



CM/Res.241 (XVII)
- CM/Res.258 (XVII)
&
CM/St.5 (XVII)
CM/St.6 (XVII)

RESOLUTIONS AND DECLARATIONS OF THE
SEVENTEENTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF
MINISTERS HELD IN ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA FROM
15 TO 19 JUNE 1971

RESOLUTION ON DECOLONIZATION

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Seventeenth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 15 to 19 June 1971,

Taking note of the report of the Administrative Secretary General in document CM/380, CM/380/Part I/Add.I and II,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on decolonization and reiterating its full and unconditional support for the liberation movements in their struggle to achieve freedom and independence,

Seriously concerned by the grave situation resulting from the continued intransigence of the colonial powers, particularly Portugal, the assistance they received from their allies, particularly members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization,

Noting with indignation that the Portuguese regime is continuing its colonial wars and acts of genocide against the African peoples, and increasingly resorting to chemical warfare and other brutal means of mass destruction,

Noting with grave concern that the sanctions against the racist minority regime in Zimbabwe remains ineffective largely because of the support received by it from the South African and Portuguese regimes, and that the United Kingdom Government is attempting to negotiate with that regime,

Noting further the strengthening of the unholy alliance of colonial and racist regimes in Southern Africa and the increasing intervention of the South African regime in Zimbabwe and the territories under Portuguese domination,

Considering that the continuance of colonial domination on African soil constitutes and increasing threat not only to world peace but also to the security of independent African States, as evidenced by the invasion of the Republic of Guinea by Portugal and Portuguese-backed mercenaries and the constant threats to the security of independent African States bordering on colonial territories,

Noting the seriousness of the laying of mines by the fascist Portuguese forces in Senegalese territory and deeply concerned about the insecurity suffered by the populations concerned,

Encouraged by the successes achieved by the liberation movements, particularly PAIGC, MPLA, FRELIMO and FNL in their valiant struggles and noting in particular that they have assumed control in large areas liberated from colonial domination,

Welcoming the programme of action for the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 12 October 1970,

1. CONGRATULATES the liberation movements in the territories under foreign domination, particularly PAIGC, MPLA, FRELIMO and FNLA for their further successes, and urges these movements to intensify their struggle and calls upon Member States of the OAU to increase their assistance to these movements;
2. FURTHER REAFFIRMS its moral and material support to the liberation movements in Comoro Islands and in the so-called French Somaliland (Djibouti) and instructs the African Group at the United Nations to pursue its efforts to secure the inclusion of the Comoro Islands in the list of dependent territories, and also to ensure that this matter is included in the agenda of the Committee of Twenty Four;
3. INVITES the political leaders of French Somaliland (Djibouti) and the Comoro Islands to enter into contract with the French Government with a view to granting

- independence to the brotherly people of that territory in a free and democratic atmosphere and in co-operation with the OAU and the United Nations Organization;
4. **STRONGLY CONDEMNS** the policy of those Member States of the Atlantic Alliance – namely the United States, the United Kingdom, West Germany and France for refusing to co-operate with the United Nations efforts towards decolonization and for their assistance to the Portuguese regime in its criminal wars of repression and recolonization against the African peoples;
 5. **DENOUNCES** the recent holding in Lisbon of the session of NATO Foreign Ministers;
 6. **CALLS UPON** all States to deny any assistance to the Colonial Powers, and in particular to prevent their companies, firms, financial groups and nationals from participating in the Cabora Bassa Dam and other colonialist projects;
 7. **APPEALS** to friendly Governments, Organizations and individuals to contribute generously to the African liberation movements through the OAU, especially to enable them to carry on the urgent task of reconstruction in the liberated areas of Mozambique, Angola and Guinea Bissau;
 8. **STRONGLY CONDEMNS** the attempts by the Government of the United Kingdom to negotiate with the illegal and racist regime of Salisbury the eventual recognition of the regime, and calls urgently on the United Kingdom to abide by its international commitments and the relevant resolutions of the Security Council and of the General Assembly of the United Nations;
 9. **EXPRESSES** its appreciation to friendly Governments, movements and organizations all over the world which support the legitimate struggles of the African peoples against foreign domination, and provide moral, political and material assistance to the liberation movements recognized by the OAU;

10. COMMENDS the African Group at the United Nations for its efforts to promote more effective international action for decolonization, and requests it to intensify these efforts particularly towards acceptance of liberation movements as authentic representatives of territories under colonial domination;
11. STRONGLY CONDEMNS the repeated and flagrant violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Senegal by incursions of regular Portuguese troops into Senegal, particularly by the laying of mines;
12. REQUESTS the General Secretariat to intensify publicity in favour of the liberation movements and against the Governments and economic and financial interests collaborating with the colonial regimes in Africa, so as to secure maximum support for the cause of the total emancipation of the African continent.

RESOLUTION ON APARTHEID AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Seventeenth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 15 to 19 June 1971,

Taking note of the report of the Administrative Secretary in documents CM/380 and AM/380/Part I /Add. I and II,

Noting with grave concern that the African people of South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe continue to be subjected to humiliation, exploitation and genocide under the regime of apartheid which constitutes a crime against humanity,

Gravely concerned over the continued detention and torture of opponents of apartheid under the notorious “Terrorism Act”,

Taking note of the intensification of the deceitful propaganda and manoeuvres by the South African racist authorities concerning its so-called “outward-looking policy”,

Considering that this policy is designed to overcome isolation, build a southern African bloc under its hegemony and divide African States,

Noting the continued increase in the military budget of South Africa, and the growing support by South Africa to minority colonial regimes in Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Angola,

Noting with grave concern that several countries, in particular Member States of NATO continue to provide military and other assistance to the South African authority, and that foreign investment in South Africa from these countries as well as from Japan has greatly increased,

Taking note with satisfaction of the growing opposition to apartheid by world public opinion and the increasing support to the liberation struggle by anti-apartheid movements and by Church, Trade Union, Student and other groups around the world,

1. REAFFIRMS its full and unconditional support to the oppressed people of South Africa in their legitimate struggle to eliminate apartheid and achieve majority rule;
2. REJECTS and denounces the deceitful propaganda and manoeuvres of South African authorities in promoting their so-called “outward policy”;
3. CONDEMNS the main investors as well as trading partners of South Africa for encouraging and assisting the South African Government in its oppression of the African people;
4. STRONGLY CONDEMNS all the powers, particularly, France and the United Kingdom, for continuing to supply the Pretoria regime with arms in violation of the resolutions of the Security Council;
5. COMMENDS the activities of all anti-apartheid movements and of all Church, Trade Union, Student and other groups which support the legitimate struggle of the oppressed peoples of South African countries and boycott South African racists;
6. EXPRESSES its appreciation to the United Nations, anti-apartheid movements and other groups for their activities in acquainting world opinion with the inhumanity of apartheid and the legitimate struggle of the liberation movements, and appeals for continued efforts in this respect;
7. APPEALS to all friendly Governments, organizations and individuals to extend greater moral, political, humanitarian and material support to the liberation struggle of the peoples of South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe in co-operation with the OAU;

8. CALLS FOR WORLD WIDE CAMPAIGNS:
 - a) for the cessation of all military co-operation with South Africa;
 - b) for boycott of South Africa in economic, cultural, sports and other fields;
 - c) for the ending of torture in South African prisons and the release of all political prisoners;
 - d) to apply to freedom fighters the relevant articles of Geneva Convention of 1949 on the treatment of prisoners of war and to ensure participation of liberation movements in the drafting and application of international humanitarian law applicable to the so-called internal conflicts;
 - e) for appropriate action against companies investing in South Africa;
 - f) for prohibiting emigration of persons, especially skilled workers to South Africa;
9. REQUESTS the African Group at the United Nations to continue to challenge the credentials of the South African delegation;
10. REQUESTS the OAU Bureau of Sanctions and Decolonization to publicize constantly all evidence of collaboration by Governments and economic and financial interest with South Africa.

CONVENING A SPECIAL SESSION IN AFRICA FOR THE UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY COUNCIL ON DECOLONIZATION PROBLEMS

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Seventeenth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 15 to 19 June 1971,

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the United Nations Security Council and General Assembly on decolonization, apartheid, racial discrimination in Africa, and foreign occupation of African territories,

Recalling the numerous resolutions of the Organization of African Unity on problems of decolonization of African territories still subjected to foreign domination and foreign occupation of African territories,

Recalling in particular the right of peoples to self-determination and independence and the responsibility of the Security Council in the event of any threat to the peace, breach of the peace, or act of aggression;

Considering the United Nations Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the programme of action adopted in the formal Declaration of the General Assembly at its Twenty-Fifth Session,

Concerned by the explosive situation that exists in the African territories still subjected to colonial domination and foreign occupation and the consequent threat to world peace and the security of the African countries,

Considering the main responsibility of the Security Council in the search for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Aware that under Article 28, paragraph 3, of the United Nations Charter the Security Council can convene meetings in places other than the United Nations Headquarters,

Realizing the interest for the Organization of African Unity and the African liberation movements of holding a special session of the Security Council in Africa to be held in African countries near areas of international tension devoted to discussing the whole question of decolonization in Africa,

1. REQUESTS the United Nations General Assembly to recommend to the Security Council to convene early in the year 1972, in African country members of the Organization of African Unity, a special session devoted solely to the measures to be taken with a view to implementing the various Security Council and General Assembly resolutions on decolonization, the struggle against apartheid, racial discrimination in Africa, and withdrawal of foreign occupation zones from African soil;
2. CALLS UPON the State Members of the United Nations, and more particularly the members of the Security Council, to facilitate the holding of such a special session of the Security Council;
3. RECOMMENDS the current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity to introduce through the agency of the African Group at the United Nations the request for convening such a special session of the Security Council in Africa early in the year 1972.

BUREAU FOR THE PLACEMENT AND EDUCATION OF AFRICAN REFUGEES

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Seventeenth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 15 to 19 June 1971,

Considering resolution CM/141 (X) of the Tenth Session of the council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity,

Believing in the usefulness of BPEAR in the sphere of placement and education of African refugees,

Noting the growing increase of refugees in Africa and the size and complexity of the economic, social and human problems posed by these refugees,

Considering further that the BPEAR is entirely financed by voluntary agencies and other non-governmental international organizations,

Convinced of the importance of the BPEAR and of the confidence placed in BPEAR by international organizations and voluntary agencies which are concerned in a disinterested manner with the problems of African refugees,

Desirous of seeing relations of co-operation between BPEAR, the international organizations and the voluntary agencies develop further, in accordance with the spirit of the historic International Conference on the legal, economic and social aspects of African refugees problems of 1967,

RECOMMENDS:

- (a) that BPEAR be constituted, within the General Secretariat of the Organization of African Unity, as a special body under the direct control of the Assistant Secretary

General for Political Affairs, without prejudice to any further decision of the Council of Ministers;

- (b) that the expert studying the structure of the General Secretariat should be required to further examine the position of BPEAR in the framework of the General Secretariat;
- (c) that BPEAR regularly convey for the attention of the OAU Council of Ministers the deliberations of its co-ordinating Committee;

APPEALS to Member States to ratify the OAU Convention of Refugees as soon as possible;

EXPRESSES its gratitude to the States and organizations which are aiding the Bureau and actively participating in the quest for a positive solution to the crucial problems of the placement of African refugees;

COMMENDS BPEAR for the untiring devotion with which it is performing its task under difficult conditions.

RESOLUTION ON THE PERMANENT SOVEREIGNTY OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES
OVER THEIR NATURAL RESOURCES

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Seventeenth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 15 to 19 June 1971,

Guided by the purposes enshrined in the OAU Charter with a view “to harnessing the natural and human resources of our spheres of human endeavour”,

Referring to the Declaration of non-aligned countries on economic progress adopted at the Third Conference held in Lusaka in September 1970,

Recalling that the natural resources of developing countries constitute the basis of their economic advancement in general and their industrial progress in particular,

Recalling that the mineral wealth of Africa places it among the world’s richest continents in mineral resources and Africa today exports a substantial share of total world output of many major and minor minerals,

Endorsing resolution 4 on Energy adopted by the Ministerial Conference of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa at its session held in Tunis from 8 to 13 February 1971,

Bearing in mind resolution 2626 (XXV) on the international development strategy for the second United Nations Development Decade, which in paragraph 74 states that “the full exercise by developing countries of their permanent sovereignty over their natural resources will play an important role in achieving the aims and objectives of the second decade”, Unofficial translation.

1. REAFFIRMS the inalienable right of all countries, and of African countries in particular, to exercise permanent sovereignty over their natural resources in the

- interests of their national development, in conformity with the spirit and principles of the United Nations Charter and the OAU Charter;
2. REAFFIRMS that the exploitation of natural resources in each country shall always be conducted in accordance with its national laws and regulations;
 3. RECOGNIZES the legitimacy of the measures taken by African countries which are producers of oil and other mineral, as well as of any measures that may be taken by the States of the Continent with a view to exercising their sovereignty effectively over their natural resources, and gives those countries its full support;
 4. DENOUNCES the economic and political pressures which certain developed countries are attempting to bring to bear on African countries with a view to threatening their development efforts and hampering them in the exercise of their sovereignty over their natural resources;
 5. NOTES with satisfaction the Declaration adopted by the ECA/OAU Conference of African Minister of Industry on 7 May 1971, whereby African States decided “to concert action that will lead to a fundamental reformulation of international economic relationships and to the creation of new forms of international industrial co-operation that will promote equitable sharing of benefits”;
 6. RECOMMENDS the formation of an African Union of Mineral Exporting countries.

RESOLUTION ON THE ADDIS ABABA DECLARATION
OF INDUSTRIALIZATION IN THE 1970s

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Seventeenth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 15 to 19 June 1971,

Noting the initiative of the OAU and ECA Secretariats in organizing the Conference of Ministers of Industry held in Addis Ababa during 3 – 7 May 1971,

Convinced of the importance of the recommendations formulated and conclusions reached by the Ministers to speed up and sustain the pace of industrialization in Africa during the 1970s,

1. FULLY ENDORSES the Addis Ababa Declaration on Industrial Development in the 1970s adopted by the OAU/ECA Conference of Ministers;
2. SUPPORTS the recommendation made by the Conference of Ministers of Industry for the organization of similar biannual ministerial conferences jointly by the OAU and the ECA, throughout the Second Development Decade;
3. CALLS UPON Member States to be guided by the principles enunciated in the Declaration in promoting inter-African co-operation and devising and pursuing actions aimed at influencing and effectively utilizing bilateral and multilateral assistance in support of their industrialization efforts;
4. RECOMMENDS that the Secretariats of the OAU and ECA further intensify their efforts in assisting Member States in implementing the programme of actions defined in the Declaration;

5. REQUESTS the Administrative Secretary General to report to the Council of Ministers on progress achieved and on new policy and programming initiatives required.

RESOLUTION ON AFRICA AND UNCTAD

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Seventeenth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 15 to 19 June 1971,

Having studied the report submitted by the Secretariat CM/395 on Africa and UNCTAD,

Noting with appreciation the action taken by the Secretariat in implementing resolution 220 (XV), which calls among other things for the holding of a Ministerial meeting before the meeting of the Group of 77,

Noting further the preparation taken by the Secretariat for the third UNCTAD,

Recalling the Council's resolutions 196 (XIII) and 215 (XIV) on UNCTAD and the general scheme of preference,

Aware of the importance of the fullest participation by African countries in all preparations for the Third UNCTAD on the African level and on the level of the Group of 77,

Conscious of the importance of the issues before the third UNCTAD and their close relationship to the achievement of the objective of the second development decade,

Reaffirming that the unity and solidarity of the African countries is the cornerstone of their strength,

1. CALLS UPON all African countries to participate fully in the preparatory work for the 3rd UNCTAD on the African level and on the level of the group of 77 as well as the third UNCTAD;

2. REQUESTS African countries to examine thoroughly issues likely to be put on the agenda of the Ministerial meeting of the group of 77 with particular reference to the effects of the General Scheme of preferences on African interests;
3. APPROVES the time table of the African preparatory meetings;
4. REQUESTS the OAU and ECA Secretariats to do everything possible to ensure the adequate servicing of these meetings.

RESOLUTION ON THE
FIRST ALL-AFRICA TRADE FAIR

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Seventeenth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 15 to 19 June 1971,

Having received and noted the report of the third meeting of the Organizing Committee which met in Nairobi from 25 to 29 May 1971,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions CM/Res.127 (IX), CM/Res.197 (XIII) and CM/Res.212 (XIV) on the first All African Trade Fair,

1. ENDORSES the decisions of the third meeting of the Organizing Committee contained in paragraphs (13 to 18, 24, 26, 29, 32, 33, 35, 42, 44 and 45) of the report of the Organizing Committee CM/369/Rev.1/Add.1;
2. APPEALS to all Member States to participate in this historic Fair;
3. APPROVES the Committee's decision that only commodities/products produced in Member States will be exhibited and that it will be left to individual Member States to determine what constitutes a local product (paragraph 16);
4. CALLS on all Member States to supply the Government of the host country well in advance with details of their exhibits so that the necessary veterinary and phytosanitary precautions may be taken (paragraph 24);
5. INVITES all Member States to issue stamps commemorating the Fair (paragraph 32c);

6. URGES that all the official languages of the OAU (English, French, Arabic) be used in all publicity material to be disseminated, and that the services of publicity agencies consultants in member States be utilized in all publicity programmes (paragraph 32 e);
7. REQUESTS all member States to make maximum use of the signature tune of the Fair on the radio/TV systems in their respective countries (Paragraph 33);
8. ENDORSES the Committee's appeal to the Government of Kenya to waive altogether any customs levies on agricultural products and livestock (paragraph 35);
9. DECIDES that:
 - (i) production of the 35m. and 16mm. film;
 - (ii) the servicing of the Organizing Committee meetings and;
 - (iii) the participation of the General Secretariat in the Fair when staged and the Symposium when convened (February 23 – march 5, 1972) be financed from the lump sum of approximately 30,000 US dollars approved by the 16th Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers (Paragraph 44 and 46);
10. CALLS on all Nine Member State of the Organizing Committee to participate in the forth coming meeting of the Committee scheduled for August 10 to 14 1971, at Nairobi, Kenya;
11. APPRECIATES the efforts of the host Government to stage a successful All-African Trade Fair and urges all to do their utmost to participate in this momentous event.

RESOLUTION ON SYMPOSIUM ON INTRA-AFRICAN TRADE

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Seventeenth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 15 to 19 June 1971,

Recalling its previous resolutions CM/Res.127 (IX), CM/Res.197 (XIII) and CM/Res.212(XIV) on the First All-Africa Trade Fair and the trade for Development symposium,

Noting with satisfaction the progress reflected in the report of the 3rd meeting of the Organizing Committee – CM/369/Rev.1/Add.1,

Conscious of the importance of exchange of ideas between African countries with a view to increasing the volume of intra-African trade,

1. DECIDES that a symposium on African trade be held during the five-day period from February 28th to March 3rd, 1972;
2. REQUESTS the following countries whose representatives were present at the meeting of the Organizing Committee: Algeria, Congo (Kinshasa), Kenya, Malagasy Republic, Nigeria and the UAR formally to sponsor the Symposium. And draws the attention of the Member States to the fact that sponsorship is a mere formality and does not carry any financial obligations;
3. CALLS UPON all Member States to participate in the symposium;
4. THANKS to Executive Secretariat of the ECA, the UNDP and the UN for their co-operation and assistance in organizing and convening the symposium.

RESOLUTION ON THE PERMANENT SOVEREIGNTY OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES
OVER THEIR FISHERY RESOURCES OFF THE SHORES OF AFRICA

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Seventeenth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 15 to 19 June 1971,

Considering the aims set forth in the Charter of the Organization of African Unity to put the natural resources of our continent at the service of the general progress of its peoples in all fields of human endeavour,

Conscious of the fact that fishery resources around Africa are limited and that their illegal and clandestine exploitation by non-African fleets constitutes a lasting burden and a serious threat to the development programmes of African countries,

Convinced of the importance that the expanded exploitation of fishery resources may assume in the process of industrial development of a large number of African countries,

Taking into account the recommendations that have been formulated through African consultations on the protection of fishery resources and the control of fisheries in Africa, at the meeting convened by FAO in Casablanca from 20 to 26 May 1971, on the need for African States to extend their sovereignty over the fishery resources among the whole of their continental shelf in order to ensure better control over them and their rational conservation, on the one hand, and on the other, their exploitation for the benefit of the African economies,

Considering that international law recognizes the sovereignty of States over the natural resources of the sub-soil of the continental shelf and that the extension of such sovereignty to cover living resources constitutes a justifiable rectification of international law,

Bearing in mind the spirit of United Nations General Assembly resolution 2158 (XXI) on permanent sovereignty over natural resources, which stipulates that “.... in order to safeguard the exercise of permanent sovereignty over natural resources, it is essential that their exploitation and marketing should be aimed at securing the highest possible rate of growth of the developing countries”,

1. CONFIRMS the inalienable rights of the African countries over the fishery resources of the continental shelf surrounding Africa, in conformity with the spirit and principle of the charter of the Organization of Africa Unity;
2. URGES the Governments of the African countries to take all necessary steps to proceed rapidly to extend their sovereignty over the resource of the high seas adjacent to their territorial waters and up to the limits of their continental shelf;
3. CONFIRMS that the exploitation of fishery resources in the fishing areas thus defined for each country shall always be conducted in accordance with its national laws and regulations;
4. URGES the governments of the African countries to promote among themselves a policy of co-operation as regards the development of fisheries, in order to increase the participation of African States in the exploitation of maritime resources surrounding Africa.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FUND
BY THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Seventeenth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 15 to 19 June 1971,

Taking note of the consultations between the African Development Bank, the Economic Commission for Africa, and the Secretary General of the OAU, together with the documents exchanged with regard to the establishment of the African Development Fund,

Bearing in mind the purpose of the African Development Bank, which is to contribute to the economic development and social progress of its members individually and jointly,

Recognizing that the ordinary capital resources of the Bank, which are to finance only these projects which can stand loans on conventional terms, are meager, considering the needs of its members, and that many of the foundation-laying and institution-building activities in the African countries need to be financed on soft loan terms,

Convinced of the need for making special financing arrangements for this purpose, and

Agreeing to the idea of setting up an African Development Fund;

Having regard to the agreement reached by the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, the President of the African Development Bank and the Secretary General of the Organization of African Unity during their meeting in Addis Ababa in June 1970, whereby the ADB and African financial institutions should be entrusted with the establishment of the African Development Fund,

RECOMMENDS OAU Member States and ECA Executive Secretary to give their full support to the Bank in the establishment of the Fund.

RESOLUTION ON THE PAN-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Seventeenth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 15 to 19 June 1971,

Recalling the relevant Resolutions adopted by the Organization of African Unity, i.e.,

- The resolution of the Summit Meeting of independent African countries held in Addis Ababa from 22 to 25 May 1963, relating to education and culture, and the establishment of a Pan-African News Agency (paragraph C).
- resolution CM/Res. 74 (V) relating to the appointment of an Expert Committee to look into the technical, financial and personnel requirements for the establishment of a Pan-African News Agency.
- Resolution CM/Res.187 (XII) on the convening of a meeting of OAU Ministers of Information and Telecommunications.

REQUESTS the Administrative Secretary General to prepare a feasibility study in co-operation with Member States and the International Union of Telecommunications on the basis of existing technical reports duly brought up to date;

RECOMMENDS that a meeting of OAU Ministers of Information and Telecommunication should be convened by the General Secretariat as soon as possible to decide on the creation of a Pan-African News Agency;

REQUESTS the Administrative Secretary general to submit a report on this important question to the council of Ministers.

THE DISPUTE BETWEEN GUINEA AND SENEGAL

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Seventeenth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 15 to 19 June 1971,

Having examined the item of the agenda on the dispute between Guinea and Senegal,

RECOMMENDS:

1. That the question be referred to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government,
2. That a mediation Committee be established to offer its good offices for a settlement of the dispute,
3. That this Committee be composed of the Heads of State and Government of Algeria, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Liberia, Mali and Mauritania.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF SEVEN

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Seventeenth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 15 to 19 June 1971,

Having examined the report of the Committee of Seven (CM/382),

RECOMMENDS:

1. That discussion on the question be postponed;
2. That the Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa should formulate its views on the report;
3. That the Committee of Seven should meet at a later date to be announced to review its recommendations in the light of the debate in the Council of Ministers and the views of the Co-ordinating committee for the Liberation of Africa;
4. That these recommendations should be submitted to the 18th Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers.

WITHDRAWAL OF THE RECOGNITION OF G. R. A. E.

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Seventeenth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 15 to 19 June 1971,

Having examined the report on the advantages and disadvantages of the admission of the Government in exile of Angola/G.R.A.E. into the OAU (CM/384),

RECOMMENDS:

1. That the Assembly of Heads of State and Government should withdraw the admission of G.R.A.E. to the OAU;
2. That this withdrawal is without prejudice to the rights of each Member State of the OAU to continue to recognize the G.R.A.E.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A SUB-REGIONAL OFFICE OF THE
CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR THE LIBERATION OF AFRICA
IN CONAKRY - GUINEA

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Seventeenth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 15 to 19 June 1971,

Aware of the level attained in liberation by the armed struggle waged by P A I G C in Guinea Bissau,

Recognizing the need for increased assistance to PAIGC in its armed struggle,

RECOMMENDS:

1. The establishment of a sub-regional office of the Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa in Conakry, Guinea;
2. That the Administrative Secretary General and the Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa should take necessary action in this respect.

MOTION OF THANKS

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Seventeenth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 15 to 19 June 1971,

Appreciative of the assistance rendered it in the accomplishment of its task by His Imperial Majesty Haile Selassie I, Emperor of Ethiopia,

Mindful also of the warm reception and kind hospitality showered on the members of the Council by the Emperor, the Ethiopian Government and people,

Expresses to His Imperial Majesty Hail Selassie I, Emperor of Ethiopia, the Government and people of Ethiopia, its profound thanks and appreciation for all the facilities afforded the Council in its deliberations and for the many courtesies and kindnesses extended them during this session.

TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OAU

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Seventeenth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 15 to 19 June 1971,

Considering the forthcoming Tenth Anniversary of the founding of the Organization of African Unity in 1973,

RECOMMENDS:

1. That the Assembly of Heads of State and Government should establish a programme Committee to plan and organize activities for the celebration of that anniversary,
2. That the Committee should draw-up a programme for this event, and submit it to the Nineteenth Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers and to the Ninth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government for approval.

DECLARATION ON THE QUESTION OF DIALOGUE

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Seventeenth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 15 to 19 June 1971, discussed in an atmosphere of utmost cordiality and frankness the question of a proposal for a dialogue with the minority regime of South Africa.

The discussions afforded all Members of the Council an opportunity to fully express the views of their respective Governments on this important question.

The Council reaffirmed:

1. Their total commitment to the principles and purposes contained in Articles II and III of the Charter of the Organization of African Unity, especially in regard to the eradication of all forms of colonialism from Africa, and the absolute dedication of the total emancipation of the African territories which are still dependent.
2. That the Manifesto on southern Africa (Lusaka Manifesto) unanimously adopted by the Organization of African Unity and endorsed by the United Nations and the Conference of Non-Aligned States, but rejected by the racist regimes of southern Africa, is the only objective basis for any meaningful solution to the problems of apartheid, racial discrimination and colonialism in Africa.
3. The legitimacy of the struggle being waged by the peoples of Africa and obtain their legitimate rights to independence, freedom, human dignity and equality, and that all member States of the Organization of African Unity remain totally and unconditionally committed to their struggle.

Moreover, it was agreed that no Member State of the Organization of African Unity would initiate or engage in any obligations and undertakings to the commitments contained in the Charter.

It was also agreed that any action to be taken by Member States in regard to the solution of the problems of colonialism, racial discrimination and apartheid in Africa, must be undertaken within the framework of the Organization of African Unity and in full consultation with the liberation movements of the territories concerned.

The Council rejected the idea of any dialogue with the minority racist regime of South Africa which is not designed solely to obtain for the enslaved people of South Africa their legitimate and inherent rights and the elimination of apartheid in accordance with the Lusaka Manifesto.

The Council of Ministers also considered and agreed that in any case any form of dialogue should appropriately be commenced only between the minority racist regime of south Africa and the people they are oppressing, exploiting and suppressing.

The Council of Ministers also agreed that the proposal for a dialogue between the independent African States and the racist minority regime of South Africa is a manoeuvre by that regime and its allies to divide African States, confuse world public opinion, relieve South Africa from international ostracism and isolation and obtain an acceptance of the status quo in southern Africa.

In view of the above considerations the Seventeenth Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity emphatically declares that there exists no basis for a meaningful dialogue with the minority racist regime of South Africa. Under these circumstances, the Council reaffirms its determination to continue to render and increase its assistance to the liberation movements until victory is achieved.

DECLARATION ON THE ACTIVITIES OF MERCENARIES IN AFRICA

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Seventeenth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 15 to 19 June 1971,

Considering the grave threat which the activities of mercenaries represent to the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and the harmonious development of Member States of OAU,

Recalling resolutions CM/Res.49 (IX) and ECM/Res.17 (VII) on mercenaries,

Considering that to prepare their crimes against Member States of OAU, the mercenaries often use African territories still under foreign domination,

Considering that the activities of mercenaries and the forces behind them constitute an element of serious tension and conflict between Member States,

Considering that total solidarity and co-operation between Member States are indispensable for putting an end, once and for all, to the subversive activities of mercenaries in Africa,

Considering the undertakings made by various non-African States to take appropriate steps to prevent their nationals from returning to Africa as mercenaries and to ensure that their territories are no longer used for the recruitment, training and equipping of mercenaries,

1. REAFFIRM the determination of African peoples and States to take all the necessary measures to eradicate from the African Continent the scourge that the mercenary system represents;

2. REITERATE our irrevocable condemnation of the use of mercenaries by certain countries and forces to further jeopardize the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Member States of OAU;
3. FURTHER EXPRESS our total solidarity with States which have been victims of these activities of mercenaries;
4. PROCLAIM our resolve to prepare a legal instrument for co-ordinating, harmonizing and promoting the struggle of the African peoples and states against mercenaries;
5. PLEDGE OURSELVES to co-operate closely to ensure immediate implementation of the previous decisions and directives of the policy-making bodies of OAU before the proposed Convention on policy-making bodies of OAU before the proposed Convention on the subject enters into force;
6. DRAW the attention of world opinion to the serious threat that the subversive activities of mercenaries in Africa represent to OAU Member States;
7. REITERATE the appeal made by Member States to apply both in spirit and letter, resolution ECM/Res. 17 (VII) of the Seventh Extraordinary Session of the Council of Ministers held in Lagos in December 1970, and consequently invite them:
 - to take appropriate steps to ensure that their territories are not used for the recruitment, drilling and training of mercenaries, or for the passage of equipment intended for mercenaries; and
 - to hand over mercenaries present in their countries to the States against which they carry out their subversive activities;
8. INVITE all States, which has pledged not to tolerate the recruitment, training and equipping of mercenaries on their territory and to forbid their undertakings. Also

invite other non-African States not to allow mercenaries, be they their nationals or not, to pursue their activities on their territory;

9. REQUEST the Chairman of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government to do everything possible to mobilize world opinion so as to ensure the adoption of appropriate measures for the eradication of mercenaries from Africa, once and for all;
10. APPEALS to all Member States to increase their assistance in all fields to freedom fighters in order to accelerate the liberation of African territories still under foreign domination, as this is an essential factor in the final eradication of mercenaries from the African Continent.