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**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**  
**Eleventh Ordinary Council**  
**25 – 29 June, 2007**  
**Accra, GHANA**

EX.CL/Dec.348 - 377(XI)  
EX.CL/Decl.1(XI)



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**DECISION ON THE HARMONIZATION OF THE REMUNERATION  
POLICY OF THE COMMISSION  
DOC. EX.CL/329 (XI)**

**The Executive Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the study on the Harmonization of the Remuneration Policy of the Commission;
2. **APPROVES and AUTHORIZES** the Commission to charge to arrears of contributions the financial implications of the proposed adjustments to the salary scale amounting to US\$1,892,592.00;
3. **REQUESTS** the Commission to undertake a complementary study on the proposal of the consultants to set the salary scale at 75% of that of the United Nations and, identify the problems and challenges that the Commission might face by adopting such alignment;
4. **AUTHORIZES** the Commission to extend the study on salaries to other organizations, including those outside the African continent and to provide up-dated data to the Member States;
5. **REQUESTS** the Commission to introduce, as soon as possible, a new Performance Appraisal System and link pay to performance;
6. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to complete the study on the harmonization of the remuneration policy by the end of 2008 and to resubmit the other recommendations contained in the report for further consideration by the PRC. The entire process should interface in the above recommendations with the outcome of the institutional audit, if need be.

**DECISION ON THE REVIEW OF THE AU SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM**  
**DOC. EX.CL/330 (XI)**

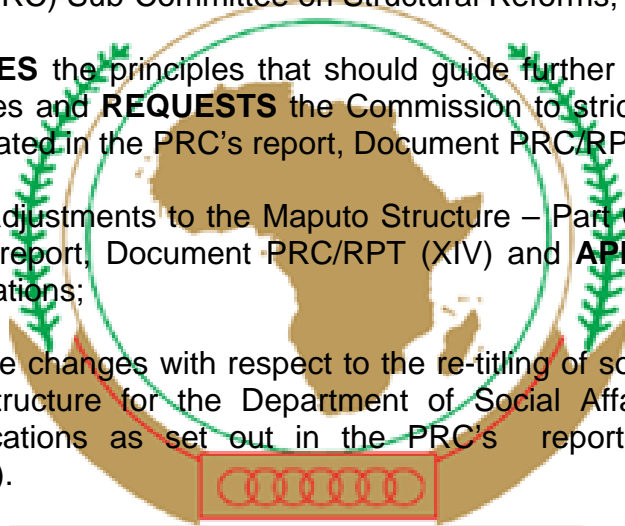
**The Executive Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the report on the Review of the AU Social Security System;
2. **RECOGNIZES** the urgent need to improve the conditions of service of staff of the Commission and **REITERATES** its earlier decision to achieve this goal;
3. **DECIDES** to defer the consideration of the report on the review of the Social Security System in order to enable the Member States to undertake further consultations on the matter in view of its technical nature and its complexity;
4. **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to submit to the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) concrete recommendations on the structure, mandate and financial implications of the proposed Fund;
5. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the PRC to re-examine the report and to submit recommendations thereon to the next Ordinary Session of Council scheduled for January 2008.

**DECISION ON THE ADJUSTMENTS TO THE MAPUTO STRUCTURE**  
**PART C – VOLUME II – DOC. EX.CL/331(XI)**

**The Executive Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the report of the Permanent Representatives' Committee's (PRC) Sub-Committee on Structural Reforms;
2. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the principles that should guide further adjustments to the Structures and **REQUESTS** the Commission to strictly abide by them as elaborated in the PRC's report, Document PRC/RPT (XIV);
3. **ADOPTS** the adjustments to the Maputo Structure – Part C as set out in the PRC's report, Document PRC/RPT (XIV) and **APPROVES** its financial implications;
4. **APPROVES** the changes with respect to the re-titling of some posts in the Maputo Structure for the Department of Social Affairs, without financial implications as set out in the PRC's report, Document PRC/RPT (XIV).



**DECISION ON THE STRUCTURE OF THE AFRICAN COURT  
ON HUMAN AND PEOPLE'S RIGHTS - DOC. EX.CL/331 (XI)**

**The Executive Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the report on the Structure of the African Court on Human and People's Rights (AfCHPR);
2. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the principles that should guide further adjustments to the structure and **REQUESTS** the Court to strictly abide by them as elaborated in the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) 's report, Document PRC/RPT(XIV);
3. **AUTHORIZES** the AfCHPR to put in place the following Structure:
  - i. Office of the President
  - ii. Office of the Registrar
  - The Registrar
  - Legal Matters
  - Linguistic Matters
  - Information, Communication and Technology
  - Protocol Services
  - Library and Documentation- Archives, Indexing and Distribution
  - Finance and Accounting
  - Human Resource Management
  - Typing and Reproduction
  - General Assistance
4. **APPROVES** a staff complement of forty six (46) as per the PRC's report Document PRC/RPT (XIV) and Council's decision EX.CL/331(XI). This staff complement does not include the eleven (11) Judges who are Elected Officials;
5. **REQUESTS** the AfCHPR, in collaboration with the Commission to start immediately the recruitment exercise, taking into consideration the AU recruitment criteria including quota, gender, regional representation and gradually fill the approved positions on the basis of clear programming;
6. **APPROVES** the Conditions of Service for Members of the AfCHPR as well as Staff of the Registry as per the PRC's report, Document PRC/RPT (XIV) as read together with the African Union legal instruments pertaining to statutory benefits granted to AU Staff on the regular establishment.



**DECISION ON THE REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE OAU/AU TREATIES**  
**DOC. EX.CL/339(XI)**

**The Executive Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the Status of the OAU/AU Treaties;
2. **COMMENDS** the Chairperson of the Commission for the initiative and efforts aimed at encouraging Member States to become State Parties to the OAU/AU Treaties;
3. **APPEALS** to Member States to prioritize and accelerate the signing and ratification/accession to OAU/AU treaties; **REQUESTS** the Commission with the assistance of Member States, to harmonise the texts in the different official languages;
4. **REQUESTS** Member States to submit to the Commission their ratification/accession procedures to treaties to enable the Commission finalize implementation of the previous decision of the Executive Council on harmonization of ratification procedures within Member States;
5. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to expedite the implementation of the previous decisions of Council, particularly on the review of OAU/AU Treaties including outdated treaties, especially those that date back as far as the 1960s which have not entered into force;
6. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to expedite resolving the inconsistency in various linguistic texts and to appoint an Arabic speaking legal expert to assist in this regard.

**DECISION ON THE SITUATION OF REFUGEES, RETURNEES  
AND DISPLACED PERSONS IN AFRICA – DOC. EX.CL/340 (XI)**

**The Executive Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the Situation of Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons in Africa;
2. **EXPRESSES GRAVE CONCERN** over the persistent nature of forced population displacements on the Continent, and its negative impact on the lives of the persons affected; and **REAFFIRMS** the need for Member States to address the root causes as a durable solution to forced displacements;
3. **CALLS ON** the International community to increase its assistance to victims of forced displacements, in both host and home countries, particularly within the context of post-conflict reconstruction with a view to ensuring their long-term interaction;
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to continue efforts to reactivate the coordination committee on Assistance and Protection to Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons, to finalize the terms of reference for its working group; to submit same for validation to the office of the Legal Counsel and for approval at the next Session of Council;
5. **WELCOMES** the preparatory initiatives taken by the Task Force for the Special Summit of Heads of State and Government on forced displacements in Africa, scheduled to take place in 2008 and **CALLS UPON** the Task Force to continue the preparation for the successful outcome of the Special Summit;
6. **TAKES NOTE** of the concept paper on the African Union's policy on access to post-primary education for victims of forced displacements and **REQUESTS** the Commission to submit same for consideration by the Conference of Ministers of Education, scheduled in September 2007 in South Africa, prior to adoption by the Executive Council.

**DECISION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGENDA OF THE  
AFRICAN UNION ON FREE MOVEMENT IN AFRICA - DOC.EX.CL/341(XI)**

**The Executive Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the Implementation of the Agenda of the African Union on Free Movement in Africa;
2. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** of the symbolic launching of the African Union Diplomatic and Service Passports, as part of the implementation of Decision EX.CL/Dec.337 (X) adopted by the Executive Council in January 2007;
3. **UNDERScores** the need to de-link the issue of the African Union Diplomatic Passport from that of free movement in Africa;
4. **CALLS ON** the Commission to continue consultations with Member States on the African Union Diplomatic Passport;
5. **DECIDES** to convene a Forum bringing together African officials at national, regional and continental levels, and the PRC, with a view to holding such consultations and making recommendations on issues of common interest that would facilitate free movement in Africa.

**DECISION ON AFRICA-EUROPEAN UNION DIALOGUE - DOC. EX.CL/342 (XI)**

**The Executive Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on Africa-European Union (EU) Dialogue;
2. **WELCOMES** the consultations undertaken with various stakeholders leading to the finalization of the outline for the Joint Africa-EU Strategy;
3. **ADOPTS** the Outline for the Joint Africa-EU Strategy as a basis for the elaboration of a fully-fledged Joint Strategy and Action Plan to be adopted at the December, 2007 Lisbon Africa-Europe Summit;
4. **URGES** the Africa-EU Ministerial Troika and the Experts to expedite the elaboration of the Joint Strategy and Action Plan as part of Lisbon Summit documentation;
5. **WELCOMES** progress made in preparations for the Africa-EU Summit to be held in Portugal, in December 2007, and **NOTES** that all African countries and the African Union (AU) Organs would be invited without conditions;
6. **URGES** all African Countries and the AU Organs to fully participate in the Summit;
7. **ENDORSES** the convening of a joint ministerial meeting to prepare adequately for the Lisbon Summit and **WELCOMES** in this regard the offer by the Arab Republic of Egypt to host the meeting in November 2007;
8. **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to ensure that the Agenda of the Summit takes into account Africa's development needs including agriculture and food security;
9. **SUPPORTS** the forthcoming launching of the Africa-EU Partnership on Infrastructure and **REQUESTS** the Commission to take all necessary measures to ensure participation of African stakeholders at this important event.

**DECISION ON ASSESSING AFRICA'S PROGRESS TOWARDS THE  
MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGs) – DOC. EX.CL/332 (XI)**

**The Executive Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the report on Assessing Africa's Progress Towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);
2. **CALLS UPON** the Commission, in collaboration with the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the African Development Bank (AfDB) to continue monitoring the implementation of the MDGs;
3. **FURTHER CALLS UPON** all Member States to continue their efforts towards the attainment of the MDGs by 2015;
4. **MANDATES** the Commission, the RECs, ECA and AfDB to strengthen the capacity of national statistical institutions, as well as other African statistics organizations in the development of statistics in Africa;
5. **REQUESTS** the Commission to report on the progress made on the assessment of the MDGs to the Assembly at least once a year, in collaboration with the RECs, ECA and AfDB.

**DECISION ON THE PROTOCOL ON RELATIONS BETWEEN THE AFRICAN UNION AND THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES (RECS)**  
**DOC. EX.CL/348 (XI)**

The Executive Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the Protocol on Relations between the African Union and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs);
2. **ADOPTS** the Protocol and recommends its endorsement by the Assembly;
3. **RECOMMENDS** that the Assembly authorizes the Chairperson of the Commission to sign the Protocol on behalf of the Commission of the African Union.



**DECISION ON THE FIRST AFRICAN UNION CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS  
RESPONSIBLE FOR MARITIME TRANSPORT - DOC. EX.CL/349 (XI)**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the report on the First African Union Conference of Ministers Responsible for Maritime Transport;
2. **ENDORSES** the Abuja Declaration and Plan of Action on Maritime Transport in Africa;
3. **REQUESTS** the Commission, in collaboration with the RECs, specialised institutions, Member States and other stakeholders to take all the necessary measures to ensure the implementation of the Action Plan for the development of the maritime transport sub-sector in the continent;
4. **URGES** the Commission to particularly expedite the development of a continental policy, and a legal and institutional framework for coordinating the development of the maritime transport industry;
5. **APPEALS** to the International Maritime Organisation (IMO), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA); the African Development Bank (AfDB), the European Union and other development partners to support the implementation of the Plan of Action of the African Union on maritime transport;
6. **REQUESTS** the Commission to submit periodic reports on the implementation of this Decision to the Executive Council.

**DECISION ON THE THIRD AFRICAN UNION CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS  
RESPONSIBLE FOR AIR TRANSPORT - DOC. EX.CL/350 (XI)**

**The Executive Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the report on the Third African Union Conference of Ministers Responsible for Air Transport;
2. **ENDORSES** the Resolution on entrusting the functions of the Executing Agency of the 1999 Yamoussoukro Decision to the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC);
3. **ALSO ENDORSES** the Addis Ababa Declaration on Civil Aviation Security;
4. **FURTHER ENDORSES** the 2007 – 2010 Air Transport Plan of Action and **URGES** Member States to provide the necessary support to AFCAC including fulfilling all their financial obligations in order to enable it to accomplish its objectives;
5. **REQUESTS** the Commission to oversee the implementation of the Resolution on entrusting the functions of the Executing Agency to AFCAC as soon as possible as well as ensure harmonious implementation of the Libreville (2006) and Addis Ababa (2007) Plans of Action for the air transport sub-sector in Africa;
6. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to complete, as a matter of urgency, the harmonisation of air transport competition rules, elaboration of a continental dispute settlement mechanism and conduct an evaluation of the implementation of the 1999 Yamoussoukro Decision;
7. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission, in collaboration with the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), Member States and other stakeholders to finalise the preparation of a Common African Position on Negotiation of Air Service Agreements with the European Union countries and other Third Countries;
8. **APPEALS** to the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the European Union and other development partners to support the implementation of the 2007 – 2010 Air Transport Plan of Action of the African Union;
9. **REQUESTS** the Commission to submit periodic reports on the implementation of this Decision to the Executive Council.



**DECISION ON THE FIRST SESSION OF THE AFRICAN UNION CONFERENCE  
OF MINISTERS OF SPORTS - DOC. EX.CL/353 (XI)**

**The Executive Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the First Session of the African Union Conference of Ministers of Sports;
2. **COMMENDS** the Ministers for providing leadership to development of sport as contained in the Strategic Plan of the Commission; in recognition of the role of sport as a vehicle for achieving the Millennium Development Goals; and in implementing the Declaration of the 8<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the Union on the International Year of African Football (IYoAF), 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Confederation of African Football and ushering in the 2010 World Cup as an African event;
3. **WELCOMES** the hosting by Algeria of the 9<sup>th</sup> All Africa Games to be followed by the Africa-Asia Games in Algiers, Algeria, in July 2008;
4. **RECOGNISES** the role that sport plays in the socio-economic development, and as a vehicle for peace building and regional integration;
5. **EXPRESSES** concern about the limited provisions for the inclusion of sport and physical education in educational curricula at all levels in educational institutions, including those for women and girls, persons with disabilities and for youths in conflict and post conflict situations, and refugees and displaced persons;
6. **URGES** Member States, the African Sport Federations and International Sport Federations to keep the development of sport on the Continent high on the agenda of their national development plans, in conformity with previous commitments at all levels; and **ALSO URGES** Member States to continue cooperating with the Commission in strategizing for the popularization of all sport in Africa;
7. **CALLS** for the institutionalization of the Conference of Ministers of Sport in line with the decision on the Specialized Technical Committees;
8. **MANDATES** the Bureau of the Conference of Ministers of Sport to oversee the implementation of the activities called for in the Addis Ababa Declaration of 8 June 2007;
9. **CALLS UPON** Member States to implement activities programmed to roll over to 2010, to popularize the International Year of African Football and the 2010 FIFA World Cup African Legacy Programme;

**10. REQUESTS** the Commission to develop the African Union Sport Policy Framework and report to the ordinary session of Council scheduled for July 2008;

**11. ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to coordinate the work of the Committee commissioned to study the restructuring of the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa, as well as the relations between Governments, National Sport Federations and International Sport Federations, and report to the ordinary session of Council scheduled for July 2008.



**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE THIRD SESSION OF THE AU  
CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF HEALTH, JOHANNESBURG,  
SOUTH AFRICA, 9 – 13 APRIL, 2007 – DOC.EX.CL/354 (XI)**

**The Executive Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Third Session of the AU Conference of Ministers of Health;
2. **REAFFIRMS** the importance of health in the promotion of socio-economic development in Africa;
3. **ENDORSES** the Johannesburg Declaration of the Third Session of the AU Conference of Ministers of Health<sup>1</sup>;
4. **ALSO ENDORSES** the Africa Health Strategy as a framework within which Member States should address the health challenges facing the continent;
5. **FURTHER ENDORSES**
  - a) The Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa;
  - b) The Plan of Action on Violence Prevention in Africa;
  - c) The Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism for the Outcomes of the May 2006 Abuja Special Summit on HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria.
6. **URGES** Member States, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, to implement these commitments and report to the Commission;
7. **REQUESTS** the Commission in collaboration with Regional Economic Communities and other partners, to follow-up and coordinate the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report as well as all the documents adopted at the Conference;
8. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to submit a status report regularly on the implementation of the outcomes and recommendations of the Conference to Council.

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<sup>1</sup> Reservations entered by the Republic of Egypt and Uganda

**DECISION ON THE ORGANIZATION OF A JOINT AFRICAN UNION  
COMMISSION AND ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF FINANCE, PLANNING  
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - DOC. EX.CL/335 (XI)**

**The Executive Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the 40<sup>th</sup> Session UN-ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development;
2. **RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.73 (V) adopted by the Fifth Ordinary Session of the Assembly in Sirte, Libya in July 2005 to institutionalize the organization, on annual basis, of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development;
3. **FURTHER RECALLS** Decision Assembly /AU/DEC.140 (VII) adopted by the Assembly in Banjul, The Gambia, in July 2006 on the strengthening the Commission, Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the African Development Bank (AfDB) partnership;
4. **REITERATES** its support to the proposal by the AU Conference of African Ministers of Economy and Finance (CAMEF II) in Yaounde, Cameroon, in November 2006 (AU/CAMEF/Rpt (II) to organize a joint meeting of AU-ECA Annual Conference;
5. **SUPPORTS** the Ministerial Statement and the resolutions of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning, and Economic Development held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2007, in particular Resolution 853 (XL) to organize a Joint Annual AU/ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development;
6. **MANDATES** the Commission and ECA to organize jointly, beginning in 2008, the Conference of the African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development and submit its report to the Council.

**DECISION ON AFRO-ARAB COOPERATION - DOC. EX.CL/356 (XI)**

**The Executive Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on Afro-Arab Cooperation;
2. **COMMENDS** the Commission and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States for their timely initiative to transform the Afro-Arab Cultural Institute in Bamako, Mali, to an Afro-Arab Institute for Culture and Strategic Studies (AAICSS);
3. **WELCOMES** the role to be played by the AAICSS in addressing strategic issues and shaping the future direction of Afro-Arab Cooperation on the basis of research;
4. **URGES** the parties to expedite the transformation process of the Afro-Arab Cultural Institute to the AAICSS;
5. **CONGRATULATES** the Chairperson of the Commission and the Secretary General the League of Arab States for concluding the General Agreement on Cooperation between the African Union and the League of Arab States signed in 2007;
6. **ENDORSES** the Agreement, and **CALLS UPON** the Chairperson of the Commission and the Secretary General of the League of Arab States to take all necessary measures to ensure successful implementation of the provisions of the Agreement.

**DECISION ON WTO NEGOTIATIONS – DOC.EX.CL/359 (XI)****The Executive Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on World Trade Organization (WTO) negotiations;
2. **WELCOMES** the resumption of the negotiations and **CALLS** on the WTO members to display the political will and the flexibility in negotiating positions that are necessary to bring the negotiations to a successful conclusion with the development dimensions at the core as agreed in Doha;
3. **COMMENDS** the AU Ministers of Trade and the African Group in Geneva for their continued efforts in articulating the concerns and interests of Africa in the WTO negotiations;
4. **RECOGNISES** the relevance of the Hong Kong WTO decision on providing aid for trade to developing countries in order to enable them to benefit meaningfully from the trade liberalization agenda of the WTO;
5. **CALLS ON** AU Member States to adopt appropriate measures to take full advantage of the flexibilities and amendments in the Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) Agreement, including the signing of the Protocol that will make these amendments effective in accordance with the WTO Agreement;
6. **URGES** AU Member States and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to establish appropriate mechanisms and structures for operationalizing and deriving maximum benefits from the Aid for Trade Initiative;
7. **FURTHER URGES** the EU and other development partners to take concrete steps for the early operationalisation of the Aid for Trade initiative;
8. **REQUESTS** United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the African Development Bank (AfDB), to provide adequate support to AU Member States and RECs for the effective design of their Aid for Trade programmes.

**DECISION ON THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND PALESTINE**  
**DOC.EX.CL/360 (XI)**

**The Executive Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the Situation in the Middle East and Palestine;
2. **RECALLS** all relevant Resolutions and Decisions adopted by the OAU/AU on the situation in Palestine and the Middle East;
3. **REITERATES** its continued full support to and solidarity with the Palestinian people and the Authority of the Palestine Liberation Organization the sole representative in their just and legitimate struggle for the exercise of their inalienable national rights including their right to self-determination, return to their land, recovery of their properties and the establishment of an independent State on their national soil with Al-Quds as its capital in accordance with the principle of international law and all the UN resolutions and other pertinent resolutions of the OAU/AU;
4. **REAFFIRMS ITS SUPPORT** for the peaceful solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in accordance with the principles of international law, all pertinent resolutions of the UN Security Council and General Assembly and the Arab Peace Initiative to end the Israeli occupation that began on 5 June 1967, with the achievement of the vision of two States, Israel and an independent, sovereign and territorially contiguous Palestine, living side by side, in peace and security;
5. **CALLS UPON** the United Nations to take concrete measures to protect the people of Palestine by providing international protection forces to the Occupied Palestinian Territories and to compel Israel to allow the UN fact-finding missions charged with investigating war crimes and atrocities perpetrated against Palestinian Peoples to discharge its duties within the Occupied Territories;
6. **EXPRESSES GRAVE CONCERN** over the deterioration of the economic, social and health conditions resulting from continued Israeli occupation, siege, restriction of movement of goods and persons;
7. **STRONGLY CONDEMNS** the Israeli repressive measures, aggressions and all acts perpetrated by Israel against harmless innocent people; the policies of assassinations; ongoing invasions in the cities; villages and Palestinian camps; as well as the heinous crimes and massacres, especially the latest atrocious assault committed by the Israeli forces on 17 May over different public institutions in the Gaza strip; and **URGES** the Israeli Government to put an end to all these indiscriminate measures and retaliatory actions that violate International Law and the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949;

8. **STRONGLY CONDEMNNS** the continued Israeli policy of arresting and detaining the Palestinians, especially the kidnapping and detention without trial of Ministers, Members of the Legislative Council and the Municipal Council, which constitute a grave violation of International Humanitarian Law;
9. **STRONGLY CONDEMNNS** the construction by Israel of the Separation Wall and the expansion of the Colonial Settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, around Al-Quds town, especially the recent Israeli decision to build 20000 housing units which violate International Humanitarian Law, in particular the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949, and **URGES** Israel to comply with the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice and General Assembly Decision ES-10/15;
10. **CALLS UPON** the International Community and the Members of the Quartet Committee to spare no efforts to reinvigorate the negotiations and to salvage the peace process, and **EXPRESSES** the AU support for the organization of an International Peace Conference on the Middle East conflict;
11. **CONSIDERS** the establishment of the government of Palestinian National Unity as a symbol of the unity of the Palestinian people in face of Israeli occupation; and **EXPRESSES ITS GRAVE CONCERN** over the deteriorating situation between the two main components of the Government of National Unity, namely, Fatah and Hamas, resulting in the dissolution of the Government;
12. **AFFIRMS** that such a situation is detrimental to the cause of the Palestinian people, and **REMINDS** the Palestinian factions that their unity is the only guarantee to preserve their gains and move towards their national objectives;
13. **SUPPORTS** the decision related to the Arab Peace Initiative adopted in Beirut in 2002 and reaffirmed at the last Arab Summit in Riyadh and regard it as an important and appropriate framework to put an end to the conflict in the Middle East and as the way to a just, comprehensive and durable solution on all the fronts;
14. **URGES** the Government of Israel to accept the Arab Peace Initiative as an Arab effort towards putting an end to the conflict in the Middle East, and also providing a chance for mutual recognition between Israel and Arab countries;
15. **CALLS UPON** the International Community to lift the siege, boycott and blockade against the Government so as to ease the difficult living conditions of Palestinian People which stirs up tension and violence;
16. **EXPRESSES GRAVE CONCERN** regarding the tension and violence in Lebanon, and **CALLS UPON** all Lebanese parties to resolve their differences through negotiations;



**17. URGES** the Government of Israel to put an end to its occupation of the Syrian Golan Heights and all Arab Territories occupied during the June 1967 war in accordance with the relevant UN Security Council resolutions, including Resolutions No. 242 and 338.



**DECISION ON THE AFRICAN COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS  
ON THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE OF THE CHILD - DOC. EX.CL/338 (XI)**

**The Executive Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Sessions of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child;
2. **COMMENDS** the Committee for its achievement in setting up a strong basis for its effective operation by adopting the required procedural and framework documents and **REQUESTS** that the Committee start considering the reports already received from State Parties;
3. **EXPRESSES** concern on the deteriorating situation of children on the continent and **REITERATES** the need to make Africa a place fit for children to develop and prosper;
4. **URGES** Member States which have not yet ratified the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child to expedite the ratification process;
5. **ALSO URGES** Member States to keep children's issues high on the agenda of their national development policies and programmes, in conformity with the provisions of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child and the Plan of Action on Children and provide the necessary budget for their implementation;
6. **CALLS ON** the Committee to play an active role in the convening of the Second Pan-African Forum on Children which will be held in September 2007 to assess achievements made in the implementation of the 2001 Plan of Action on Children (Africa Fit for Children);
7. **ALSO URGES** Member States to fill in the questionnaire already forwarded to them on the implementation of the 2001 Plan of Action on Children and return it to the Commission before the set deadline;
8. **APPEALS** to Member States to provide moral, technical and financial support to Members of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child in carrying out their mandate;
9. **REQUESTS** the Commission to urgently operationalise the Secretariat of the Committee to enable it function more effectively.
10. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to submit the outcome of the Second Pan- African Forum on Children to the UN General Assembly Special Session on Children to be held in December 2007 as Africa's position, and report back to the Executive Council.

**DECISION ON THE STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS OF ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION – DOC. EX.CL/358 (XI)**

**The Executive Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Commission on the Status of Negotiations of Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) with the European Union (EU);
2. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** of the Decision of the 85<sup>th</sup> Session of the ACP Council of Ministers, held in Brussels on 21 – 24 May 2007, on the EPA Negotiations;
3. **RECALLS** the Declaration on EPA that was adopted by the Assembly of the African Union at its 8<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session, held in Addis Ababa in January 2007;
4. **EXPRESSES DEEP CONCERN** at the slow progress in the EPAs negotiations on the development dimension, such as additional resources for meeting adjustment costs and building and strengthening of the production and supply capacities, that are vital to making EPAs effective instruments for the achievement of sustainable economic growth and eradication of poverty in African countries;
5. **WELCOMES** the political commitment of EU Member States to ensure that EPAs will serve as development instruments for ACP countries;
6. **CALLS ON** the European Commission to reflect in their negotiating positions the political commitment of EU Member States to make EPAs instruments of development;
7. **RECOMMENDS** that the Chairperson of the African Union and/or Chairperson of the Commission engage the political leadership of the European Union at the highest level on the concerns and difficulties of African countries in the EPA negotiations;
8. **URGES** the EU to consider putting in place transitional measures that will safeguard the continued entry of African exports to the EU market beyond December 2007, given the low likelihood of satisfactorily addressing all outstanding EPA issues as well as the impossibility of completing EPA ratification process by the end of 2007;
9. **REQUESTS** the Commission and the African negotiating RECs/Regional Groups to prepare and submit for the consideration of the AU Ministers of Trade and other policy organs of the AU a comprehensive report on the progress, problems and the way forward in trade and economic cooperation with the EU.

**DECISION ON THE MANAGEMENT OF AFRICA'S NATURAL RESOURCES**  
**DOC. EX.CL/356 (XI)**

**The Executive Council:**

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1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the African Development Bank (AfDB) on the "2007 Big Table" on the theme of Africa's natural resources.
  2. **AFFIRMS** its strong commitment to Africa's ownership of its natural resources and to the efficient and prudent management of these resources for the achievement of sustainable development with a strong emphasis on local value addition;
  3. **REQUESTS** the Commission, in collaboration with ECA and AfDB to organize a meeting of Ministers responsible for Natural Resources in Member States to reflect on major issues pertaining to the exploitation and management of African natural resources as a catalyst for development, and to submit a report to the next Ordinary Session of the Council scheduled for January 2008.

**DECISION ON THE POSITION OF EXECUTIVE SECRETARY FOR THE UNITED  
NATIONS CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION (UNCCD)  
DOC.PRC/RPT (XIV)**

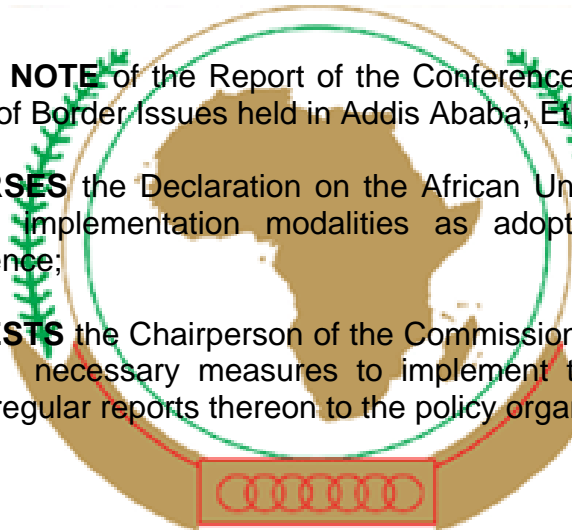
**The Executive Council:**

1. **RECOGNIZES** the importance of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) for the livelihoods of millions of Africans affected by drought and desertification;
2. **RECALLS** the singular importance of the Convention for the development of Africa;
3. **TAKES NOTE** of the end of the term of office of the current Executive Secretary of the Convention;
4. **EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION** and gratitude to the Executive Secretary of the UNCCD, Ambassador Hama Arba Diallo for his commitment, dedication and leadership, during the negotiations and the implementation of the Convention;
5. **REITERATES** the utmost importance that Africa attaches to the Convention and **RECOMMENDS** to the Secretary General of the United Nations to appoint another African to the helm of the Permanent Secretariat of the Convention;
6. **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to consult with and engage all relevant key partners as well as to make all required arrangements to implement this decision and to report thereon to the next Ordinary Session of the Council scheduled for January 2008.

**DECISION ON THE CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN MINISTERS IN CHARGE  
OF BORDER ISSUES HELD IN ADDIS ABABA, ON 7 JUNE 2007**  
**DOC. EX.CL/352 (XI)**

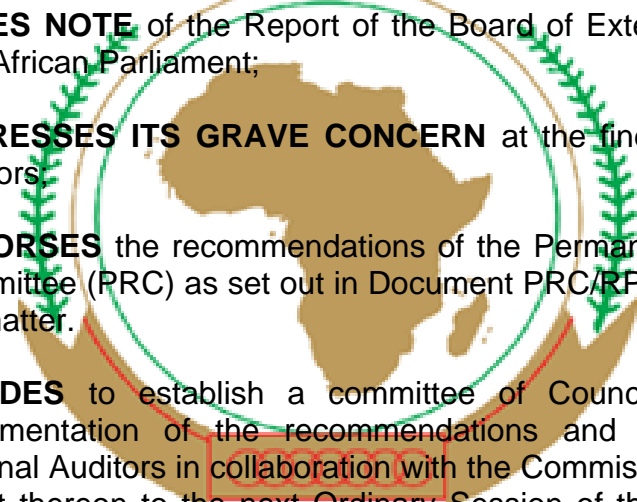
**The Executive Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Conference of African Ministers in charge of Border Issues held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 7 June 2007;
2. **ENDORSES** the Declaration on the African Union Border Programme and its implementation modalities as adopted by the Ministerial Conference;
3. **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission and Member States to take all necessary measures to implement the Declaration and to submit regular reports thereon to the policy organs of the African Union.



**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EXTERNAL AUDITORS FOR  
THE PAN-AFRICAN PARLIAMENT - DOC. EX.CL/334 (XI)**

**The Executive Council:**

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1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Board of External Auditors for the Pan-African Parliament;
  2. **EXPRESSES ITS GRAVE CONCERN** at the findings of the External Auditors;
  3. **ENDORSES** the recommendations of the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) as set out in Document PRC/RPT(XIV) with regard to the matter.
  4. **DECIDES** to establish a committee of Council charged with the implementation of the recommendations and the findings of the External Auditors in collaboration with the Commission and PAP, and to report thereon to the next Ordinary Session of the Council scheduled for January 2008.

**DECISION ON THE 22<sup>ND</sup> ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE AFRICAN COMMISSION  
ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS – DOC. EX.CL/364 (XI)**

**The Executive Council:**

**1. RECOMMENDS** to the Assembly to:

- i) **ADOPT** and **AUTHORISE**, in accordance with Article 59 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (the African Charter), the publication of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Activity Report of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (the African Commission or the ACHPR) and its annexes;
- ii) **TAKE NOTE** of the fact that the mandate of five (5) of the members of the ACHPR would come to an end at the next session of ACHPR; and **EXPRESS APPRECIATION** for the contribution they have made in the promotion and protection of human and peoples' rights on the continent;
- iii) **CONGRATULATE** the ACHPR for the good work it is doing in the promotion and protection of human and peoples' rights on the continent;
- iv) **PAY TRIBUTE** to the Chairperson of the ACHPR, Mrs. Salamata Sawadogo, for her invaluable contribution;
- v) **TAKE NOTE** of the challenges facing the ACHPR as it discharges its mandate;
- vi) **REITERATE** its Decision EX.CL/Dec.344 (X) taken at its 10<sup>th</sup> ordinary session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, requesting the ACHPR, to present to the PRC its annual budget, independently from the budget of the Department of Political Affairs, at the beginning of the 2008 financial year;
- vii) **CALL ON** the ACHPR in collaboration with the Commission of the African Union to finalise, as soon as possible, its new structure bearing in mind the Decision EX.CL/Dec.344 (X) and present this to the next session of the Sub-Committee on Structures of the PRC;
- viii) **TAKE NOTE** of the conclusions of the Brainstorming meeting between the ACHPR and the Permanent Representatives Committee (PRC) in Maseru, the Kingdom of Lesotho, from 4 to 5 May 2007 and the determination expressed by all parties to work towards strengthening and ensuring the independence of the ACHPR;



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- ix) **URGE** Member States that have not done so, to present their State Party Reports to the ACHPR in accordance with Article 62 of the Charter;
- x) **ALSO URGE** those States Parties that have not yet done so to take urgent steps to ratify the Protocols to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the establishment of an African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights and the Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa;
- xi) **FURTHER URGE** Member States to comply with the decisions/recommendations of the ACHPR in a bid to strengthen the latter and contribute to the effective promotion and protection of human rights on the continent.

**DECISION ON THE ELECTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE AFRICAN  
COMMISSION ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS  
DOC. EX.CL/365 (XI)**

**The Executive Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of report on the elections of the members of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights;
2. **ELECTS** the following members of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights:
  1. Mme Catherine Dupe Atoki (Nigeria) (6 year term)
  2. Mme Zainabu Sylvie Kayitesi (Rwanda) (2 year term)
  3. Mme Soyata Maiga (Mali) (6 year term)
  4. Dr. Angela Melo (Mrs) (Mozambique) (6 year term)
  5. M. Yeung Kam John Yeung Sik Yuen (Mauritius) (6 year term)
3. **RECOMMENDS** the elected members of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights to the Assembly for appointment.

**DECISION ON CONFLICT SITUATION IN AFRICA**  
**DOC. EX.CL/356 (XI)**

**The Executive Council,**

1. **WELCOMES** the progress made in the search for lasting solutions to the conflicts prevailing in the continent since its last ordinary session, in January 2007;
2. **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the outcome of the high-level African Union/United Nations technical consultations with the Government of the Sudan held in Addis Ababa on 11 and 12 June 2007, **WELCOMES** the decision adopted subsequently by the AU Peace and Security Council on the African Union/United Nations hybrid operation in Darfur and the renewal of the mandate of the African Union Mission in the Sudan (AMIS) and **CALLS** for the speedy implementation of the agreement reached, in particular the adoption by the United Nations Security Council of a resolution authorizing the hybrid operation and its funding through United Nations assessed contributions;
3. **ALSO NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the efforts deployed by the African Union and the United Nations, through their special envoys, Salim Ahmed Salim and Jan Eliasson, to re-energize the Darfur peace process, and **CALLS** on all concerned to continue to extend the necessary cooperation to the African Union and the United Nations;
4. **URGES** for continued and concerted efforts by all concerned, building on these recent and encouraging developments, to promote confidence with the view to facilitating the successful conclusion of the peace process in Darfur;
5. **WELCOMES** the efforts being made by the Commission for the deployment of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and **APPEALS** to AU member States and partners to provide the requisite support to facilitate the full deployment and sustenance of AMISOM on the ground. Council **STRESSES** the need for the United Nations Security Council to take all the necessary steps for the early deployment of a United Nations operation that would take over from AMISOM;
6. **ENCOURAGES** the Commission, working with IGAD, the League of Arab States, the United Nations, and other stakeholders, to continue to provide support for the early convening of the envisaged national reconciliation congress in Somalia;
7. **EXPRESSES** concern at the serious difficulties facing the reconciliation process in the Comoros. In this respect, Council **WELCOMES** the decisions adopted by the Peace and Security Council on 9 May and 9

June 2007, as well as the communiqué adopted by the countries of the region at their meeting held in Cape Town, South Africa, on 19 June 2007, and **ENCOURAGES** the countries of the region to pursue and intensify their efforts to enable the Peace and Security Council to meet as soon as possible to take the required decision on the situation in the Comoros;

8. **REITERATES** its support for the efforts being deployed towards post-conflict reconstruction and development of the member States emerging from conflict situations and **APPEALS** for continued and increased support for these countries;
9. **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the efforts deployed towards the operationalization of the continental peace and security architecture, including the Continental Early Warning System, the Panel of the Wise and the African Standby Force, and **ENCOURAGES** the Commission to pursue and intensify its efforts in this respect;
10. **WELCOMES** the joint Communiqué adopted by the meeting between the United Nations Security Council and the African Union Peace and Security Council, held in Addis Ababa on 16 June 2007, and **ENCOURAGES** the two organs to strengthen their cooperation with a view to promoting peace and security in Africa.

**DECISION ON THE SPECIAL PURPOSE AUDIT ON THE FIRST CONFERENCE OF INTELLECTUALS OF AFRICA AND THE DIASPORA (CIAD I), DAKAR - 2004**  
**DOC.EX.CL/333 (XI)**

**The Executive Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the Special Purpose Audit on the First Conference of Intellectuals of Africa and the Diaspora;
2. **EXPRESSES CONCERN** over the many irregularities in the organization of the Dakar Conference, particularly with respect to non-compliance with the Financial Rules and Regulations;
3. **ENDORSES** the recommendation of the PRC as contained in its Report Doc. PRC/Rpt (XIV);
4. **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to take the necessary measures to implement those decisions including applying sanctions against the culprits;
5. **DIRECTS THAT** the Commission should abide by existing financial rules and regulations, and take appropriate measures for the strengthening of its internal control systems;
6. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to report to the next ordinary session of Council scheduled for January 2008.

**\* DECISION ON AFRICAN CANDIDATURES FOR POSTS WITHIN THE  
INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM - DOC. EX.CL/355 (XI)**

**The Executive Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Ministerial Committee on Candidatures;
2. **APPROVES** the Recommendations contained in the Report;
3. **DECIDES** to support the following candidatures:
  - i) Republic of Ghana for re-election to the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), at elections scheduled to take place in Vienna, Austria, in September 2007;
  - ii) People's Democratic Republic of Algeria for membership of the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) during elections to be held at the Headquarters of the Agency in Vienna, Austria, in September 2007;
  - iii) Federal Republic of Nigeria for re-election to the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), at the elections to be held during the 36<sup>th</sup> ICAO Assembly scheduled to take place in Montreal, Canada, in September 2007;
  - iv) Arab Republic of Egypt for re-election as member of the International Civil Aviation Organization, during the elections which will be held in Montreal, Canada, in September 2007;
  - v) Republic of South Africa for re-election as member of the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) at the election to be held ICAO 36<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, in Montreal, Canada, in September 2007;
  - vi) Republic of Cameroon for re-election to the Council of International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Category III for the 2008-2009-2010 triennial at the elections to be held in Montreal, Canada, in September 2007;
  - vii) Republic of Tunisia for membership of the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) during elections scheduled to take place in Montreal, Canada, on the occasion of

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\* The Islamic Republic of Mauritania entered reservations on the candidature of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for membership of the United Nations Security Council for the period 2008 – 2009, as contained in Decision EX.CL/Dec.308 (IX) Rev.1 adopted in Banjul, The Gambia in June 2006.

the 37<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly of this Organization from 18 to 28 September 2007;

- viii) Republic of Uganda for membership of the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) during elections scheduled to take place in Montreal, Canada, on the occasion of the 37<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly of this Organization from 18 to 28 September 2007;
- ix) Republic of Namibia for membership of the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) during elections scheduled to take place in Montreal, Canada, on the occasion of the 37<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly of this Organization from 18 to 28 September 2007;
- x) Dr. Abdulqader M. K. El-Beghdadi, from the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for membership of the Executive Board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) during the elections which will take place at the 34<sup>th</sup> Session of the Organization in Paris in October 2007;
- xi) Dr. Ismail Elhag Musa Mohamed, from The Sudan, for a seat on the Executive Board of UNESCO, at the elections to be held during the 34<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Conference of this Organization, in Paris, France, in October 2007;
- xii) Mr. Kamel Omrane, from Tunisia, for membership of the Executive Board of UNESCO, at elections to be held in Paris, France, in October 2007;
- xiii) Arab Republic of Egypt for membership of the World Heritage Committee (WHC) at the elections due to take place during the 34<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly of UNESCO in Paris, France, in September 2007;
- xiv) Arab Republic of Egypt for membership of the Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB) at the elections due to take place during the 34<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Conference of UNESO in Paris, France, in October 2007;
- xv) Arab Republic of Egypt for membership of the International Bureau of Education (IBE) at the elections due to take place during the 34<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Conference of UNESCO in Paris, France, in October 2007;
- xvi) Arab Republic of Egypt for membership of the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport (CIGEPS) at the elections due to take place during the 34<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Conference of UNESCO in Paris, France, in October 2007;

- xvii) People's Democratic Republic of Algeria for membership of the Executive Council of the World Tourism Organization for fresh two-year term (2007-2009) during elections scheduled to take place in Cartagena, Columbia, in December 2007 on the occasion of the 17<sup>th</sup> session of the WTO General Assembly;
- xviii) Republic of Senegal for membership of the Executive Council of the World Tourism Organization for the period of 2008 to 2011 during elections scheduled due to take place in Cartagena de Indias, Columbia, in November 2007 on the occasion of the 17<sup>th</sup> Session of the WTO General Assembly;
- xix) Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for membership of the Executive Board of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization at elections scheduled to be held during the UNIDO General Conference in Vienna, Austria, by the end of 2007;
- xx) Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for membership of the Executive Board of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization's Committee on Programmes and Budget at the elections scheduled to be held during the UNIDO General Conference in Vienna, Austria, by the end of 2007;
- xxi) Arab Republic of Egypt for membership of the Executive Council of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) at the elections due to take place during the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly of the Organization in London, in December 2007;
- xxii) Dr Ahmed Hassan El-Burai, from Arab Republic of Egypt for membership of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (CMW) at the elections due to take place during the 62<sup>nd</sup> Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York, in December 2007;
- xxiii) Professor Daniel David Ntanda Nsereko, from Uganda for election as Judge of the International Criminal Court (ICC), at the elections due to be held during the 6<sup>th</sup> Session of the Assembly of States Parties from 30 November to 14 December 2007;
- xxiv) Candidature of Mrs. Victoire Fatimata-Binta Dah/Diallo from Burkina Faso for re-election to the United Nations Committee for Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination during elections due to take place in January 2008 in New York;
- xxv) Candidature of Mr. Nii Allotey Oduntun, from Ghana, for the position of Secretary General of the International Seabed Authority during elections scheduled to take place on July/August 2007 in New York;



- xxvi) Candidature of Ambassador Ali Saidi Mchumo, from Tanzania, for re-election to the post of Managing Director for Common Funds for Commodities during elections scheduled to take place in November 2007 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
4. **ALSO DECIDES** to rely on the outcomes of the consultations at the level of the African Civil Aviation Council (AFCAC) regarding the candidatures of the Republic of Senegal and the Republic of Ghana (West Africa) for Group III at the Executive Board of the International Civil Aviation Organization for elections due to take place in Montreal, Canada, in September 2007;
5. **CALLS FOR** strict compliance with the relevant provisions of:
- i) Rule 14(3) which stipulates that “Decisions of the Executive Council, approved by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Union, on the recommendations of the Committee on a particular candidature shall be binding on all Member States”;
  - ii) Rule 14(4) which also provides that “Member States that fail to comply with the Decisions of the Executive Council on candidatures, may be subjected to sanctions in accordance with Article 23 of the Constitutive Act of the African Union”;
6. **ALSO CALLS FOR** compliance with the relevant provisions of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee and with previous Decisions regarding the deadline for submission of candidatures for consideration by the Committee.

**DECISION ON CONTRIBUTIONS**  
**DOC.EX.CL/337 (XI)**

**The Executive Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the report of the Permanent Representatives' Committee's (PRC) Sub-Committee on Contributions by Member States;
2. **AUTHORIZES** that the sanctions imposed on Burundi and Sierra Leone remain temporarily lifted since they have respected their payment schedules;
3. **TAKES NOTE** of the fact that Guinea, Guinea Bissau and Central Africa Republic have cleared their arrears up to the year 2004 and have partially paid for the year 2005, thus taking them out of sanctions;
4. **DECIDES** that the following Member States shall remain under sanction since they are in arrears of contributions for more than two (2) years:
  - i) Cape Verde
  - ii) Democratic Republic of Congo
  - iii) Eritrea
  - iv) Sao Tome and Principe
  - v) Seychelles
5. **URGES** Cape Verde to present its repayment schedule to the Sub-Committee on Contributions for consideration and **REQUESTS** the PRC to make appropriate recommendations to the next ordinary session of Council scheduled for January 2008;
6. **REQUESTS** the Commission to expedite the elaboration of proposals on the treatment of countries emerging from conflicts with regard to the payment of their arrears and assessed contributions.



**DECLARATION ON THE SITUATION IN CÔTE D'IVOIRE**

**The Executive Council,**

1. **STRONGLY CONDEMNS** the attempted assassination perpetrated at Bouake on 29 June 2007 against Mr. Guillaume Soro, the Prime Minister of Cote d'Ivoire, and which resulted in several casualties,
2. **ALSO STRONGLY CONDEMNS** any attempt aimed at jeopardizing the progress recorded in the peace process in Côte d'Ivoire;
3. **STRESSES** the need to identify the perpetrators of this criminal act as soon as possible and to bring them to justice;
4. **REITERATES** the full support of the African Union for the Ouagadougou Political Agreement signed on 4 March 2007 under the facilitation of President Blaise Compaore of Burkina Faso, Chairperson of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), and for the efforts being made by the Ivorian parties towards the implementation of the said Agreement;
5. **ENCOURAGES** the Ivorian parties to pursue and intensify their efforts within the context of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement and to continue lending the Facilitator the necessary support towards the successful conclusion of the peace and reconciliation process in Côte d'Ivoire.