of the Network;

5. **APPROVES** the establishment of the proposed Pan-African Telecommunications Union;
6. **INVITES** the Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU to convene before the end of 1975 the constituent conference of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union;
7. **REQUESTS** the Administrative Secretary-General to report to the Council of Ministers on the future progress of the Implementation of the Pan-African Telecommunications Network and the establishment of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union.

**RESOLUTION ON INTERNATIONAL MULTIMODAL TRANSPORT**  
**CONVENTION**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February, 1975,

**Having examined** the report presented by the Secretary-General in document CM/641 (XXIV) on the question of a possible Convention on International Multimodal Transport,

**Taking note** of the resolution of the Conference of African Experts on Maritime Transport and Container Traffic which recommended among other things that an Ad-Hoc Committee of Experts be set up to undertake an in depth techno-economic studies of the implications of multimodal transport in Africa,

**Noting** that funds are available in the current financial year for financing the work of the said Ad-Hoc Committee,

**Conscious** of the importance of this question on the economic, financial and social development of Africa;

**Aware** of the consequences of the adoption of this mode of transport on the economic and social structures as well as in the financial field on the African States,

**Bearing in mind** the necessity for Africa to be able to play an effective role in any international decision such as the preparation of an international convention on the Multimodal Transport and the fact that this calls for Africa to prepare adequately:

1. **APPRECIATES** the work done by the African Group and the OAU Secretariat during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Intergovernmental Preparatory Group (IPG) meeting in Geneva;
2. **REQUESTS:**



- a. The Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU in Co-operation with the Executive Secretary of ECA to set up an Ad-Hoc Committee taking into account geographical representation;
  
- b. The Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU to present a report on the activities of the Ad-Hoc Committee to the Conference of African Ministers of Transport before the next meeting of the IPG, which commences in August 21, 1975.

**RESOLUTION ON THE DROUGHT IN AFRICA**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February, 1975,

**Considering** the dangerous spread of the drought disaster and the tragic situation,

**Noting** with concern the persistent shortage in food production in the Sudano-Sahelian countries as well as in other regions and islands of Africa as a result of the drought which has been prevailing for several years and which is still spreading into other regions of Africa,

**Recalling** resolutions CM/Res. 316 (XI) and CM/Res. 336 (XXIII),

**Convinced** the need for drawing up an overall strategy at continental level in order to deal with this disaster,

1. **CONGRATULATES** the General Secretariat on the action already undertaken in the implementation of the previous resolutions on the problem of the drought in Africa;
2. **APPROVES** the report CM/640/Rev.1 (XXIV) and adopts the recommendations of the Ad-Hoc Committee which met in Addis Ababa from 20 to 21 January 1975;
3. **REITERATES** its appeal to Member States to pay their contributions to the Emergency Relief Fund which has been opened at the Commercial Bank of Ethiopia in order to enable the General Secretariat to take practical action for the benefit of our unfortunate brothers before the next Assembly of Heads of State due to be held in July 1975;
4. **REQUESTS** the Ad-Hoc Committee to undertake studies in other African countries where drought is spreading;

5. **REQUESTS** Member States and all competent specialized organizations to cooperate fully with the General Secretariat of OAU in the implementation of Resolution CM/336 (XXIII) and the recommendations of the Ad-Hoc Committee.

**RESOLUTION ON METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES AND SOCIA-ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February, 1975,

**Considering with deep concern** the wide spread human suffering and the devastating effects on the socio-economic development of the drought- and tropical cyclones – stricken countries in Africa;

**Recalling** Resolution CM/336 (XXIII) requesting detailed studies on the origin of drought,

**Having studied** the report of the Administrative Secretary-General on drought in Africa,

**Being convinced** that the results of in-depth studies on the origin and characteristics of drought will assist the African governments concerned to prepare long-term plan to mitigate the effects of possible future drought, especially from the point of view of optimum land use,

**Recognizing** that the availability of adequate meteorological and climatological information is essential to carry out reliably these studies and also reduce the serious damage caused by tropical cyclones in the African countries of the Indian Ocean and the Horn of Africa,

**Noting** part C of ECOSOC Resolution 1728 (LIII), by which the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations drew the attention of the Governments to the need for recognizing the vital character of their atmospheric and hydrological resources in maintaining progress in economic and social development, including the protection of life and property against weather related disasters,

1. **URGES** that the national meteorological services in Africa should be developed and geared to serve the socio-economic development in their respective countries in order to assist the African governments on a sound scientific basis, in their

efforts to mitigate the effects of drought, tropical cyclones and other weather-related disasters as well as in the major efforts for the rational exploitation and conservation of their natural resources (particularly vegetation, water, marine and energy resources) and the solution of related environmental problems;

2. **URGES FURTHER** African governments to support the balanced development of their national Meteorological Services, thereby ensuring that these services can make their fullest contribution to the different human activities affected by weather and climate, thus contributing to the well-being of African peoples,
3. **REQUESTS** the Administrative Secretary-General to establish close contacts with the Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization on matters of mutual interests for OAU and WMO particularly the latter's activities related to drought and tropical cyclones in Africa.

**RESOLUTION ON THE ATTACHMENT OF THE BUREAU OF TECHNICAL  
CO-OPERATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE  
SECRETARY-GENERAL**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February, 1975,

**Having considered** document CM/637 (XXIV) on the OAU Technical Co-operation Programme;

**DECIDES:**

- a) to attach the Technical Co-operation Bureau to the Office of the Administrative Secretary-General under the title of Bureau of Co-operation and Assistance;
- b) that the Bureau, in consultation with African inter-governmental organizations and the ECA, should:
  - i advise the Secretary-General on the policy to be promoted in the field of technical co-operation among Member States;
  - ii evaluate the qualifications of experts, consultants, technicians and workers of the Programme;
  - iii determine the salary levels, classify and make an index of experts, consultants, technicians and workers of the Programme.

**RESOLUTION ON INTER-AFRICAN CONVENTION ESTABLISHING ON OAU  
AFRICAN TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February, 1975,

**Having considered** document CM/637 (XXIV) on the Draft Inter-African Convention Establishing an OAU technical Co-operation Programme,

1. **ADOPTS** the Draft Inter-African Convention Establishing an OAU Technical Co-operation Programme;
2. **APPEALS** to all Member States to ratify the Convention, as early as possible in order to provide the Inter-African technical co-operation with the necessary legal framework.

**RESOLUTION ON OAU TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February, 1975,

**Having considered** document CM/637 (XXIV) on the OAU Technical Co-operation Programme,

1. **ADOPTS** the said programme;
2. **STRONGLY APPEALS** to Member States, to African governmental and non-governmental organizations, to the United Nations, to the United Nations Agencies and institutions, to friendly countries, to African Foundations to give maximum support to OAU Technical Co-operation Programme.



**RESOLUTION ON ROSTER OF THE OAU TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION  
PROGRAMME**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February, 1975,

**Having considered** document CM/637 (XXIV) on the roster of experts, consultants, technicians, and workers of the OAU Technical Co-operation Programme,

1. **REQUESTS** the General Secretariat to maintain its contacts with Member States with a view to keeping the roster up to date;
2. **APPEALS** to Member States, African governmental and non-governmental organizations, the United Nations, Agencies and Institutions of the United Nations family to use the roster of the OAU Technical Co-operation as much as possible;
3. **CALLS** on Member States, governmental and non-governmental organizations to use, as a matter of priority, the services of the experts, consultants, technicians and workers of the Programme in the development efforts undertaken on the continent;
4. **EARNESTLY REQUESTS** friendly States to use the experts, technicians and workers of the OAU Technical Co-operation Programme in technical assistance programme for the countries of the continent.

**RESOLUTION ON ESTABLISHMENT OF AN OAU TECHNICAL  
CO-OPERATION FUND**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February, 1975,

**Having considered** document CM/637 (XXIV) Technical Co-operation Programme,

**DECIDES** to establish an OAU Technical Co-operation fund:

1. The OAU Technical Co-operation shall be separate from the OAU's regular budget but administered according to the administrative and financial rules and regulations of the OAU General Secretariat and subject to audit by the OAU internal and external auditors,
2. The OAU Technical Co-operation fund shall not be financed by the OAU regular budget,
3. The OAU Technical Co-operation fund shall be financed by voluntary contributions in cash and in kind from:
  - a. Member States;
  - b. African governmental and non-governmental Organizations;
  - c. The United Nations, Agencies and Institutions of the UN Family;
  - d. Various Arab Funds for co-operation and development, within the framework of Afro-Arab Co-operation;
  - e. Friendly countries, within the framework of their technical co-operation programme for the continent;
  - f. Various African and Foreign foundations.
4. Funds from non-African financial sources as set out in sub-paragraphs d, e and f should be submitted to the OAU Advisory Committee for approval.

**RESOLUTION ON THE AFRICAN INTER-MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE TO  
SERVE AS A REGIONAL ARM OF THE WORLD FOOD  
COUNCIL**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa from 13 to 21 February, 1975,

**Recognizing** that an assurance of adequate food supply for the African region is a matter of utmost importance for the African populations,

**Recognizing** the need to increase food production in Member States and to ensure that prompt action is taken to meet the threat of acute food shortage or famine in the region,

**Considering** the shortage of food in the region which has been aggravated by recent droughts, natural disasters and uncontrolled environment,

**Noting** that the activities and programmes undertaken by the different United Nations Specialized Agencies in the African region have not resulted in much improvement in agriculture and food production,

**Noting** that the FAO African Regional Conference of Ministers of Agriculture which meets biennially is not an operational body,

**Considering** document E/CONF/65/C.2/L.16 (Part 1), of Rome World Food Conference, relating to the feasibility and necessity of establishing World Food Council with operational regional institutions to deal with the problems of food production in each region,

1. **RECOMMENDS** the establishment of African Inter-Ministerial Committee composed of National Ministers of Agriculture sponsored by the OAU, to be jointly serviced by the General Secretariat of the OAU, ECA and FAO and other International Organizations as appropriate to serve as an operational arm of the World Food Council;
2. **RECOMMENDS** the establishment of a Working Party made-up of representatives from each sub-region (constituted of the following Member States

Nigeria, Senegal, Upper Volta, Ghana, Sudan, Kenya, Tanzania, Swaziland, Uganda, Egypt, Morocco, Libya, Algeria, Rwanda, Congo and Zaire) and assisted by the ECA, FAO, UNDP, WFP and UNICEF to undertake the following assignments;

- a) to make all necessary governmental and other contacts including liaison with regional and international institutions located in Africa.
  - b) to carry out studies on the scope and functions of the proposed Inter-Ministerial Committee including its terms of reference and to submit a comprehensive report on its studies to the Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU by October 1975.
3. **REQUESTS** the OAU Administrative Secretary-General to convene, in consultation with the Working Party, ECA and FAO, a conference of National Ministers of Agriculture before the end of 1975 for the formal launching of the African Inter-Ministerial Committee;
  4. **REQUESTS** the OAU Administrative Secretary-General to submit a full report about the Working Party and the Inter-Ministerial Committee to the Council of Ministers meeting in February 1976.

**RESOLUTION ON THE DRAFT CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE  
OAU AND THE WMO**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa from 13 to 21 February, 1975,

**Having considered** document CM/633(XXIV) on the draft co-operation agreements between the OAU and WMO,

1. **DECIDES** to authorize the OAU Secretary-General to sign the co-operation agreement between the OAU and the World Meteorological Organization, as contained in document CM/633(XXIV).

**RESOLUTION ON THE GRANTING OF OBSERVER STATUS TO THE WEST  
AFRICAN SCIENCE ASSOCIATION**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa from 13 to 21 February, 1975,

**Having considered** the application of the West African Association for Observer Status with the Organization of African Unity, and

**Having been satisfied** that the application conformed with the criteria laid down by the Council for the granting of Observer Status with the OAU:

1. **GRANTS** Observer Status with the Organization of African Unity to the West African Science Association, and
2. **CALLS** on the Association to consider amending its constitution so that all the members of the OAU could become members.

**RESOLUTION ON THE CO-OPERATION AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE OAU  
AND THE U.N.D.P.**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa from 13 to 21 February, 1975,

**Having considered** document CM/632 (XXIV) on the Co-operation Agreement between the OAU and the UNDP,

**Having noted** with regret the fact that the UNDP has been unable to find the means of financing UNDP Programme of Assistance to the OAU General Secretariat, besides the allocation for the African region;

1. **DECIDES** to authorize the OAU Administrative Secretary-General to sign the Co-operation Agreement between the OAU and the UNDP as contained in document CM/632 (XXIV);
  
2. **EARNESTLY REQUESTS** the Governing Board of the UNDP to find a solution to the financing of future programme of assistance to the OAU General Secretariat from special sources so that such financing would not affect the allocation for the African Region.

**RESOLUTION ON THE GRANTING OF OBSERVER STATUS TO THE  
ENCYCLOPAEDIA AFRICANA PROJECT SECRETARIAT**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa from 13 to 21 February, 1975,

**Having considered** the application of the Encyclopaedia Africana Project Secretariat for Observer Status with the OAU and,

**Having been satisfied** that the applicant conformed with the criteria laid down by the Council for the granting of observer status with OAU,

1. **GRANTS** the Status of Observer with the OAU to the Encyclopaedia Africana Project Secretariat;
2. **RECOMMENDS** to the Encyclopaedia Africana of the revise its statutes to enable the OAU General Secretariat and other Member States to participate in its activities effectively;
3. **RECOMMEND** further, that the articles of the Encyclopaedia be written by African writers and editors and that the publishing be entrusted to African Publishing Houses.



**RESOLUTION ON CO-OPERATION BETWEEN AOU AND UNEP**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa from 13 to 21 February, 1975,

**Reaffirming** its desire to actively participate in international action for the protection of the environment, as well as the necessity for continued co-operation with institutions and agencies of the United Nations system,

**Recalling** the Declaration on Co-operation, Development and Economic Independence,

**Recalling** resolution CM/Res. 379 (XXIII) and CM/Res. 383 (XIII) concerning the conservation of African ecological systems and the exploitation of forests of the African Continent,

**Recalling** the resolutions of the Council of Ministers on the absolute sovereignty of Member States over the natural resources of Africa,

**Having studied** the report of the Administrative Secretary-General on co-operation between OAU and UNEP,

1. **AUTHORIZES** the Secretary-General to negotiate an agreement of co-operation between OAU and UNEP and requests him to submit the results of his negotiations with UNEP for the approval of the Council;
2. **RECOMMENDS** to African governments, whether or not members of the UNEP Administrative Council to ensure by means of their active participation at UNEP Administrative Council Sessions, that African priorities in the field of environment are taken into consideration;
3. **REQUESTS** the Administrative Secretary-General to follow the work of the UNEP Administrative Council and to regularly report to the Council;

4. **AUTHORIZES** the Secretary-General, prior to the signing of an agreement of co-operation between OAU and UNEP, to take all measures likely to reinforce co-operation between OAU and UNEP.

**ADDIS ABABA DECLARATION ON THE PROBLEM OF  
PALESTINE AND THE MIDDLE EAST**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa from 13 to 21 February, 1975,

**Declares:**

1. That it has discussed exhaustively and with utmost seriousness the implications of and the concern caused by the Palestine and Middle East question in the light of the deteriorating situation in the area which lies at the north of our continent. This situation has become more explosive as a result of Israel's intransigence, its continued practice of the policy of Zionism, racist and expansionist ambitions and systematic obstruction of all endeavors aiming at reaching a peaceful, lasting and just settlement in the area.
2. The Council feels that tension is now at its highest because Israel continues to occupy Arab territory in Palestine, the Golan Heights and Sinai and is daily increasing its acts of provocation and aggression against Lebanon – particularly Southern Lebanon – in utter disdain for human values and international treaties and resolutions, and with total disregard for the efforts exerted by the international community to establish a just and lasting peace.
3. The Council strongly condemns Israel's act of aggression over the last 28 years against the sacred and holy places of Palestine and the occupied Arab territories, In this connection, the Council draws attention to the following examples which are by no means exhaustive:
  - a) The human treatment of the entire Palestinian people who were driven from their homes, subjected to racist oppression and repression, deprived of their rights, ousted from their land and had their homes destroyed through the most obnoxious Nazi methods.
  - b) The alteration of the political, economic, administrative, demographic and cultural characteristics of Palestine, the occupied Arab territories and holy

places in a manner unprecedented in the annals of history even by the most brutal colonial regimes.

- c) The continued attacks on unarmed and innocent Palestinian refugees living in camps in neighbouring Arab States, particularly in Southern Lebanon. These attacks are reminiscent of the barbarian atrocities of the Middle ages.
  - d) The demolition of Arab cities and villages in the Golan Heights, Southern Lebanon, Sinai and occupied Palestine.
  - e) The detention of thousands of Palestinians in concentration camps and prisons without trial, and in particular the outrageous summary trials as in the case of Archbishop Capucci who was tried and jailed in utter defiance of the established principles of justice and humanity.
4. The council avails itself of this opportunity to convey to Archbishop Capucci in his prison in occupied Palestine its sincere expression of support for his heroic stand and strongly condemns Israel's shameful conduct as reflected in the infamous summary trial and the unjust conviction, in flagrant violation of human rights.
5. The Council pays tribute to the heroic people of Palestine who have undergone the most tragic experience in contemporary history.
6. The Council expresses deep satisfaction with the role played by United Nations Member States which led to the invitation of the Palestine Liberation Organization to participate in the debate of the Twenty Ninth Session of the UN General Assembly, and its admission as an observer.

The Council commends the historic address delivered by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat at the General Assembly Session. It notes in particular his sense of responsibility, the real desire for establishing a just and lasting peace in the Middle East and his firm determination to restore the legitimate rights of the Palestinian People reflected in the address.

7. The Council emphasizes that if it devoted so much care and concern to the discussion of the Middle East question it was because of its conviction that this cause is an Afro-Arab cause, identical to that of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa.
8. The Council reaffirms with conviction that Palestine is the root cause of the Middle East crisis. All the problems relating to the Israeli occupied territories in the Golan Heights and Sinai as well as the attacks on Lebanese territory stem from the Palestine problem.
9. Consequently, the Council stresses the importance of including a separate item entitled the "Palestine Problem" in the agenda of the 12<sup>th</sup> Session of the Assembly of African Heads of State and Government scheduled to meet in Kampala next July on the understanding that PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat would be invited to address the African Leaders in order to review the developments of the Palestine problem and explain the point of view of the Palestine Liberation Organization – the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people – on the various aspects of the problem and what in his opinion could be Africa's contribution to this cause.
10. The Council rightly believes that the two Super Powers should not remain the sole parties to deal with the Palestine and Middle East problem. Since it is regarded by the Council as being primarily an African problem, it is Africa's right and duty to play a constructive role in the efforts to establish a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.
11. The Council further believes it is useful that Egypt and the PLO should continue to keep OAU and its Member States informed of the developments of the current contacts made as part of the efforts to establish a just and lasting peace in the Middle East so that Africa may play an effective and positive role in this connection.
12. To this end, the council deems it necessary to maintain some form of dialogue between the PLO and OAU.

13. Acting on its conviction that the Palestine and Middle East problem is essentially an African-Arab problem and prompted by its full belief in the unity of the liberation struggle in Africa and the world at large, the Council stresses the need for joint consultations between the Arab League and the Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa to draw up a strategy for the Liberation of Palestine similar to the Accra and the Dar-es-Salaam Strategies for the Liberation of Africa. The Council further believes that the Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa should give assistance to the PLO.
  
14. The Council deems it necessary that continued efforts be made within OAU and the United Nations to find the most effective ways and means of increasing Israel's political and economic isolation at the international level so long as it persists in its racist, expansionist and aggressive policy.
  
15. By reaffirming in this declaration its unequivocal stand on the question of Palestine and the Middle East, the Council, in fact, reflects the feelings of Africa in accordance with the principles of the OAU and UN Charters and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.
  
16. The Council appeals to all the peace-loving countries of the world to refrain from extending any form of aid to Israel as this would only encourage it to consolidate its hostile and expansionist stand, thus reducing further the prospects of establishing a just and lasting peace – a stand which has been condemned by OAU and the entire international community.