



**COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**

**Sixty-Ninth Ordinary Session**

**Fourth Ordinary Session of the African Economic Community**

**22-23 March 1999**

**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

**CM/DEC.433-449 (LXIX)**

**AEC/REGL.1 (IV)**

**DECISIONS AND REGULATIONS OF THE SIXTY-NINTH ORDINARY  
SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**

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**CM/Dec.433 (LXIX):            Consideration of the Reports of:**

?? The Second Ordinary Session of the Advisory Committee on Administrative, Budgetary and Financial Matters (March 1998); Doc. CM/2087 (LXIX) and

?? Report of the Sixty-seventh Ordinary Session of the Advisory Committee on Administrative, Budgetary and Financial Matters; Doc. CM/2090 (LXIX)

Council:

TAKES NOTE of the two reports;

ENDORSES all the recommendation's contained in the two reports and Requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate action for their implementation.

**CM/Dec.434 (LXIX): Financial Report on the 1997/98 Financial Year: Doc. CM/2088 (LXIX)**

Council:

TAKES NOTE of the Report;

COMMENDS the Secretary-General for the sustained efforts to improve the administrative and financial management of the Organization as observed during the previous financial years and certified in the annual audit reports;

URGES the Secretary-General to pursue his efforts to impose tight financial discipline in the execution of the approved budget in the light of the priorities of the Organization.

**CM/Dec. 435 (LXIX): Report of the Board of External Auditors on the Accounts of the General Secretariat, Regional and Sub-Regional Offices for the 1997/98 Financial Year: Doc. CM/2089 (LXIX)**

Council:

TAKES NOTE of the Report;

COMMENDS the excellent work performed by the Board of External Auditors on behalf of the Member States;

ENDORSES all the recommendations of the Board intended to strengthen and streamline the administrative and financial management without prejudice to the existing Financial Rules and Regulations of the Organization;

DECIDES to amend Paragraph 2 of the decision Dec. CM/366 (LXVII) relating to the term of office of the Board of External Auditors to read as follows:

“The Board shall be composed of qualified professional accountants and financial experts from Member States of the Organisation”.

“Their term of office shall be two years”

REQUESTS the Regional Deans of Ambassadors to undertake necessary consultations for the renewal of the Board Membership immediately after the Sixty-ninth Ordinary Session of Council in order to make the list of the members of the Board available to the General Secretariat by 30 April, latest, for the required administrative arrangements for the audit programme.

**CM/Dec.436 (LXIX): Statement of Contributions to the OAU Regular Budget as at 31<sup>st</sup> January, 1999: Doc. CM/2091 (LXIX)**

Council:

TAKES NOTE of the report;

COMMENDS all those Member States who are up to date having fully paid up all their assessed contributions to the OAU Regular Budget;

EXPRESSES SERIOUS CONCERN about the reversed trend in settling outstanding financial obligations by some Member States especially those which continue to accumulate arrears of contributions over several years;

APPEALS to all Member States with outstanding contributions to settle regularly and timely their financial obligations so as to enable the Organization meet its increasing challenges and discharge its normal functions.

**CM/Dec.437 (LXIX): Report of the Eleventh Session of the Committee on Contributions - Doc. CM/2092 (LXIX)**

Council:

TAKES NOTE of the report;

COMMENDS the work of the Committee and URGES it to continue reminding Member States of their financial obligations and commitments to the Organization;

ENDORSES all the recommendations in the report and REQUESTS the Secretary-General to ensure that they are fully implemented;

EXPRESSES SERIOUS CONCERN at the non-compliance by some Member States with the rescheduling plans submitted by them for clearing their arrears;

DECIDES that any Member State failing to honour the rescheduling plan will automatically fall under sanctions provided for under Article 115 of the Financial Rules and Regulations as well as other relevant decisions taken by the Council of Ministers and Assembly of Heads of State and Government;

ALSO COMMENDS the Member States which submitted rescheduling plans to the General Secretariat and continued to honour their commitment, and CALLS ON others to adopt similar measures so as to progressively pay up their contributions, if they have not already done so;

REQUESTS the General Secretariat to circulate the list of all countries under sanctions during all statutory meetings of the Organization.

**CM/Dec.438 (LXIX) Note of Appreciation to Member States which are up-to-date with their Financial Obligations to the Organization**

Council:

COMMENDS those Member States which continue to make sacrifice to honour their financial obligations by paying up their contributions to the regular budget of the Organization;

SPECIALLY COMMENDS the following Member States which as of today are up-to-date in the payment of their contributions to the Organization:

- \* Algeria
- \* Botswana
- \* Burkina Faso
- \* Cote d'Ivoire
- \* Egypt
- \* Eritrea
- \* Ethiopia
- \* Lesotho
- \* Mauritius
- \* Mozambique
- \* Namibia
- \* Senegal
- \* South Africa
- \* Tunisia
- \* Zimbabwe



***CM/Dec.439 (LXIX): Regional Conference on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance - Doc. CM/2085 (LXIX) Add. 1***

Council:

WELCOMES the initiative of the African Group in Geneva in calling for the convening of a World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance during the year 2001, with the objective of mounting an effective fight against the scourges of racism, Xenophobia and intolerance at the national, regional and international levels;

URGES all Member States of the OAU as well as African institutions dealing with human rights to participate actively in the Regional Preparatory Meeting of the World Conference;

REQUESTS the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure the convening before the end of 1999 of the African Regional Meeting Preparatory to the World Conference on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance;

REQUESTS the African Group in Geneva to continue its involvement in the preparations of the Conference and accordingly REQUESTS it to co-ordinate with the African Group in Brussels on this issue.

***CM/Dec.440 (LXIX):*            **Organization of the Pan-African Music Festival (FESPAM)****

Council:

RECALLS its Resolutions CM/Res.117 (IX) and CM/Res.509 (XXVII) on Pan-African Festivals;

TAKES NOTE of the request made by the Republic of Congo regarding the preparation of the Second Pan-African Music Festival (FFSPAM) which that country is organizing in August 1999;

CALLS ON Member States to participate actively in the Festival;

REQUESTS the Secretary-General to lend the diplomatic and symbolic financial support of the OAU to the organization of FESPAM.

***CM/Dec. 441 (LXIX):*        **The Organization of African Unity Convention on the Prevention and Control of Terrorism****

Council:

TAKES NOTE of the report of the Secretary General and the Central Organ of the OAU Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution;

COMMENDS the Sub-Committee of the Central Organ of the OAU Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution for its initiative in preparing a draft convention on the prevention and control of international terrorism for the quality of the work accomplished and progress made in this regard;

DECIDES to convene a meeting of the competent Ministers preceded by a meeting of governmental experts and diplomats to consider and finalise the said draft convention to be submitted to the Seventieth Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers and the Thirty-fifth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government for adoption;

EXPRESSES GRATITUDE to the Government of Algeria for the offer to host in Algiers the meeting of the Ministers on the 2 and 3 June, 1999, preceded by preparatory meeting of Experts and Diplomats from 30 May to 1 June, 1999;

REQUESTS the OAU Secretary-General to follow up the matter and take the necessary measures to facilitate the work of the Experts' and Diplomats' Group and submit a report thereon to the next session of Council.

**CM/Dec. 442 (LXIX):            The Situation in Angola**

Council:

REITERATES that the root cause underlying the resumption of war and the impasse in the implementation of the peace process lies in the fact that Mr. Jonas Savimbi and his military wing have not honoured their obligations as provided for in the Lusaka Protocol, in the UN Security Council and OAU Resolutions;

STRONGLY SUPPORTS the decision made by the SADC Summit held in Mauritius in September 1998 at which Mr. Jonas Savimbi was declared a war criminal and an appeal made for the strengthening of measures with a view to fully isolate him;

DEMANDS that Mr. SAVIMBI immediately ceases military activities and surrenders all armament in the spirit of national reconciliation;

SUPPORTS the efforts made by the Angolan Government with a view to put an end to the war and promoting the strengthening of democracy and national reconciliation;

APPEALS to the Member States of the Organization to strictly apply the package of sanctions adopted by the UN Security Council, particularly those imposed on travelling by UNITA leaders and decision-makers and on the means of communication;

FURTHER APPEALS to the international community to provide economic and humanitarian aid required for the reconstruction of Angola, particularly the rehabilitation of the infrastructures destroyed by the war and support to the demining programme;

REQUESTS Member States to closely cooperate with the OAU Secretary-General in order to remain actively seized with the situation in Angola and undertake actions that maybe required by the current situation;

REQUESTS the Member States to closely cooperate with the OAU Secretary-General in order to provide assistance to the Angolan Government to cope with the current war situation.

***CM/Dec.443 (LXIX):*            **The Status of OAU Treaties - Doc. CM/2095 (LXIX)****

Council:

TAKES NOTE of the Report;

URGES all Member States to ratify all the OAU Treaties, giving special attention to the following Treaties:

African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child;

The African Maritime Transport Charter;

The African Nuclear Weapon Free zone Treaty (the Treaty of Pelindaba);

The Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Establishment of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights.

***CM/Dec. 444 (LXIX):*        **Candidature of Cote d'Ivoire for organizing the Twenty-third World Congress of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) in 2004****

Council:

TAKES NOTE of the Statement by Cote d'Ivoire on the organization of the Twenty-third World Congress of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) in the year 2004;

ALSO TAKES NOTE of the support provided by the Pan-African Postal Union (PAPU) during its meeting held in Nairobi, Kenya in August 1998;

WELCOMES the decision by PAPU to set up a 9-member committee chaired by South Africa to promote the candidature of Cote d'Ivoire;

FURTHER WELCOMES the offer by the Government of Cote d'Ivoire to host the Twenty-third World Congress of the Universal Postal Union slated for Abidjan in 2004;

INVITES consequently, all Member States to lend their support to the candidature of Cote d'Ivoire.

**CM/Dec. 445 (LXIX):      OAU/EU Summit**

Council:

TAKES NOTE of the Report of the Secretary-General;

REQUESTS the Secretariat and the Troika to continue, together with the host country, Egypt and other interested Member States, the preparation for the Summit and to report regularly on the progress made.

**CM/Dec.446 (LXIX): Report of the Ad-Hoc Committee of Fifteen on the Structural Reform of the General Secretariat - Doc. CM/2093 (LXIX)**

Council:

CONGRATULATES the Ad-hoc Committee on the Structural Reform of the OAU and the General Secretariat for the excellent work done;

ADOPTS the Report of the Ad-hoc Committee on the Structural Reform of the OAU as contained in Doc. CM/2093 (LXIX);

TAKES NOTE of the financial implications of the restructuring exercise as follows:

(i) Staff complement and Personnel related cost: US\$ 19,213,797.00

(ii) Retrenchment cost: US\$ 9,327,894.00

(iii) Transition cost (OAU portion): US\$ 646,060.00

(This amount would be the OAU contribution in the form of services of existing staff while it is expected that an amount of US\$3,948,069.00 out of the total cost of US\$ 4,594,439.00 would be funded from extra-budgetary sources)

(iv) Recruitment cost US\$ 586,000.00

REQUESTS the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures in order to ensure a smooth implementation of the restructuring exercise and to ensure that the exercise is carried out in an efficient, most objective, transparent and humane manner;

REQUESTS the Secretary-General to assist in the transformation of the status of the concerned scientific and technical offices into autonomous agencies in providing the technical and financial support during the transitional period so as to ensure a smooth transition;

REQUESTS the Advisory Committee on Administrative, Budgetary and Financial Matters in close consultation with the General Secretariat to allocate the financial resources required for the implementation of the restructuring exercise within the available financial resources.



**CM/Dec.447 (LXIX):            The Question of the “Stuffed Negro”**

Council:

TAKES NOTE WITH APPRECIATION of the statement made by the delegation of Senegal on that issue;

CONDEMNS the Municipality and the Museum of Banyoles for persistent cultural and racist scorn which is a serious violation of human and people’s rights;

RENEWS ITS FIRM SUPPORT AND RECOGNITION to Dr. Alphonse Arcelin in his noble struggle against the cultural and racist contempt of the Municipality of Banyoles;

REQUESTS the Spanish Government to urge the Municipality of Banyoles to withdraw immediately the “Stuffed Negro” from the Darder Museum and return it without delay to Africa;

CALLS UPON the Secretary-General to reactivate the steps with the Spanish Government, UNESCO and the United Nations in order to organize, at an appropriate time, the solemn inhumation of the “Stuffed Negro” in his land of origin, Botswana.

***CM/Dec.448 (LXIX): Tribute to Maitre Alioune Blondin Beye***

Council:

EXPRESSES ITS PROFOUND GRATITUDE to Mr. Alioune Blondin Beye, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General in Angola, for his total commitment and constant efforts in promoting national reconciliation in Angola;

PAYS GLOWING TRIBUTE to the memory of the illustrious departed who has fallen in the field of honour for the cause of Africa.

**CM/Dec. 449 (LXIX): African Candidatures for Post within the United Nations System and other International Institutions**

Council:

TAKES NOTE of the Report of the OAU Ministerial Committee on Candidatures;

DECIDES to endorse the recommendations of the Committee and to lend its support to the African Candidatures as follows:

- ?? Candidature of Professor Raymond RANJEVA as the Sole African Candidate for second mandate as Judge at the International Court of Justice: (Elections due 5 February, 2000);
- ?? Candidature of General Mohammed Abbas Mansour, as sole African Candidature for membership of International Narcotic Control Board: (Election ECOSOC meeting May, 1999);
- ?? Candidature of Dr. Mariam K. Were as Sole African Candidature for post of Under-Secretary General of the United Nations as Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFP): Position falls vacant in 1999);
- ?? Candidature of Algeria for membership of the Board of Governors of the International Agency for Atomic Energy: (Elections on periphery of 43<sup>rd</sup> Ordinary Session of the General Conference of AIEA - September, 1999);
- ?? Candidature of Cote d'Ivoire for the hosting of the 23<sup>rd</sup> World Congress of the International Postal Union.

## **COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**

### **Sixty-ninth Ordinary Session**

**Fourth Ordinary Session of the African Economic Community 22 - 23 March, 1999**

**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

**CM/AEC/REGL.1 (IV)**

### **REGULATION**

The Council of Ministers,

Considering the Charter of the Organization of African Unity,

Considering Articles 11, 12 and 13 of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community,

Recalling Decision AHG/OAU/AEC/Dec.1 (II) and Regulation CM/AEC/Regl.1 (III) of the Second and Third Ordinary Sessions of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government and the Council of Ministers of the African Economic Community respectively held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso in June 1998,

Having considered the progress report of the Secretary-General on the Implementation of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community (AEC):

#### **HEREBY RULES:**

The Advisory Committee on Administrative, Budgetary and Financial Matters should take the necessary measures to release as early as possible the appropriation corresponding to at least 10% of the OAU Regular Budget pursuant to Para.3 of Decision AHG/OAU/AEC/Dec.1 (II) of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government-of the African Economic Community;

The General Secretariat should propose to the Third Ordinary Session of Economic and Social Commission (ECOSOC) of the African Economic Community clear-cut measures to set up a Consultative Forum of African Parliamentarians, as a prelude to the creation of an Pan-African Parliament provided for under Article 14 of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community;

Member States should take appropriate steps to implement relevant portions of the Ouagadougou Decision and Regulation, and submit individual reports thereon to the Third Ordinary Session of ECOSOC;

Member States which have not yet done so should report to the General Secretariat on implementation of Item 5 of the Ouagadougou decision on free movement;

Member States who have not yet done so, are called upon to ratify or accede to the AEC Treaty as early as possible;

The General Secretariat should take urgent measures, to establish the African Energy Commission;

The setting up of a Group of Experts by the General Secretariat to provide advice within the framework of the ACP-EU negotiation is highly appreciated. Consequently, the General Secretariat should strengthen this group and expand its competence to include negotiations with the WTO;

The African States of the ACP Group should effectively participate in the negotiations on a new arrangement with the EU in close collaboration with the Caribbean and Pacific countries;

The Secretariat should prepare effectively for UNCTAD X and to that end organize an African preparatory meeting, inter-alia in order to adopt a common position, taking into account an evaluation of the Midrand Declaration of UNCTAD IX within the context of the Specialized Technical Committee on Trade, Customs and Immigration as provided for under Article 25 of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community;

The General Secretariat should update its study on Africa's debt problem and map out a common strategy together with a critical evaluation of the recently announced initiatives for addressing the debt problem. The General Secretariat should take urgent steps during the Third Ordinary Session of the Economic and Social Commission of the African Economic Community to convene a Ministerial meeting of the OAU Contact Group on Africa's External Indebtedness, to be preceded by a meeting of Experts from their Finance Ministers and Central Banks;

The 24 Member States of the Contact Group should effectively participate in this meeting, examine Africa's current debt situation and recommend to the Heads of State and Government strategies and measures to be taken by African States to remedy the situation;

All Member States and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) are called upon to participate more effectively in and support the programmes and activities on the implementation of the AEC Treaty for continental integration. The RECs, particularly in the continental integration process, should report regularly to their decision making organs on the implementation of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community;

The host country (Cote d'Ivoire) and the OAU/AEC Secretariat are urged to activate preparations to enable the Eighth All-Africa Trade Fair to take place successfully as scheduled in the year 2000

in Abidjan.

Done in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia,

23 March, 1999

Jean PING

Minister of State, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Francophone Community of the  
Republic of Gabon

Chairman of the Council