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**Decisions and Regulation adopted by the Seventy-second Ordinary Session
of the Council of Ministers and Seventh Ordinary Session of the AEC**

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CM/Dec.517 (LXXII) Rev.1

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE ORGANIZATION CM/2154 (LXXII)

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the report;
2. COMMENDS all Member States which are up-to date in the settlement of their financial obligations to the OAU Regular Budget, as follows: Algeria, Angola, Burkina Faso, Botswana, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Swaziland, Tunisia;
3. APPEALS to those Member States in arrears to take all the necessary measures to settle their arrears in order to enable the Organization to meet the new challenges.

CM/Dec.518 (LXXII) Rev.1

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE FOURTEENTH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONTRIBUTIONS CM/2155 (LXXII)

Council :

1. TAKES NOTE of the report;
2. REITERATES ITS APPRECIATION for the excellent work of the Committee in its sensitization campaign towards Member States in arrears with a view to reminding the latter of their financial obligations to the Organisation;
3. ENDORSES all the recommendations of the Committee as contained in paragraph 21 of Doc CM/2155(LXXII) and requests the Secretary General to ensure that they are fully implemented;
4. REITERATES ITS SERIOUS CONCERN at the non-compliance by some Member States with the rescheduling plans submitted by them for clearing their arrears;
5. FURTHER REITERATES its earlier position that any Member State failing to honour its initial rescheduling plan will automatically fall under sanctions, in keeping with Council Decision CM/Dec.437(LXXI) as well as the provisions of Art. 115 of the Financial Rules and Regulations;
6. DIRECTS the General Secretariat to update on regular basis the list of all countries under sanctions and to have it circulated during all statutory meetings of the Organisation;

7. FURTHER DIRECTS that countries under sanctions should not be included in the membership of the Bureau of the OAU Commissions/Committees.

CM/Dec.519 (LXXII) Rev.1

DECISION ON THE DRAFT TREATY ESTABLISHING THE AFRICAN UNION AND THE DRAFT PROTOCOL TO THE TREATY ESTABLISHING THE AFRICAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY RELATING TO THE PAN-AFRICAN PARLIAMENT - (CM/2162 (LXXII))

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report of the Secretary-General contained in document CM/2162 (LXXII);
2. COMMENDS the Ministerial meeting as well as the Legal Experts and Parliamentarians for the work accomplished;
3. APPROVES the Draft Constitutive Act of the African Union and RECOMMENDS it to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government for adoption;
4. TAKES NOTE of the Draft Protocol relating to the Pan-African-Parliament and RECOMMENDS that it should be submitted to a meeting of African Parliamentarians for further examination and, thereafter, to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government through the Council of Ministers

CM/Dec.520 (LXXII) Rev.1

DECISION ON THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY, STABILITY, DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION IN AFRICA (CSSDCA) – CM/2163 (LXXII)

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report of the Conference;
2. WELCOMES the conclusions of the First Ministerial Conference and recommends to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government the adoption of the Draft CSSDCA Declaration;
3. COMMENDS the Federal Republic of Nigeria for its readiness to make an initial financial contribution to the CSSDCA process as well as other Member States which also made voluntary contributions;
4. URGES all OAU Member States to make voluntary contributions for the sustenance of the CSSDCA process and TAKES NOTE of the modalities for the funding of the said process as contained in the report;

5. FURTHER URGES Member States to implement the Decisions reached at the CSSDCA meeting as well as the provisions of the Declaration of the CSSDCA

DECISION ON ANGOLA (CM/2164 (LXXII)-a

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Angola;
2. REITERATES the firm support and total commitment of the OAU to the pertinent resolutions of the United Nations Security Council on Angola; particularly Resolutions 864 (1993), 1127 (1997), 1173 (1998), and 1295 (2000);
3. CONDEMNS the premeditated violations of the sanctions against UNITA by some Member States of the United Nations and STRONGLY APPEALS to these Member States to immediately and unconditionally put an end to this behaviour which ENCOURAGES escalation of the war in Angola;
4. CALLS ON the UN Security Council to impose immediate additional sanctions against UNITA, as provided for under Article 41 of the UN Charter;
5. DECIDES to set up an Ad-hoc Committee to evaluate the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1285, particularly with regard to the sanctions contained in Chapters A,B,C,D,E,F and G, and to submit to the next OAU Council of Ministers a report on the extent of implementation of this resolution by Member States. It further DECIDES to mandate the Secretary-General in the light of the evaluation, to propose additional measures to guarantee the effective implementation of Resolution 864/93 against the States which violate the sanctions, in keeping with the provisions of the OAU and UN Charters;
6. URGES Member States and the International Community to continue to support the peace efforts and national reconciliation undertaken by the Government of Angola;
7. FURTHER URGES the International Community to increase humanitarian assistance to the needy populations and to support the on-going national reconstruction efforts in Angola.

DECISION ON BURUNDI (CM/2164 (LXXII)-b)

Council :

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Burundi;
2. PAYS DESERVED TRIBUTE to the late Mwalimu Julius Nyerere for his invaluable and inestimable contribution to the restoration of peace in Burundi;
3. COMMENDS the Facilitator of the Burundi Peace Process, Mr Nelson Mandela, for his on-going efforts to bring about reconciliation and lasting peace in Burundi ;
4. CALLS ON the Parties to continue to cooperate with the Facilitator to ensure the success of the negotiations ;
5. STRONGLY URGES the armed groups to fully and effectively participate in the negotiations, so as to facilitate a speedy conclusion of a cease-fire agreement and a comprehensive peace Accord ;
6. CONDEMNS the acts of violence perpetrated by the armed groups against innocent civilian populations and personnel of humanitarian agencies;
7. ENCOURAGES the Government of Burundi to complete the dismantling of the regroupement camps by the end of July, 2000, in accordance with the commitment it has already made to this effect;
8. URGES the International Community to resume cooperation with Burundi, during the current phase of the peace process and during the post-conflict period, thereby helping to promote the reconstruction and development in that country.

DECISION ON THE COMOROS (CM/2164 (LXXII) –c)

Council:

1. EXPRESSES ITS CONCERN that the Anjouanese Separatists continue to be intransigent in refusing to sign the Antananarivo Agreement and to cooperate with the OAU in the search for lasting solution to the crisis in the Comoros, in accordance with the principle of respect for the unity and territorial integrity of the Comoros;
2. RECOMMENDS to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government the endorsement of its earlier proposal on military related measures against the Anjouanese Separatists, and requests the countries of the Region, under the coordination of South Africa and in close consultation with the Secretariat, to take all appropriate steps to that end ;
3. URGES all partners of the OAU to lend their support to the countries of the Region and the OAU in the implementation of these measures ;
4. EXPRESSES CONCERN that no significant progress has been made towards the return of the Comoros to constitutional order as called for in the Algiers Decisions on Unconstitutional Changes of Government, and REQUESTS the Secretary-General to continue to engage the Comorian parties with a view to ensuring a speedy return to constitutional rule.

DECISION ON THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO - CM/2164 (LXXII)-d

Council:

1. REAFFIRMS ITS SUPPORT for the Lusaka cease-fire Agreement which constitutes the only framework accepted by all the parties for reaching a peaceful, comprehensive and durable settlement of the conflict in the DRC;
2. URGES all the Parties to implement the Agreement in good faith, especially the provisions pertaining to compliance with the ceasefire and the Inter-Congolese Political Dialogue;
3. FURTHER URGES the Parties to scrupulously respect the plan for the disengagement and redeployment of forces adopted by all the Parties during the meeting of the Political Committee held in Kampala from 6 to 8 April, 2000;
4. CONDEMNS the massacres and other atrocities perpetrated in the territory of the Democratic Republic of Congo;
5. EXPRESSES SATISFACTION at the adoption of Resolution 1291 of 24 February, 2000, by the United Nations Security Council authorizing the expansion of MONUC to consist of up to 5537 military personnel including up to 500 observers or more, and URGES the UN to accomplish the deployment as speedily as possible;
6. FURTHER EXPRESSES SATISFACTION at the United Nations Security Council's decision to establish a Panel of Experts on the illegal exploitation of natural resources and other forms of wealth in the DRC;
7. DEMANDS that all the countries which have forces in the DRC withdraw them in conformity with the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement;
8. REITERATES its confidence in and support for Sir Ketumile Masire, Facilitator of the Inter-Congolese national Dialogue, who was chosen by the Congolese parties with the assistance of the Secretary General of the OAU, and EXPRESSES APPRECIATION to him for the work so far accomplished;
9. URGES the Congolese Parties and particularly the government of the DRC to extend to the Facilitator of the Inter-Congolese national dialogue their full cooperation and all the support necessary for the accomplishment of his mission;
10. EXPRESSES SATISFACTION at the work already done on ground by the Joint Military Commission in collaboration with MONUC, as well as by the Political Committee set up

under the Ceasefire Agreement, and URGES them to persevere in their efforts;

11. APPEALS to Member States and to the rest of the International Community to continue to provide the JMC and the Facilitator of the Inter-Congolese national Dialogue, with financial, material and logistical support;

12. PAYS TRIBUTE to the leaders of the region, especially to President Frederick Chiluba of the Republic of Zambia, Chairman of the Regional Initiative for Peace in the DRC, as well as to the Current Chairman of the OAU President Abdelaziz Bouteflika, and other African Leaders for the untiring efforts they have invested in the search for a peaceful solution to the conflict in the DRC;

13. WELCOMES, to that end, the initiative by President Abdelaziz Bouteflika, of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, Current Chairman of the OAU, for having organized a mini Summit on the Democratic Republic of Congo in Algiers on 30 April 2000. That Summit made it possible to consolidate the progress achieved under the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement and to give new impetus to efforts towards the restoration of peace through his appeal for the commencement of the Inter-Congolese national dialogue and the implementation of Phase II of the deployment of the United Nations forces in the DRC;

14. EXPRESSES SATISFACTION at the efforts exerted by the Secretary-General of the OAU towards the implementation of the peace process in the DRC.

DECISION ON SIERRA LEONE (CM/2164 (LXXII)-e)

Council:

1. REAFFIRMS ITS FULL SUPPORT for the efforts to revive the peace process in Sierra Leone, as provided for under the Lome Peace Agreement which provides the appropriate framework for the resolution of the conflict in Sierra Leone;
2. URGES the RUF in particular, to scrupulously abide by and implement the terms of the Agreement, including disarming and demobilizing voluntarily;
3. CALLS ON the parties to re-deploy to the positions they held on the signing of the Lome Peace Agreement on 7 July 1999, as decided by the ECOWAS Heads of State, and ENCOURAGES ECOWAS in its efforts to establish a ceasefire, aimed at bringing the hostilities and armed conflict in Sierra Leone to an end;
4. REITERATES OAU's strong condemnation of the continuing violent attacks by the RUF on UNAMSIL, and the taking of hundreds of UNAMSIL personnel as hostages by the RUF, which acts constitute a violation of the Lome Peace Agreement, the Bamako Summit Communique and UN Security Council Resolutions on Sierra Leone; CALLS for the immediate and unconditional lifting of the siege of the Indian contingent of UNAMSIL peace-keepers at Kailahun and restoring to them complete freedom of movement;
5. EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION to the Current Chairman of ECOWAS, President Alpha Omar Konare, and the other regional leaders for the efforts they have deployed to bring peace to Sierra Leone;
6. NOTES WITH APPRECIATION the efforts made by President Charles Taylor of Liberia, which secured the release of the hostages and ENCOURAGES him, while implementing the renewed mandate given to him by ECOWAS, to continue to use his good offices in obtaining the recovery of the arms and equipment taken from the peace-keepers by the RUF.
7. EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE to Colonel Muamar Al-Qadhafi, Leader of the Great Alfateh Revolution for his assistance in securing the release of the hostages and for his efforts to settle the conflict and to achieve and sustain peace in Sierra Leone;
8. EXPRESSES SUPPORT for the decision of the ECOWAS Heads of State that troops be provided from the sub-region to strengthen UNAMSIL, and CALLS UPON ECOWAS Member States which have pledged to provide contingents, to honour their commitments;

9. SUPPORTS the call by ECOWAS to the United Nations Security Council to change the mandate of UNAMSIL from peacekeeping to peace enforcement; and, further, REQUESTS the International Community to provide adequate logistical support to enable UNAMSIL effectively carry out its mandate;

10. URGES the RUF to bring to an immediate end, its atrocities and acts of summary execution, rape and abduction of civilians; and release all the civilian hostages, including those held by them before the signing of the Lome Peace Agreement;

11. WELCOMES the decision of ECOWAS to conduct a regional enquiry into the illegal trade in diamonds originating from Sierra Leone; and EXPRESSES SUPPORT for the Resolution adopted by the United Nations Security Council on 5 July, 2000, which places a global ban on illegal trade in Sierra Leonean diamonds;

12. APPEALS to the International Community to increase humanitarian assistance to victims of the conflict in Sierra Leone.

DECISION ON SOMALIA (CM/2164 (LXXII)-f)

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report of the Secretary-General on Somalia;
2. REAFFIRMS the consistent position of the OAU regarding the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Somalia, as one indivisible State;
3. ACKNOWLEDGES the seriousness of the situation in Somalia as a result of the long absence of national authority given the destructive civil strife and the ensuing insecurity;
4. ACKNOWLEDGES ALSO the commendable efforts exerted by the international community, in particular by IGAD Member States, especially by Ethiopia, a country mandated both by IGAD and OAU, the League of Arab States, toward the restoration of peace, stability and state structures in Somalia;
5. STRONGLY WELCOMES the initiative launched by President Ismael Omar Guelleh of Djibouti, Current Chairman of IGAD, at the UN General Assembly on 22 September, 1999, which initiative was endorsed by the leaders of IGAD at their Summit held in Djibouti on 26 November, 1999;
6. RECALLS the full support earlier extended to the initiative as well as the Peace Plan by the Council of Ministers of IGAD, OAU, League of Arab States, and lastly, on 29 June, 2000, by the UN Security Council;
7. EXPRESSES ITS FULL SUPPORT to the Djibouti-led IGAD peace process on Somalia, in general, and to the Somalia National Peace Conference now underway in Djibouti since May 2, 2000, in particular, which has already achieved tremendous progress; and which brought together over 2000 Somali participants from inside and outside the country, and consisting of all walks of life and sections of the society, including elders, traditional and religious leaders, politicians, warlords, peace activists, professionals, business people, scholars, women, minorities and youths;
8. NOTES that the people of Djibouti, despite the prevailing economic hardship in the country, have made tremendous sacrifices toward contributing generously to a fund intended to finance this costly process, which has so far been almost entirely borne by Djibouti;
9. APPEALS to Member States and the international community as a whole, to extend political, material, financial and moral support to ensure the success of the Conference;

10. URGES all remaining warlords and other leaders not in Djibouti to join their Brothers and Sisters and to participate in the Conference, which is aimed at seeking the future political direction of Somalia. In this regard, the Council CALLS UPON the International Community to exert maximum pressures on warlords and all those leaders who are obstructing the Peace Process, to desist forthwith from engaging in acts or actions designed to destabilize, obstruct, undermine, thwart or scuttle the conference, through threats, harassments and detention of people wishing to express their democratic rights to participate in the conference;

11. EXPRESSES GRAVE CONCERN over the alarming deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Somalia and APPEALS to all Member States and the international community at large, to continue providing humanitarian assistance to those in need in Somalia;

12. REITERATES ITS CALL to all Member States to observe the UN arms embargo on Somalia so as to avoid further intensification of the conflict as well as to prevent Somalia from being used as a launching pad for acts of terrorism against neighbouring States;

13. EXTEND full political and material backing to the outcome of the Somalia National Peace Conference now in its final leg;

14. CALLS UPON the International Community to exert maximum pressure on those who continue to engage in hostile activities towards undermining and obstructing the process and who are depriving the Somali people of their inalienable rights to participate in the Conference that seeks to decide on their political future;

15. STRONGLY APPEALS to the international community as a whole (IGAD, OAU, UN, League of Arab States, EU, OIC, NAM, etc) to provide all necessary assistance to the potential national transitional administration in Somalia, particularly reconstruction and development assistance, and rebuilding of institutions.

DECISION ON THE PREPARATION FOR THE MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON THE ILLICIT PROLIFERATION, CIRCULATION AND TRAFFICKING OF SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS - CM/2165 (LXXII)

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report on the African Experts meeting;
2. WELCOMES the outcome of the First Continental Meeting of African Experts on the Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons, and requests all Member States to examine the pertinent proposals contained in the Meeting's Report;
3. ENCOURAGES all Member States to participate fully in the Ministerial Conference on the Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons scheduled to be held in Bamako towards the end of November 2000, in order to facilitate the mapping out of an African common position on the issue before the convening of the international conference by the United Nations in 2001.

DECISION ON THE QUESTION OF PALESTINE CM/2167 (LXXII)

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report of the Secretary-General on the Question of Palestine;
2. RECALLS UN Resolutions on Jerusalem, in particular General Assembly Resolutions 181, 303 and 54/27 and Security Council Resolutions 242, 252, 465, 476 and 478 and CALLS for the respect of these resolutions;
3. REAFFIRMS the right of the Palestinian people, under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization to exercise their inalienable national rights, including their right to return to their homes, recover their property, self-determination and the establishment of an independent state on their national soil, with East Jerusalem as its capital, in accordance with the principles of international law and other pertinent resolutions of the UN;
4. RECOGNIZES the binding character of UN Security Council Resolution 237 which CALLS for the return of Palestinians displaced in 1967; as well as other relevant instruments, in particular UNGA Resolution 194 (1948) which provides for the Return of Palestinian refugees to their Homes and Property; and CALLS UPON Israel to respect and carry out its obligations. It FURTHER CALLS for the establishment of a UN sponsored Commission to ensure the fulfillment of the process of return;
5. COMMENDS the progress made in the Israel-Palestine Peace process, including the signing on 4 September, 1999, of the Sharm-El-Sheikh Memorandum between Israel and the PLO;
6. EXPRESSES CONCERN that the deadline of 13 February, 2000, set in the Sharm-El-Sheikh Memorandum for the conclusion of a framework agreement lapsed without the realization of the goal and principles to withdraw Israeli troops from occupied Palestinian land, the establishment of the Northern safe passage route, the release of all political prisoners and the implementation of economic commitments;
7. HAILS the PLO leadership for the patience and wisdom demonstrated and its continued commitment to the achievement of a comprehensive peace;
8. CALLS UPON the present Israeli leadership which has so far taken positive steps to consolidate the peace process, to recommit itself in earnest to the path of dialogue and negotiation, as well as to put an end to the policy of expanding and establishing new Jewish settlements on occupied Palestinian territory in violation of international law and

international humanitarian law as well as the letter and spirit of Agreements reached;

9. AFFIRMS the need to maintain and respect the deadline of September 13th 2000, to reach a Permanent Status Agreement and SUPPORTS the realization of the establishment of the independent sovereign State of Palestine on Palestinian soil with East Jerusalem as its Capital;

10. CALLS UPON Israel to implement previously negotiated Agreements and URGES the Parties to intensify their peace efforts aimed at seeking a just, peaceful and lasting solution to the conflict as well as realizing the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people thereby ensuring comprehensive and lasting peace, security and stability in the region.

DECISION ON THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST – (CM/2168 (LXXII))

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Middle East;
2. RECALLS all the relevant resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government and the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity on the Middle East situation which affirm that the Palestinian Question is the core of the Middle East conflict and that no comprehensive, just and lasting peace can be established unless Israel withdraws from all the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, including East Jerusalem, the Syrian Golan Heights and unless the Palestinian people exercise their inalienable national rights in accordance with UN resolutions, in particular Security Council Resolutions 242, 338, 465, 478 and General Assembly Resolution 181 of 1947, and on the basis of the land-for- peace formula;
3. CALLS for an initiative that will take all the necessary measures that will guarantee Israel's compliance with the terms of reference of the Madrid Conference and the land-for-peace principle and its full implementation of all the agreements and commitments undertaken on all tracks of the peace process;
4. URGES the United Nations and the International Community to guarantee Israel's full compliance with the resolutions adopted by the United Nations and the International Atomic Energy Agency that stipulate the use of Israel's nuclear installations for peaceful purposes and compel it to open its nuclear installations to international inspection. The Security Council and the International Atomic Energy Agency warned of the grave threats that may be posed by radiation leaks from the Daemona reactor, in the absence of international inspection;
5. REAFFIRMS ITS SUPPORT for the proposal made by President Mohamed Hosni Mubarak of the Arab Republic of Egypt to declare the Middle East an area free of nuclear weapons and all weapons of mass destruction;
6. URGES the Government of Israel to join the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and to refrain from the manufacture, production, testing and possession of nuclear weapons and to place its nuclear facilities under the comprehensive safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency;
7. CALLS for the resumption of negotiations between Israel and Syria, on the basis of UN

Security Council Resolutions 242, 338 and the tenets of the Peace Process established at the Madrid Conference;

8. URGES all the parties concerned to resume the negotiations in order to create the necessary conditions for lasting peace in the region;

9. TAKES NOTE of the withdrawal of Israeli troops from South Lebanon and the efforts deployed by the United Nations to restore normalcy to that region.

DECISION ON THE OAU PEACE FUND (CM/2170 (LXXII))

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report of the Secretary General on the OAU Peace Fund;
2. EXPRESSES APPRECIATION to all Member States and external donors for the financial support they continue to extend to the work of the OAU Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution;
3. PAYS TRIBUTE to Member States who have made voluntary contributions to the OAU Peace Fund, and appeals to those who have not done so to make financial contributions to the Fund;
4. EXPRESSES CONCERN that the operational activities of the OAU Mechanism are largely dependent on external sources of funding, and urges Member States to assume a greater role in the financing of the OAU Peace Fund;
5. ENCOURAGES the General Secretariat to further explore ways and means for mobilizing adequate resources for the Peace Fund from non-governmental and non-traditional sources, including the African business communities;

DECISION ON THE SITUATION OF REFUGEES, RETURNEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS IN AFRICA CM/2171 (LXXII)

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the report of the OAU Commission on Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in Africa;
2. APPEALS to Member States to continue to address the root causes of the problem of refugees and displaced persons, and URGES the countries of origin to create the conditions conducive to voluntary repatriation of refugees, in accordance with the international legal instruments on refugees;
3. EXPRESSES ITS GRAVE CONCERN over the treatment of refugees in Africa who do not receive the necessary attention and resources, compared to the assistance granted to refugees in other regions of the world;
4. URGES the International Community to provide adequate support and assistance to refugees in Africa, comparable to the quantum of resources available to refugees in other parts of the world;
5. COMMENDS the asylum countries which continue to play host to and help refugees, in spite of their socio-economic difficulties made worse recently by natural disasters including floods, drought and famine; however, due to growing hostilities metted out on refugees in many asylum countries, FURTHER URGES those countries to develop programmes aimed at educating the host communities on the plight of refugees;
6. THANKS OAU Member States and the International Community, especially the humanitarian agencies which have provided assistance to flood, drought and famine stricken populations in the affected African countries, and APPEALS to them to continue to extend this assistance so vital in meeting the urgent needs of these populations and in implementing long term reconstruction programmes;
7. CALLS FOR the strengthening of co-operation between the OAU and the UN and its agencies, particularly the United Nations Humanitarian Affairs Co-ordination Office, with a view to streamlining their actions in the fight against the scourge of natural or man-made disasters in Africa;
8. ENDORSES the Global Implementation Plan adopted by the OAU/UNHCR Special Meeting of Government and Non-Government Technical Experts organized in Conakry,

Guinea from 27 to 29 March 2000, on the occasion of the Commemoration of the 30th Anniversary of the OAU Convention on Refugees, as well as recommendations of the 6th OAU/ICRC Seminar on International Humanitarian Law organized in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 15 to 16 May 2000;

9. APPEALS to Member States to ensure the full implementation and follow-up of the Comprehensive Implementation Plan (CIP) and the recommendations of the Sixth OAU/ICRC Seminar on International Humanitarian Law;

10. CALLS ON the International Community to provide the necessary resources and funds to implement the Plan and recommendations emanating from the two meetings;

11. ACCEPTS the proposal of the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the UNHCR to declare 20 June of each year as World Refugee Day.

DECISION ON THE SPECIAL EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUND FOR DROUGHT AND FAMINE IN AFRICA - (CM/2157 (LXXII))

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report of the Secretary-General on the Fund;
2. APPROVES the recommendations of the Twenty-fourth Ordinary Session of the Policy Committee of the Fund, especially the standard format for submission of request;
3. CALLS ON Member States which have received financial assistance to submit, as a matter of urgency, their project implementation reports, to enable the Secretariat carry out necessary evaluation, thereby enhancing the credibility of the Fund financial management;
4. TAKES NOTE WITH GRAVE CONCERN of the food insecurity situation prevailing in several regions of Africa and of the ever-growing needs of drought and famine stricken population;
5. COMMENDS Member States which made voluntary contributions and those which honoured their pledges to the Special Emergency Assistance Fund;
6. REITERATES ITS CALL on Member States and the International Community to provide financial and material support to the Special Fund to enable it continue its solidarity action;
7. FURTHER REQUESTS Member States that made pledges of voluntary contribution in Harare to honour their commitment;
8. REQUESTS the General Secretariat to relate the activities of the Special Fund to emergency matters rather than to the funding of development projects;
9. FURTHER TAKES NOTE of the offer by the Federal Republic of Nigeria to host the Headquarters of the Africa Disaster Management Centre.

DECISION ON THE PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION OF THE DECADE OF EDUCATION IN AFRICA – CM/2172 (LXXII)

Council:

1. TAKES NOTES of the Report;
2. REITERATES its recommendations to Member States to implement the Programme of Action of the Decade of Education at national level;
3. APPROVES the strategy of the Secretary-General opting for a regional approach and management of the Decade, particularly the organization of regional seminars and the setting up of regional coordination structures;
4. In this regard, COMMENDS the Republic of the Gambia and the ECOWAS Secretariat for their invaluable contribution towards the organization, in January 2000 in Banjul, of the regional seminar devoted to West Africa and for creating appropriate regional coordination and follow-up structures;
5. CALLS ON the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to convene, once a year, a meeting of the Steering Committee and of the Executive Committee of the Decade;
6. APPROVES the recommendation of the Steering Committee to admit the Secretariat of the Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA) as member of the Steering Committee of the Decade;
7. DECIDES to set up:
 - a Working Group on the financial aspects of the Decade;
 - a Working Group in-charge of the technical aspects of coordination, follow-up and evaluation of the activities of the Decade;
 - a Group of Eminent Personalities to individually and collectively carry out advocacy, sensitization and mobilization activities in favour of education in Africa, and CALLS ON, the Secretary-General to define the selection criteria and take the necessary steps to set up the said Group;
8. CALLS ON Member States of the OAU and the partners concerned to take into account the appraisal made by the World Conference on Education For All, held in Dakar in April 2000, and to do its utmost to enable Africa to honour the commitments it made at the

Conference;

9. To this end, FURTHER CALLS UPON Member States to mobilize more financial resources at national level in favour of education in accordance with the recommendations of the Working Group on the financial aspects of the Decade;

10. INVITES International Institutions/Organizations as well as interested bilateral and multilateral partners to lend support to the General Secretariat in the mobilization of additional resources necessary for the implementation of the Programme of Action of the Decade as well as the regional projects identified in each Regional Economic Community (REC);

11. FINALLY DECIDES to create a Fund for the development of education in Africa and APPEALS to donors to generously contribute to this Fund.

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SIXTH CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN MINISTERS OF HEALTH (CAMH 6) HELD FROM 18 – 21 OCTOBER, 1999 IN CAIRO, EGYPT CM/2173 (LXXII)

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report;
2. RECALLS the Addis Ababa (1987) Declaration on Health as a Foundation for Development – AHG/Decl.1 (XXIII) and other subsequent Declarations, Decisions and Resolutions on Health endorsed during the last decade;
3. ENDORSES the Recommendations of the Sixth Conference of African Ministers of Health (CAMH 6) which was held from 18 – 21 October, 1999 in Cairo, Egypt;
4. FURTHER ENDORSES
 - a) the Ouagadougou Commitment for Action for the Implementation of the Declarations, Decisions and Recommendations of the Heads of State and Government of the OAU aimed at strengthening HIV/AIDS Control in Africa;
 - b) the Algiers Common Position and Plan of Action on Strategies to support HIV/AIDS Orphans, Vulnerable Children and Children Infected by HIV/AIDS ;
 - c) the Algiers Appeal by the OAU Labour and Social Affairs Commission for the Intensification of the Fight Against AIDS in Africa;
5. URGES Member States to accelerate Health Sector Reform with a focus on integrating strategies to prevent and control epidemics in Primary Health Care, and by promoting training standards and carrying out studies in order to establish an-African Training Centre, to that effect, REQUESTS the Secretary-General, in collaboration with development partners to prepare a Plan of Action for the Health Sector Reform in Africa together with a follow-up mechanism;
6. CALLS UPON the international community and all development Partners to cancel in full the debt of African countries in order to release resources which should be targeted to financing Health Sector Reform;
7. FURTHER REQUESTS the Secretary-General to take necessary actions to that effect and report on the status of the progress made in this area to the Seventy-third Ordinary Session of Council.

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE TWENTY-THIRD ORDINARY SESSION OF THE OAU LABOUR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION CM/2174 (LXXII)

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report;
2. ENDORSES the recommendations as adopted by the Twenty-third Ordinary Session of the OAU Labour and Social Affairs Commission and all relevant documents contained therein;
3. CALLS UPON Member States to establish mechanisms for tripartism and social dialogue with all civil society groups, including women and youth, and to demonstrate their political will, commitment and positive attitude to social dialogue;
4. FURTHER CALLS UPON Member States, the ILO and UNDP to develop urgently a funding strategy and mobilise enough resources to facilitate the extension of the "Jobs for Africa" Programme to all Member States in order to ensure its continued viability and sustainability;
5. ALSO CALLS UPON Member States to accord greater attention to the drug control issue on the Continent and provide their material and financial support to the OAU Drug Control Focal Point;
6. URGES Member States to revamp, increase and extend the coverage of their social security schemes as well as to ratify the ILO Social Security Minimum Standards Convention No.102 of 1952; and REQUESTS the General Secretariat, with the financial and technical support of the ILO and other social partners, to organise Expert meetings on the extension and reform of the social security system in Africa;
7. FURTHER URGES Member States, with the assistance of the International Organization for Migration (IOM), to draw up an African human resources strategy geared towards the efficient utilization and development of skills and for retaining Experts and reduce brain drain in Africa;
8. REITERATES the urgent need for Member States to ratify Convention 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour and to take immediate measures to protect and control child labour; and URGES Member States which have ratified the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child to submit names of candidates to the Secretariat in order to accelerate the establishment of the Committee on the Rights and Welfare of the Child;

9. REQUESTS Member States, with the assistance of WHO, UNAIDS, UNICEF and ILO, to implement the recommendations of the Common Position and Plan of Action on "Strategies to Support Orphans and Vulnerable Children Affected by HIV/AIDS" adopted in Algiers, Algeria in April 2000;

10. CALLS UPON Member States and all stakeholders to take all necessary measures to implement the provisions of the Declaration on the African Decade of Disabled Persons (1999 – 2009);

11. FURTHER REQUESTS the Secretary-General to convene a meeting to map out strategies on how the different players can bring their competencies, resources and capacities together to ensure the implementation of the Dakar and Beijing Platforms for Action, as well as the outcome document that was adopted at the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on the mid-decade review of the Beijing Platform for Action which was held in New York in June 2000.

DECISION ON THE AFRO-ARAB CULTURAL INSTITUTE - CM/2176 (LXXII)

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report of the Secretary-General on the Afro-Arab Cultural Institute;
2. CONFIRMS the provisions of its resolution CM/Res.994 (XLII) adopted in Addis Ababa July 1985 by which Council adopted the statutes of the Afro-Arab Cultural Institute;
3. ENDORSES the agreement concluded between the Organization of African Unity and the League of Arab States, by which the headquarters and the post of Deputy director-General are allotted to OAU Member States while the post of Director General is to be filled by the Member States of the League of Arab States;
4. DECIDES that the Republic of Mali should host the headquarters of this Institute and that the post of Deputy Director General should be filled by Chad;
5. URGES the Secretary-General to release the OAU share to the budget for the launching activities of the Institute, it being understood that the issue of financing the regular budget of the Institute will be resolved by the Executive Board;
6. ALSO URGES the Secretary General of the OAU to enter into consultation with the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States with a view to convening, as soon as possible, a meeting of the Executive Board of the Institute;
7. REQUESTS the Secretary-General to field a mission to inspect the premises and facilities offered by the country hosting the Headquarters with a view to authorizing the commencement of the activities of the Institute;
8. ALSO REQUESTS the Secretary-General to report to the Seventy-third Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers on the measures taken in this respect.

DECISION ON AFRO-ARAB COOPERATION CM/2158 (LXXII)

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report of the Secretary-General on the Afro-Arab Cooperation;
2. NOTES WITH GRAVE CONCERN the non-convening of the meetings of the policy organs;
3. CALLS ON the African and Arab Member States to reactivate, revitalize and revive Afro-Arab Cooperation in the economic, social and cultural fields;
4. REQUESTS the Secretary-General to pursue contacts with the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States with a view to convening the meetings of the Coordinating Committee and of the Standing Commission as early as possible;
5. URGES the General Secretariat to study and take concrete actions to implement the recommendations contained in Memorandum CM/Info (Egypt) presented by the Arab Republic of Egypt and endorsed by the Seventieth Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers, and to present a report to the Seventy-third Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers;
6. FURTHER REQUESTS the Secretary-General to review, with the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, the possibility of drawing up a new programme of cooperation that takes account of the new orientations of the two entities and explore other areas of cooperation;
7. WELCOMES the offer by the Government of Algeria to host the 12th Session of the Standing Commission of Afro-Arab Cooperation;
8. THANKS the Lebanese Government for the excellent facilities provided for the organization of the Fifth Afro-Arab Trade Fair;
9. INVITES all Member States to participate fully and effectively in the Fifth Afro-Arab Trade Fair.

CM/Dec.538 (LXXII) Rev.1

DECISION ON THE STATUS OF OAU TREATIES CM/2159 (LXXII)

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report of the Secretary-General on the Status of OAU Treaties;
2. URGES all Member States to sign and ratify the Treaties which they have adopted under the aegis of the OAU in order to ensure a more effective implementation of these Treaties.

CM/Dec.539 (LXXII) Rev.1

**DECISION ON THE DRAFT COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE OAU
AND THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME (CM/2160 (LXXII))**

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report of the Secretary-General on the Draft Cooperation Agreement between the OAU and the World Food Programme;
2. APPROVES the Draft Cooperation Agreement and AUTHORIZES the Secretary-General to sign it.

CM/Dec.540 (LXXII) Rev.1

**DECISION ON THE DRAFT CONVENTIONS OF EXTRADITION AND ON
MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE - CM/2152 (LXXII) Add.1**

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report and the Draft Conventions on Extradition and on Mutual Legal Assistance submitted by the Republic of Uganda;
2. RECOMMENDS that the Draft Conventions be referred to all Member States for appropriate consultations and comments and observations, if any;
3. REQUESTS the Secretary-General to convene a meeting of all Member States at Experts and Ministerial levels to consider the Draft Conventions and, to this end, authorizes expenditure.
4. FURTHER REQUESTS the Secretary-General to report thereafter to the Seventy-fourth Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers.

DECISION ON THE OBSERVANCE OF THE OLYMPIC TRUCE IN AFRICA

Council:

1. STRESSES the importance of International Olympic Committee's initiative to promote peace, and its technical and humanitarian assistance to the sports movement in Africa;
2. STRONGLY DEPLORES the persistence of armed conflicts which mainly affect the women, children and youth of Africa;
3. RECALLS that by declaring the Year 2000 as a Year of peace, security and solidarity in Africa, the Assembly of Heads of State and Government invited Member States to commit themselves to the peaceful settlement of armed conflicts in Africa by end of the year 2000;
4. URGES Member States and all the parties to the conflict to observe the Olympic Truce during the XXVIIth Olympic Games to be held in Sydney, Australia from 15 September to 1 October 2000, and also to ensure that the Olympic Truce becomes an instrument of peace, dialogue and reconciliation in conflict zones;
5. URGES Member States to take the initiative to observe the Olympic Truce, individually and collectively, and endeavor in accordance with the objectives and principles of the Charters of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations, to settle all disputes through peaceful and diplomatic means;
6. REQUESTS the Secretary-General to promote the observance of the Olympic Truce in all Member States and to cooperate closely with the United Nations Organization and the International Olympic Committee to achieve this objective.

DECISION ON THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN "AFRICA'S CHILDREN, AFRICA'S FUTURE"

Council:

1. URGES Member States to support the Global Partnership for Children, to ensure Africa's substantive input into the UN General Assembly Special Session on Children deliberations in 2001;
2. FURTHER URGES Member States to attend the Special Session on Children at the highest level;
3. REQUESTS Member States to designate representatives to the Preparatory process of the Special Session, to ensure the articulation of a visionary but feasible agenda for African Children over the next decade;
4. FURTHER REQUESTS the Secretariat to develop an African common position, in consultation with relevant International and African institutions as well as civil society organizations, to be tabled before the UN General Assembly Special Session on Children; such a common position should be considered by the OAU Labour and Social Affairs Commission together with the African Component of the Global Partnership for Children at its next Session.

**DECISION ON THE REPORT ON THE RATIONAL AND OPTIMAL USE OF
REGIONAL TRAINING AND CAPACITY-BUILDING CENTRES IN AFRICA
CM/2152 (LXXII) ADD.3)**

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report;
2. RECOGNIZES the importance and role of the Regional Centres in manpower training in Africa;
3. FURTHER RECOGNIZES the fact that there is genuine problem concerning those centres and NOTES WITH CONCERN the poor State of affairs of these training centres, and ACKNOWLEDGES that there is a need to provide them with technical support as well as financial and human resources to enable them to remain viable;
4. REQUESTS the General Secretariat of the OAU to take an inventory and carry out an evaluation of all the training centres in the Continent, and come up with measures with a view to their rehabilitation, while indicating the assistance that the General Secretariat can provide in this regard;
5. FURTHER REQUESTS the Secretary General to submit an appropriate report on this issue to the 74th Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers.

DECISION ON DEVELOPMENTS IN ZIMBABWE

Council:

1. RECALLS AND REAFFIRMS its statement issued in Tripoli on 2 June 2000 concerning developments in Zimbabwe, in particular those related to the resolution of the land question in that country;
2. WELCOMES the reports given by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Zimbabwe and the Secretary-General of the OAU on the holding of democratic elections in Zimbabwe from 24-25 June 2000;
3. EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION to the OAU Observer Team to those elections for its commendable work;
4. REGARDS the outcome, including the massive turnout of the voters, as a true, democratic reflection of the will of the people of Zimbabwe;
5. COMMENDS all the people of Zimbabwe for the peaceful and orderly manner in which they exercised their democratic right in the elections;
6. DEPLORES the attempts by some foreign interests, through the massive injection of resources and manipulation of the media, to interfere in and influence the outcome of the elections, as a threat to national independence;
7. CONSIDERS that the resolution of the land question is central to the long-term stability and development of Zimbabwe and underlines the special responsibility of the United Kingdom in this regard;
8. CALLS UPON the United Kingdom to honour its obligations in accordance with the Lancaster House Agreement to provide the financial resources necessary for the resolution of the land question in Zimbabwe for the benefit of all stakeholders and in the interest of peace, justice and equality.
9. WELCOMES and ENCOURAGES the efforts of those countries seeking to promote dialogue and achieve agreement between Zimbabwe and the United Kingdom on the land issue.

DECISION ON THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF VOLUNTEERS

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE WITH SATISFACTION of the presentation made by the delegation of Mali on the on-going activities within respective African countries in preparation for the observance of the International Year of Volunteers and ENCOURAGES all Member States to continue their efforts, especially in establishing National IYV Committees and preparing National Action Plans;
2. CALLS UPON all Member States to take advantage of the International Year of Volunteers to promote volunteering by helping raise public awareness about the value of volunteering and establishing an enabling environment for voluntary action;
3. FURTHER ENCOURAGES non-governmental organizations and the private sector to take all possible measures to promote voluntary action, particularly at local level and in cooperation with, inter-alia, local authorities, community leaders, media, academia.

DECISION ON CANDIDATURES COUNCIL,

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report;
2. APPROVES the recommendation contained in paragraph 16 A and paragraph 17 of the Report;
3. DECIDES to endorse the following candidatures:
 - a) Ambassador Ahmed T. Khalil from Egypt for membership of the United Nations Human Rights Committee for the period 2001 – 2004 at the elections which will be held in September 2000, in New York;
 - b) Arab Republic of Egypt to the membership of the Council of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency for the floating seat allocated to the African Group for the period 2000-2002 during the elections due to be held in September, 2000, in Vienna;
 - c) Professor Maurice Glele Ahanhanzo, from Benin, for membership of the United Nations Human Rights Committee for the period 2001 – 2004 at the election which will be held in September 2000, in New York;
 - d) Ambassador Maxim-Leopold Zollner de Medeiros, from Benin, for the post of Director General of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, during the election which will be held during the Fifty-fifth Session of the General Assembly in New York;
 - e) Republic of South Africa as member of the ECOSOC for the period beginning January 2001;
 - f) Mr. Rajsoomer Lallah, from Mauritius for re-election to the United Nations Human Rights Committee for the period 2001 – 2004 during the elections to be held in New York, in September 2000;
 - g) Republic of the Sudan for one of the non-Permanent seats on the United Nations Security Council for the period 2001 – 2002 in conformity with the recommendation of the Committee on Candidatures and of the African Group in New York;
 - h) Mr. V. Poonosamy from Mauritius for the post of President of the Council of International Civil Aviation Organization during the elections to be held in 2001.

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, and

Having examined the reports of the Secretary-General on implementation of this Treaty, as well as the decision and regulations adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government and the Council of Ministers of the OAU held in Algiers, Algeria in July, 1999,

HEREBY RULES:

1. Implementation of the Decision and Regulations of AEC

a) Member States are requested to:

- i) implement the decisions of AEC and ensure that their national legislations reflect and take due account of the decisions of AEC;
- ii) assign to specific Ministers the task of continental integration with a view to coordinating and harmonizing policies and programmes in this sector; and
- iii) ensure that the programmes and activities of the RECs to which they belong are consistent with the objectives of the Abuja Treaty.

b) Member States are commended for the efforts and progress made by the Common Market of East and Southern Africa (COMESA) as well as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) in the area of trade liberalization especially in meeting the target dates for establishment of free trade areas and monetary zones.

2. Cooperation between the AEC and the RECs

a) The RECs which have not yet done so are requested to review their constituent text in the light of the Abuja Treaty;

b) The RECs are also requested to:

- i) place their programmes and activities within the framework of continental integration; and
- ii) invite the AEC to their meetings.

c) The AEC and RECs should harmonize and coordinate their programmes, and designate a focal point for each sector of activity;

- d) The AEC and the RECs, as well as the ADB and ECA should also intensify and pool their efforts for the mobilization of extra-budgetary resources to support integration programmes;
- e) The General Secretariat should take necessary measures to speed up implementation of the programme for harmonization of the REC protocols and to popularize the Abuja Treaty and the constituent texts of the RECs;
- f) A mechanism should be established for the Chairmen of the Councils of Ministers of the RECs to meet regularly, preceded by the meeting of the Committee of Secretariat Officials, with a view to promoting programme coordination among the RECs.

3. Cooperation among the RECs

The RECs are requested to:

- i) invite one another to their meetings; and
- ii) exchange their programmes and expertise, with the assistance of the AEC General Secretariat.

4. Free Movement of Persons

Each Member State is requested to exempt from visa requirements officials of the OAU/AEC General Secretariat and of the Regional Economic Communities on mission and holding the travel documents of these institutions, and to submit a report on this matter to the Fourth Session of the Economic and Social Commission (ECOSOC) of the African Economic Community (AEC) in conformity with point 5 of Decision AHG/OAU/AEC/Dec.1 (II) adopted in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, by the Second Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the AEC.

5. Cooperation in the Area of Energy

The General Secretariat should take appropriate steps to organise a meeting of Ministers responsible for Energy in order to adopt the statutes of the African Energy Commission and the requisite instruments for the early establishment of the Commission.

6. International Negotiations and Initiatives

- a) The Fourth Regular Session of the AEC/ECOSOC is called upon to undertake an assessment of the major international negotiations with a view to facilitating effective implementation of the conclusions and agreements concluded;

b) Note is taken of the arrangement toward convening the China-Africa Forum in Beijing in October 2000; and the General Secretariat should liaise with all Member States and RECs with a view to organising a preparatory meeting in Beijing for the formulation of a draft joint declaration and programme of action.

7. Participation of Member States in Meetings

Member States are urged to ensure the effective participation of their responsible Ministers in the Third Meeting of the AEC Committee of Ministers of Trade, the Fourth Session of AEC/ECOSOC, the Conference of Ministers responsible for Energy and in the preparatory meeting for the Third UN Conference on the LDCs.

8. Cooperation in the Area of Trade

The Third Meeting of the AEC Specialised Committee of Ministers of Trade, Customs and Immigration scheduled for 11 – 15 September 2000, in Cairo, Egypt, is requested to:

- a) Take a decision on the date and venue of the 8th All-Africa Trade Fair, as well as on other preparatory arrangements so as to facilitate successful organization of the Fair;
- b) Give special consideration to the impact of globalization, the new ACP-EU Partnership Agreement and the US-Africa Trade and Development Act on trade liberalization and regional integration in the continent.

Done in Lome, Togo, 09 July, 2000

Kokou Joseph KOFFIGOH

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Republic of Togo

Chairman of Council