



COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Thirtieth Ordinary Session

Port Louis, Mauritius

20 – 28 February, 1978

CM/Res. 594 - 619 (XXX)

RESOLUTIONS OF THE THIRTIETH ORDINARY SESSION
OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

**RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED DURING THE THIRTIETH ORDINARY
SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, HELD IN TRIPOLI,
LIBYA, ON FEBRUARY 20 – 28, 1978**

<u>REFERENCE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>
CM/RES 594 (XXX)	Resolution of the International year
CM/RES 595 (XXX)	Resolution of the Activities of the Administrative Secretary General in the filed of Afro-Arab Co-operation
CM/RES 596 (XXX)	Resolution on the Palestinian Issue
CM/RES 597 (XXX)	Resolution on the Granting of Subventions to African Organizations
CM/RES 598 (XXX)	Resolution on the Election of the Members of the Board of External Auditors
CM/RES 599 (XXX)	Resolution of the Adoption of the Budget for the 1978/79 financial year
CM/RES 600 (XXX)	Resolution on the Replies to the Opening and Closing Speeches
CM/RES 601 (XXX)	Resolution on the distribution of Working Documents
CM/RES 602 (XXX)	Resolution of Namibia
CM/RES 603 (XXX)	Resolution on the Usurped of the Territory of Lesotho
CM/RES 604 (XXX)	Resolution on Outstanding of Arrears of contribution
CM/RES 605 (XXX)	Resolution of Dollar Devaluation and Post-Adjustment for OAU Statutory Staff
CM/RES 606 (XXX)	Resolution of the Death of Mangalise Sobukwe, President of the PAC Of Azania
CM/RES 607 (XXX)	Resolution on the Committee of Fourteen on the Report of the Ad-Hoc Committee on the Structural Reform of the General Secretariat of the OAU.
CM/RES 608 (XXX)	Resolution on Steve Biko
CM/RES 609 (XXX)	Resolution on the United Nations Conference on Desertification
CM/RES 610 (XXX)	Resolution on the Realization of the Programme of Action and Desertification Control and Connected Transnational Projects

<u>REFERENCE</u>	<u>TITLE</u>
CM/RES 611 (XXX)	Resolution on the United Nations Negotiating Conference on a Common Fund under the Integrated Programme for Commodities
CM/RES 612 (XXX)	Resolution on Report of the Fourth Conference of African Ministers of Industry
CM/RES 613 (XXX)	Resolution on the Establishment of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union
CM/RES 614 (XXX)	Resolution on the Debt Problems
CM/RES 615 (XXX)	Resolution on the Joint Meeting of the Information of the OAU Member States and the League of Arab States
CM/RES 616 (XXX)	Resolution on Drought and Other Natural Disasters
CM/RES 617 (XXX)	Resolution on a Symposium to Draw up a Draft Information Charter
CM/RES 618 (XXX)	Resolution of an African Regional Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development
CM/RES 619 (XXX)	Resolution on the United Nations Industrial Development Fund

RESOLUTION ON THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE DISABLED

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Reaffirming its belief in human rights, basic freedom, the principles of peace, the dignity and value of the individual and the importance of consolidating social justice,

Convinced that racist colonial wars and repressions are among the main reasons behind the increase of the number of the disabled;

Recalling UN General Assembly Resolution No. 3447 (XXX) of December 1975 and No. 31/82 of 13 December 1971 concerning the Declaration of the rights of the Disabled;

Recalling UN General Assembly Resolution No. 31/123 to the effect that the year 1981 is to be the International Year of the Disabled, and will bear as an emblem "Total Participation," and devoting this year to the achievement of the following objectives:

- a) helping the disabled towards physical rehabilitation and psychological re-adjustment to the community,
- b) encouraging all efforts exerted at national and international levels for the purpose of providing the necessary assistance, care, training and guidance to the disabled, as well as adequate employment opportunities in addition to ensuring their total integration within the community;
- c) promoting study and research projects aimed at easing in practical manner the participation of the disabled in daily life, by providing for their use public buildings and communications facilities fully adopted to their needs;
- d) teaching and instilling awareness in the public as to the rights of the disabled to participate in the various aspects of economic, social and political life, as well as contributing to them,

- e) favouring the adoption of efficient measures for protecting against total disability and for the rehabilitation of the disabled.

Recalling also United Nations General Assembly resolution No. 32/133 of 16 December 1977 and paragraphs 1 and 82, in particular that in which the Secretary General urges the Member States to adopt certain measures for the celebration of the International year of the Disabled;

1. **DECIDES** to examine the possibility of holding a regional meeting or seminar at African level to discuss the problem of the disabled and ways and means of putting into effect the objectives of the International Year of Disabled;
2. **URGES** all African countries to observe the Year 1981 as the International Year of the Disabled;
3. **REQUESTS** the OAU Administrative Secretary-General to service the Regional Meetings or Seminar proposed in Para 1 above and to report on its outcome to the Council of Ministers with a view to enabling Member States to adopt appropriate measures in the observance of the International Year of the Disabled.

**RESOLUTION ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE
SECRETARY GENERAL IN THE FIELD OF
AFRO-ARAB CO-OPERATION**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Having examined the report of the Administrative Secretary-General on the activities of the Organization of African Unity General Secretariat in the field of Afro-Arab Co-operation

Recalling the resolutions and declaration of the First Joint Afro-Arab summit in Cairo and of the Second Joint Afro-Arab Ministerial meeting;

Referring to its resolution CM/576 (XXIX) on Afro-Arab Co-operation:

1. **TAKES NOTE** with satisfaction of the report of the Administrative Secretary General on Afro-Arab Co-operation;
2. **ENDORSES** the recommendation and resolutions of the Standing Commission for Arab Co-operation in its second session in Cairo and **CALLS UPON** it to exert maximum effort to transform into action the resolution and declarations of the Joint summit;
3. **AUTHORISES** the Secretary General to pay the OAU contribution to the Special Fund for the running of the executive bodies for Afro-Arab Co-operation which amounts to US\$350,462.00;
4. **URGES** Member States which have been called upon to appoint experts representing the African side in the meeting of the Working Group to see to it that those experts should be of the highest calibre possible;
5. **EXPRESSES** its satisfaction for the efforts deployed by the two Secretaries General of the OAU and of the League of Arab States for the execution of the resolutions and declaration of the Joint Summit and congratulates them on these efforts;

6. **CALLS UPON** all Member States to forward to the OAU General Secretariat their proposals and advice concerning the strengthening of Afro-Arab Co-operation;
7. **REQUESTS** the Administrative Secretary General to follow up closely the recent developments of Afro-Arab Co-operation through contacts with the various institutions concerned and OAU Member States, and to keep the council regularly informed.

RESOLUTION ON THE PALESTINIAN ISSUE

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Recalling the resolutions adopted at the previous sessions of the conference of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government and the Council of Ministers in respects of the Palestinian issue and in particular resolution 77 adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government (XII) as well as the Council of Ministers resolutions CM/460 (XXVI) 482 (XXVII) and 529 (XXVIII);

Recalling also the report of the United Nations Committee on the Exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian People which confirms a new legitimate and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to its national home-land in Palestine and their right to establish their independent sovereign State;

Inspired by the principles and objectives of the OAU and United Nations Charter, and in keeping with the common Destiny of African and Arab Peoples and their joint and continuous struggle to exercise their rights for the sake of freedom, peace, self-determination and independence,

Having noted the statements made on the developments of the Palestinian problem and the dangerous situation currently prevailing as a result of the continued Israeli occupation of Arab territories and the Israeli usurpation of the Palestinian land, in addition to the legitimate and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, as well as the refusal of Israel to abide by the United Nations General Assembly resolutions;

Expressing its great concern over the reconfirmation of the aggressive designs and expansionist policy that were and are being repeatedly expressed by all the past Israeli Governments as well as the new Israeli Government, particularly as regards their evil and expansionist designs and their refusal to recognize the fundamental rights of the Palestinian people and their rights to national sovereignty over their territory;

Aware that the Palestinian problem constitutes the core of the struggle of the Middle East Problem and that it is an Afro-Arab cause,

Reaffirming the legitimacy of the struggle that is being waged by the Palestinian people, under the leadership of the PLO, with a view to restoring all their national rights;

Reaffirming also that a just and permanent peace can only be achieved on the basis of Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people to return to their homeland, as well as their rights to sovereignty, national independence self-determination, in addition to their right to establish an independent State on their national soil;

Noting with concern that the alliance between Israeli and the racist regimes in Rhodesia and South Africa aim at perpetuating the policy of terrorism and genocide of Palestinians and Arabs in the occupied Arab territories, and of African peoples in South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe, and that Israel and the racist regimes are carrying out similar manoeuvres and adopting similar methods;

1. **REAFFIRMS** all the previous resolutions adopted by the Council as a reiteration of its full and effective assistance to the Palestinian People led by the PLO which is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people;
2. **REAFFIRMS** its total support to the Arab Front-line States and to the Palestinian people in their legitimate struggle to recover by every means their occupied territories and usurped rights;
3. **DECLARES** its total support for the PLO as the sole lawful representative of the Palestinian people in their heroic struggle against Zionism and Racism, also declares that no State is entitled to speak in its name without the consent of the PLO;
4. **VIGOROUSLY CONDEMNS** Israeli aggressive designs and expansionist policy which are being repeatedly expressed in the statement of the new Israeli Government;

5. **FIRMLY** condemns once again the alliance between Israeli and the racist regimes of South Africa and Rhodesia, and calls on all Member States to be vigilant as regards the dangers of such an alliance, while affirming that armed struggle against the racists in South Africa and occupied Palestine is the most effective means of crushing those enemies;
6. **DECLARES** that direct negotiations and consultations with the racist and Zionist regimes in Southern Africa and occupied Palestine should not serve as a substitute for the legitimate armed struggle being waged by the oppressed people in Southern Africa and Palestine;
7. **APPEALS** to the International Community to further increase Israeli's isolation in the diplomatic, economic, political and military domains, and to support the just cause of the Palestinian People, until the Racist Regimes respect the will of the International Community;
8. **ADOPTS** the recommendations issued by the United Nations Committee on the Exercising by the Palestinian People of their inalienable national rights, particularly with regards to the Palestinians' inalienable and legitimate rights, to return to their national homeland and to establish their independent State in Palestine, and requests the United Nations General Assembly to take all necessary measures for the implementation of these recommendations;
9. **CALLS ON** the Security Council to reconsider its stand in respect of the recommendations of the Committee on the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, and take the necessary measures for their implementation since they have become identified with the will of the international community as expressed in the relevant resolution adopted by the Thirty First Session of the United Nations General Assembly;
10. **REQUESTS** the Administrative Secretary-General to follow up the developments of the Palestinian issue and submit a report in this regard to the forthcoming session of the OAU 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 Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Having considered the requests for subventions submitted by African Organizations and Associations;

Referring to the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial matters; Doc. CM/841 (XXX):

1. **DECIDES** to grant subventions to the tune of US\$500,000 to African Organizations and Associations which applied for them; the break-down of these subventions is as follows:

1. Encyclopedia Africana Project	US\$35,000.00
2. African committee of Trade Union Co-ordination and action against Apartheid and Colonialism	US\$15,000.00
3. Association for the Advancement of Agricultural Sciences in Africa	US\$55,000.00
4. Association for Social Work Education in Africa	US\$25,000.00
5. International Relations Institute of Cameroon	US\$35,000.00
6. Panafrican Women's Organization	US\$10,000.00
7. Association of African Universities	US\$45,000.00
8. Organization of African Trade Union Unity	US\$100,000.00
9. International Association for the Development of Documentation Libraries and Archives in Africa	US\$20,000.00
10. Centre for Co-ordination of Research and and Documentation in Social Sciences in Sub-Saharan Africa	US\$20,000.00

11. Pan African Youth Movement	US\$30,000.00
12. Union of National Radio and Television Organizations of Africa	US\$20,000.00
13. Supreme Council for Sports in Africa	US\$90,000.00

2. **RECALLS** that the OAU subventions are not automatically given and that all these African Organizations and associations should be financially self-sufficient.

RESOLUTION ON THE ELECTION OF THE
MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EXTERNAL AUDITORS

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Having considered document CM/846 (XXX) on the election of the members of the Board of External Auditors;

1. **DECIDES** to appoint the following countries as members of the Board of External Auditors for the period from February 1978 to February 1981: Botswana, Gambia, Lesotho, Seychelles, Tunisia, Upper Volta and Togo,
2. **EXPRESSES** its sincere thanks and congratulations to the outgoing members of the Board of External Auditors for the excellent work done during their term of office.

**RESOLUTION ON THE ADOPTION OF THE
BUDGET FOR THE 1978/1979 FINANCIAL YEAR**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Having considered the Draft Programme and the Budget for the `978/979 Financial Year presented by the Advisory committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters and OAU General Secretariat – Document CM/845 (XXX) Rev. 1;

1. **DECIDES** to adopt the budget and the Working Programme for the 1978/1979 Financial Year amounting to a sum of US\$11,894,391.00 as contained in document CM/845 (XXX) Rev. 1;
2. **FURTHER DECIDES** to adopt the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters – Document CM/841 (XXX);
3. **REQUESTS** the General Secretariat, subject to the relevant provisions of financial regulations relating to supplementary appropriations, over-expenditure and unauthorized expenses, to operate strictly within the limits of the appropriations;
4. **URGENTLY CALLS** on all Member States to regularly pay their contributions to the OAU Budget and **REQUESTS** those States which have not yet done so to pay their arrears of contributions without further delay;
5. **CONGRATULATES** the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters on its excellent work.

**RESOLUTION ON THE REPLIES TO THE OPENING
AND CLOSING SPEECHES**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Bearing in mind one of the fundamental objectives of the charter of the Organization of African Unity, which is to achieve continental unity by transcending among other things linguistic barriers;

Considering that the replies to the opening speeches made at the meetings of the Organization are a sign of courtesy due to the host country which could not be questioned;

Considering however, that the practise of replying to these speeches on the basis of language groups is in itself divisive and thus constitutes an impediment to the desired unity:

DECIDES that in future the reply to the opening and closing speeches should be made on behalf of the Council by not more than two representatives without regard to linguistic considerations.

RESOLUTION ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF WORKING DOCUMENTS

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Anxious to ensure equal participation of all Member States in the life of the Organisation especially at the level of its institutions in order to give them maximum efficiency;

Noting that the usual delay in the distribution of working documents to member States has not always made it possible for some of them to contribute effectively and positively to the work of the Institution of OAU,

Recalling the provisions of Rule 11, paragraph (ii) of the functions and Regulations of the General Secretariat which stipulate inter alia: “The Administrative Secretary General shall furthermore transmit to Member States the Budget and Programme of Work at least one month, before convocation of the Sessions of the Assembly of the Council of Ministers, of the Specialized Commissions, and of their organs of the organization”:

1. **ATTRACTS** in particular the special attention of the Administrative secretary General to the provision of Rule 11, paragraph (ii) of the functions and Regulations of the General Secretariat;
2. **CALLS UPON** the Secretary General to take all necessary steps to ensure that henceforth working documents of the Sessions of the organs of the Organization reach Member States, at least one month before the opening of these sessions;
3. **REQUESTS** the Advisory Committee on budgetary and Financial Matters as well as all other Committees to abide by the Calendar of their meetings, in order that their reports may be transmitted to OAU Member States by the Secretary General within the time limits prescribed.

RESOLUTION ON NAMIBIA

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Having re-examined the grave political and military situation in Namibia resulting from the continued illegal occupation of the territory by the apartheid regime of South Africa;

Mindful of the continued intransigence of the racist regime of South Africa in its refusal to relinquish its illegal occupation of Namibia and its perpetuation of the policy of Bantustan in the territory;

Noting SWAPO's constructive attitude to the Security Council Resolution 385 (1976);

Noting with grave concern the maneuvers of the racist South African occupationist regime to effect an "internal settlement" using her puppets in the so-called Turnhalle talks;

Reaffirming Africa's unequivocal support for the just and legitimate armed liberation struggle waged by the Namibian people under the leadership of SWAPO, the sole and authentic representative of the Namibian people, for their freedom and national independence;

1. **REAFFIRMS** the relevant resolutions of the Organization of African Unity, the United Nations and other International Organizations on Namibia;
2. **COMMENDS SWAPO** for its political mobilization of the Namibian people and the intensification of the armed struggle against the racist South African armed forces of occupation in Namibia;
3. **REITERATES** its total support for the armed struggle waged by SWAPO as the principal weapon for ending the South Africa occupation of Namibia;

4. **CONDEMNS** the racist regime of South Africa for its intransigence and continued refusal to relinquish its illegal occupation of Namibia and for its perpetuation of the policy of Bantustan in the territory;
5. **STRONGLY CONDEMNS** the creation of the tribal armies aiming at perpetuating the illegal occupation of Namibia by the South African regime;
6. **FURTHER CONDEMNS AND REJECTS** any elections in Namibia not held under the auspices of the United Nations;
7. **REITERATES** its vehement condemnation of the illegal annexation of Walvis Bay, by the South African regime; reaffirms unequivocally that Walvis Bay is an integral part of Namibia and demands that South Africa scrupulously respects the territorial integrity and unity of Namibia;
8. **ONCE AGAIN CALLS UPON** all Member States of the OAU and the international community as a whole not to engage in any contacts with the so-called moderate Africans in the Turnhalle Alliance or any other agents of the South African regime;
9. **DECIDES** to increase diplomatic, material and financial assistance to SAPO to enable it to intensify the armed struggle for the liberation of Namibia from the illegal occupation by the racist South African regime;
10. **REAFFIRMS** that any agreement negotiated to lead Namibia to genuine independence must be acceptable to SWAPO as the sole and legitimate representative of the people of Namibia and to the United Nations as the legal administering authority of Namibia.

RESOLUTION ON THE USURPED OF THE
TERRITORY OF LESOTHO

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Having heard the statement of the Foreign Minister of Lesotho ceded and conquered territory;

Taking Note of Document CM/398 (XXX) Add. 2 on Boundaries Between Lesotho and South Africa with Special Reference to Lesotho's Territory which has been occupied by South Africa for Over a Century, and Draft Resolution CM/Plan/Draft/Res. 10 (XXX);

1. **DECIDES** to refer this matter to the Thirty First Session of the Council of Ministers;
2. **EXPRESSES** solidarity with Lesotho.

**RESOLUTION ON OUTSTANDING OR ARREARS OF
CONTRIBUTIONS**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Having considered the Draft Programme and Budget for the year 1978/79;

Recalling its appeal to all Member States to pay their outstanding contributions in time in order to enable the Secretariat to fulfill its obligations;

1. **DIRECTS** the Secretary-General and the Rapporteur of the Advisory Committee to prepare a comprehensive memorandum to be sent to Member States which have not paid their outstanding contributions with a view to appealing to them to settle their arrears without delay;
2. **AGREES** to apprise the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the situation at its forthcoming Session.

**RESOLUTION ON DOLLAR DEVALUATION AND POST-
ADJUSTMENT FOR OAU STATUTORY STAFF**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Considering paragraph 131 of the Report on the Activities of the Advisory Committee on budgetary and Financial Matters for the period February 1977 to January, 1978, relating to the system of payment of certain allowances in respect of adjustment of basic salary and post adjustment (doc. CM/841 (XXX) to the statutory staff of the Organization;

Taking note of the relevant documents on the matters;

DECIDES to refer the question to the Committee of 14 on the Structural Reform of the OAU Secretariat to examine and to report upon to the Council of Ministers at its forthcoming Session.

RESOLUTION ON THE DEATH OF MANGALISO SOBUKWE
PRESIDENT OF THE PAC OF AZANIA

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Having learnt with deep shock and regret of the untimely death of ROBERT MANGALISO SOBUKWE, President of the Pan African Congress of Azania;

Mindful of his role in the struggle for the overthrow of white domination in South Africa;

Recognizing his conviction in African Unity and Pan Africanism;

Further Mindful of the inhuman conditions imposed on him by the racist Vorster Regime during his period of illness;

1. **EXPRESSES** its deep sympathy and condolences to the Pan Africanist Congress, his family and the entire people of South Africa;
2. **CONDEMNS** the regime for its callous imprisonment, detention and bounding of Mangalise Sobukwe;
3. **PLEDGES** its continued solidarity with the people of South Africa in their struggle for liberation and the restoration of their full human rights.

**RESOLUTION ON THE COMMITTEE OF FOURTEEN ON THE
REPORT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE STRUCTURAL
REFORM OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE OAU**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Having taken note of the Report CM/770 (XXCIII) together with its annexes relating to the Structural Reform of the General Secretariat of the OAU,

Structural the importance and complexity of the proposed structural reform,

DECIDES to set up a technical committee of 14 experts from Member States, whose term of reference shall be:

1. To examine synthesize and summarise this and other relevant reports dealing with the structural reform of the General Secretariat of the OAU;
2. To make recommendations to the Thirty-First Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers, taking into consideration the comments of Member States, the Administrative Secretary-General and any other relevant practice of other international organizations;
3. To determine in consultation with the General Secretariat the financial implications of the recommendations;
4. The committee should start its work not later than the first week of April and to ensure that its recommendations reach Member States not later than the end of May;
5. The Committee shall be made up of experts from the following countries: Mozambique, Zambia, Cameroon, Zaire, Congo, Nigeria, Ghana, Togo, Guinea, Sudan, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Libya and Egypt.

RESOLUTION ON STEVE BIKO

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Takes Note with gratitude of the resolution submitted by the Delegation of Gambia on Steve Biko;

AGREES to include it in the Agenda of its forthcoming Session.

**RESOLUTION ON THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON
DESERTIFICATION**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Having considered the report of the Administrative Secretary-General on the United Nations Conference on Desertification CM/867 (XXX) held in Nairobi from 29 August to 9 September 1977;

Having considered also the progress report of the Administrative Secretary General on the dramatic recurrence of drought in Africa during the 1977-78 campaign;

Noting with concern the geographical extension of the areas affected or likely to be affected, by drought which is one of the main factors of the rapid spread of desertification that affects considerable number of countries in our Continent;

In view of the considerable means required for an effective control of drought and desertification:

1. **CONGRATULATES** the General Secretariat on the fruitful work done during the preparation and proceedings of the UN Conference on Desertification;
2. **ENDORSES** the recommendations of the UN Conference on Desertification;

RESOLUTION ON THE REALIZATION OF THE PROGRAM
OF ACTION ON DESERTIFICATION CONTROL AND
CONNECTED TRANSNATIONAL PROJECTS

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Recalling UN General Assembly resolution 3337 (XXIX) of 17 December 1974 whereby the UN Secretary General was requested to convene a World Conference on International Co-operation with a view to controlling desertification;

Noting with satisfaction the adoption of a Programme of Action aimed at desertification control and connected transnational projects by the UN Conference on Desertification held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 29 August to 9 September 1977, as well as the adoption of recommendation on ways and means of financing this plan of Action;

Recalling UN General Assembly resolution 32/172 of 9 December 1977 whereby the UN General Assembly adopted, at its Thirty Second Session, the report of the UN Conference on Desertification and took, at the same time the various follow-up measures towards that end;

Fully aware of the fact that Africa is the continent which is mostly affected by Desertification, particularly the Sudanese-Sahelian region;

1. **DECIDES** that the Organization of African Unity (OAU) should actively participate in the implementation of the Programme of Action on Desertification Control;
2. **INVITES** the Member States of the OAU to co-operate with the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) in the implementation of four transnational projects of particular interest for Africa;
3. **ENCOURAGES** the UNEP Executive Director to take all necessary measures to implement the UN General Assembly decision to establish as early as possible UNEP Regional Office for Africa in a suitable area;

4. **INVITES** the OAU Administrative Secretary General to co-operate closely with the UNEP Executive Director so as to mobilize human and financial resources with a view to providing UNEP with the scientific data and appropriate techniques likely to check desertification and push back the desert;
5. **ENCOURAGES** co-operation among other affected regimes in the world in order to exchange experience in the interest of the international community;
6. **INVITES** the OAU Administrative Secretary-General to take the necessary measures so as to promote international co-operation in that field;

**RESOLUTION ON THE UNITED NATIONS NEGOTIATING
CONFERENCE ON A COMMON FUND UNDER THE INTEGRATED
PROGRAMME FOR COMMODITIES**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Having received and examined the Administrative Secretary-General's progress report on the United Nations Negotiating Conference as a Common fund under the Integrated Programme for Commodities;

Considering the importance of commodity trade to the developing countries in general, and to the OAU Member States in particular;

Considering especially that new commodity trade arrangements as proposed by the developing countries would make a significant contribution to the establishment of a New International Economic Order;

Convinced that some of the developed countries, unwilling to lose control of commodity trade, are determined to obstruct any constructive international action on commodity trade;

Considering that the United Nations Negotiating Conference on a Common fund under the Integrated Programme for Commodities has met twice without success, and had to be suspended on the second occasion in December 1977 because of failure to agree on even the basic elements of a common fund which would make it a key instrument of the integrated programme for commodities;

Recalling UN General Assembly resolution 32/193 which re-affirmed the urgency of establishing the common fund and, to that end, requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to undertake consultations with a view to reconvening the Conference early in 1978;

Considering that the resumed conference would be, as when suspended, at plenipotentiary level;

Recalling the decision of the 5th Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Non-Aligned Countries in Colombo, Sri Lanka, in august 1976, that a meeting of Plenipotentiaries on a Common Fund should take place in the event that the United Nations Negotiating Conference on Common Fund failed to yield satisfactory results by March 1977;

Recalling its resolution CM/Res. 545 (XXVIII) on the possibility of convening a Summit Conference of the Group of 77 to deal with this matter:

1. **CONGRATULATES** the Administrative Secretary-General for his report on developments in this vital area and requests him to maintain close and vigilant contact with the other groups within the Group of 77 on the matter;
2. **REGISTERS** its strong exception to and deeply deplores the obstructive tactics of most of the developed countries at the United Nations Negotiating Conference on a Common fund, and calls on these countries to adopt a more positive and constructive attitude to the establishment of the Fund;
3. **URGES** all countries in the event of the UN Negotiating Conference on a Common fund being reconvened to ensure participation at plenipotentiary level in order to enable the conference to take conclusive decisions, including the establishment of the Common fund whether or not there is support form all developed countries;
4. **RECOMMENDS** that, in the light of developments and results under paragraph 2 and 3 above, a meeting of Plenipotentiaries from developing countries on a Common Fund should be convened within 6 months to establish a Common Fund, contributed to and operated by the developing and any other countries which are ready to cooperate with the former;
5. **APPEALS** to all developing countries to support both the convening of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries from developing countries on a Common Fund and the establishment of the Fund itself;

6. **REQUESTS** the Administrative Secretary-General to initiate the necessary contacts with the other groups within the Group of 77 with a view to the convening of the meeting of Plenipotentiaries from developing countries on a Common fund as well as to determining the need and date for convening a summit conference of the Group of 77 on this matter subject to paragraphs 3 and 4 of this resolution.

RESOLUTION ON REPORT OF THE FOURTH CONFERENCE
OF AFRICAN MINISTERS OF INDUSTRY

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Having received and examined the Administrative Secretary-General's Report on the 4th conference of African Ministers of Industry and its attachments;

Appreciating the need for the OAU Member States to double their industrial development efforts in order to raise Africa's industrial output from 0% to 2% of the world's industrial output by the year 2000 A.D. in accordance with the Lima Declaration and Plan of Action of Industrial Development and Co-operation by the Second General Conference of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO);

Recognizing the importance of integrated industrial development of Africa, and the attainment of the 2% of Africa's contribution to the establishment of a New International Economic Order;

1. **CONGRATULATES** the Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU, the Executive Secretary of ECA, and the Executive Director of UNIDO for organizing and servicing the 4th Conference of African Ministers of Industry;
2. **EXPRESSES** its appreciation to the Government and people of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for hosting both the Conference itself and the other two related meetings which preceded the Conference, and putting at the disposal of the sponsors of the meetings all the facilities necessary for their success;
3. **EXPRESSES** its full support for the decisions made by the Conference;
4. **CALLS UPON** all OAU Member States to give every possible political as well as material support to the programme of industrialization elaborated by the conference;

5. **FURTHER CALLS UPON** the OAU Member States to participate in and support sully the symposium proposed to be held in the period 1978/79 on “Industrial Policies and Strategies for Internationally Self-sustaining Development and Diversification, and Collective Self-reliance during the period 1978-2000”;
6. **COMMENDS** the report of the Administrative Secretary-General on the Conference as well as the report of the Conference itself and its attachments to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government at its next Ordinary Session;
7. **AUTHORIZES** the Administrative Secretary-General to co-operate with the Executive Secretary of ECA and the Executive Director of UNIDO in servicing the proposed Regional Symposium on Industrial Policies and Strategies for Internally Self-sustaining Development and Diversification and collective Self-reliance (1978-2000);
8. **REQUESTS** the Administrative Secretary-General to:
 - a) Maintain constant contacts with the Executive Secretary of ECA and Executive Director of UNIDO on the progress of the implementation of these projects; and
 - b) Retain the question of industrialization of Africa on the agenda of the Council of Ministers and to report from time to time on the progress made in implementing these projects.

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

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Having received and examined the report of the Administrative Secretary-General on the establishment of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union (PATU) together with the report of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the PATU, attached hereto;

Appreciating the need for a specialized institution in Africa to co-ordinate telecommunication services of the OAU Member States;

Recalling Article VIII of the Charter of the OAU;

Recalling further Chapter One Article I of the Convention of PATU, which provides that the Union is to be a Specialized Agency of the OAU;

1. **CONGRATULATES** the Administrative Secretary-General for having convened and successfully serviced the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Pan-African Telecommunications Union;
2. **RECOMMENDS** to the Assembly of heads of State and Government the acceptance of the Pan-African Telecommunications Union of a Specialized Agency for the OAU;
3. **INVITES** the Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU and the Secretary-General of the PATU to elaborate and present to the Council at its 31st Session an agreement for cooperation between the OAU and the PATU;
4. **COMMENDS** the report of the Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Pan-African Telecommunications Union, the Union's Convention, its Rules of Procedure and its budget to the Assembly of Head of State and Government at its 15th Ordinary Session;

5. **APPEALS** to all OAU Member States to ratify the Convention of the PATU as soon as possible, and in any case in time to enable the Convention to come into effect not later than June 1, 1978.

RESOLUTION ON THE DEBT PROBLEMS

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 31/158 on the debt problem of developing countries, and resolution 32/187;

Recalling UNCTAD resolution 94 (VI);

Recalling Resolution 324 (XIII), adopted by the Economic Commission for Africa on the debt problems of developing countries;

Aware that the Trade and Development Board of UNCTAD is meeting at Ministerial level from 6 – 10 March, 1978, to deal with debt problems of developing countries;

Affirming strongly that developing countries in Africa attach the highest political importance to the solution of the debt problem;

Aware that the growing external debt places an extremely heavy burden on the limited foreign exchange resources of developing countries, in particular least developed, most seriously affected, land-locked and island developing countries;

Considering that substantial debt relief measures, including write-offs, are vital and would give a significant thrust to the development of those countries;

Emphasizing that the solution to the debt problems of developing countries is one of the crucial issues in the discussions on international economic co-operation, and is an essential element in the establishment of a New International Economic Order;

Convinced that a solution is essential for a transformation of the present inequitable economic and political relationship between developed and developing countries;

1. **DEPLORES** the negative attitude of most of the developed countries, to the search for a global solution to the debt problem of the developing countries;
2. **EXPRESSES** its appreciation of the measures taken by Canada, The Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland, to cancel the debts of a number of the developing countries;
3. **CALLS** upon all the governments of developed countries to accept the proposals of the developing countries at its Ministerial Session of the UNCTAD Board concerning debt relief measures including write offs, on the official debt of the least developed, most seriously affected, land-locked and island developing countries;
4. **ALSO CALLS ON** the UNCTAD Board to reach a satisfactory decision at its Ministerial Session on reorganization of the entire system of debt renegotiation on the basis of common norms, taking into account the need to give it a developmental orientation.

**RESOLUTION OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE INFORMATION MINISTERS
OF THE OAU MEMBER STATES AND THE LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Having considered the resolution IM/Res. 2 adopted by the First Conference of African Ministers of Information held in Kampala, Uganda;

Recalling all previous resolutions on Afro-Arab Co-operation;

Desirous of strengthening further co-operate on among Africans and Arabs in the field of information and in the creation of a new world information order;

Appreciating the invitation of the Information Ministers of the League of Arab States extended to their African Counter-parts (the African Information Ministers) for a joint meeting of the OAU-League of Arab States;

Welcomes and accepts the holding of the joint meeting:

Invites the Administrative Secretary-General to submit proposals to the competent OAU bodies in Arab-African co-operation and in the field of budgetary and financial matters, and to submit a report in that respect to the Thirty First Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers;

RESOLUTION ON DROUGHT AND OTHER NATURAL DISASTERS

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Considering that the worsening of the drought situation in 1977 is a problem which affects and concerns the whole Continent;

Having heard the statement by the delegation of Madagascar on the periodical nature of cyclones in his country and on the disastrous situation there as a result of the tropical cyclones which swept that part of the Indian Ocean,

Considering the serious human and material losses suffered by several Member States of the Organization on account of the cyclones, floods and other natural disasters;

Having heard that statement of the Heads of delegation of Cape Verde and Guinea-Bissau on the situation in their respective countries on account of the recurrence or worsening of drought;

Recalling the statement of the OAU General Secretariat at the Thirty-second General Assembly of FAO on the tragic situation prevailing in these countries on account of the recurrence of drought and its rapid extension to the whole area;

Having considered the interim report of the Administrative Secretary-General on the dramatic situation prevailing in some Member States of the Organization in view of the recurrence of drought;

Noting with concern the lack of the necessary financial means to provide urgent assistance to the Member States of our Organization which have been stricken once again;

Recalling the provisions of Resolution CM/Res. 572 (XXIX) and, in particular, its second paragraph;

1. **URGES** the Member States of OAU to promptly pay their contributions to the OAU Emergency Fund;
2. **CALLS ON** the Administrative Secretary-General to convene as soon as possible an extraordinary meeting of the OAU Ad Hoc Committee on the problems of drought and other natural disasters in order to define an OAU Strategy and concrete action with a view to checking once and for all these disasters which constitute a permanent threat to member States;
3. **AUTHORIZES** the OAU Administrative Secretary-General to take within the framework of the Special Fund for Assistance to Africa (FASA) the necessary steps with the League of Arab States to obtain financial assistance of at least US\$15,000,000 to enable the countries subjected to drought, cyclones, floods and other natural disaster to cope speedily with the serious situation prevailing in their countries;
4. **AUTHORIZES** the Administrative Secretary-General to pursue his contact with the competent bodies of the Islamic Conference with a view to making them more responsive to the drought problems, cyclones, floods and other natural disasters, and to securing for the benefit of the stricken countries the financial assistance of the Islamic Solidarity Fund;
5. **CALLS UPON** the Administrative Secretary-General to follow up the necessary contacts with the Member States of the League of Arab States and of the Arab Funds for Development in order to obtain more financial and technical assistance for stricken countries;
6. **CALLS UPON** the Administrative Secretary-General to maintain and strengthen co-operation and co-ordination of his efforts with the specialized institutions of the UN system as well as regional bodies, such as CILSS, etc, for the benefit of stricken countries;

7. **FURTHER CALLS UPON** the Administrative Secretary-General to establish the necessary contacts with governmental and non-governmental organizations, donor countries and all other sources of assistance and financing, with a view to mobilizing international solidarity in the interest of countries hit by drought and natural disasters;
8. **INVITES** the Administrative Secretary-General to submit a report on the financial situation and on the result of the steps taken in respect of the foregoing to the forthcoming OAU Council of Ministers,

**RESOLUTION ON A SYMPOSIUM TO DRAW UP A DRAFT INFORMATION
CHARTER**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Noting with satisfaction the outcome of the First Ordinary Session of the Conference of African Ministers of Information which met from 7th to 11th November 1977 in Kampala, Uganda and endorsing the “Declaration on the establishment of Pan-African News Agency”;

Welcoming the establishment of an Inter-Governmental Council of Ministers of Information to study and follow up questions relating to the launching of the Pan-African News Agency;

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the recommendation of the Conference of African Ministers of Information to organize a symposium to draw up a draft Information Charter on the basis of the Kampala Declaration;
2. **INVITES** the Administrative Secretary-General to submit a detailed document with financial implications to the Thirty-first Ordinary Session of the council of Ministers for examination.

RESOLUTION ON AN AFRICAN REGIONAL CENTRE
FOR APPLIED RESEARCH AND TRAINING IN SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Having examined the report of the Administrative Secretary-General on the location of an African Regional Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development as contained in document CM/863 (XXX), as well as the report of the Joint OAU/ECA Evaluation Mission:

DECIDES to establish the African Regional Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development in Tripoli (Socialist people's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya)

RESOLUTION ON THE UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOP-
MENT FUND

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tripoli, Libya from 20 to 28 February, 1978,

Mindful of the Lima Declaration and Plan of Action, and of the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 31/202 and 31/203 and the decisions of the UN Industrial Development Board related to the establishment of the Industrial Development Fund;

Deploing the Fact that the level of contributions so far attained during the First pledging Conference convened in New York, October 1977 for the year 1978 has only reached about 8.5 million dollars, which falls short of the target of 50 million dollars;

Concerned that without sufficient funds it will be difficult for UNIDO to provide the necessary technical assistance more effectively to the developing countries in order to enhance their industrialization:

1. **CALLS UPON** all Member States of the UN and Inter-Governmental Organizations especially these who did not contribute to make greater efforts to contribute more to the UNIDO;
2. **REQUESTS** the Secretary-General of the UN, the Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU and the Executive Director of UNIDO to take all necessary measures, in accordance with paragraph one, including making contacts with all Member States and Inter-Governmental Organizations to this end.