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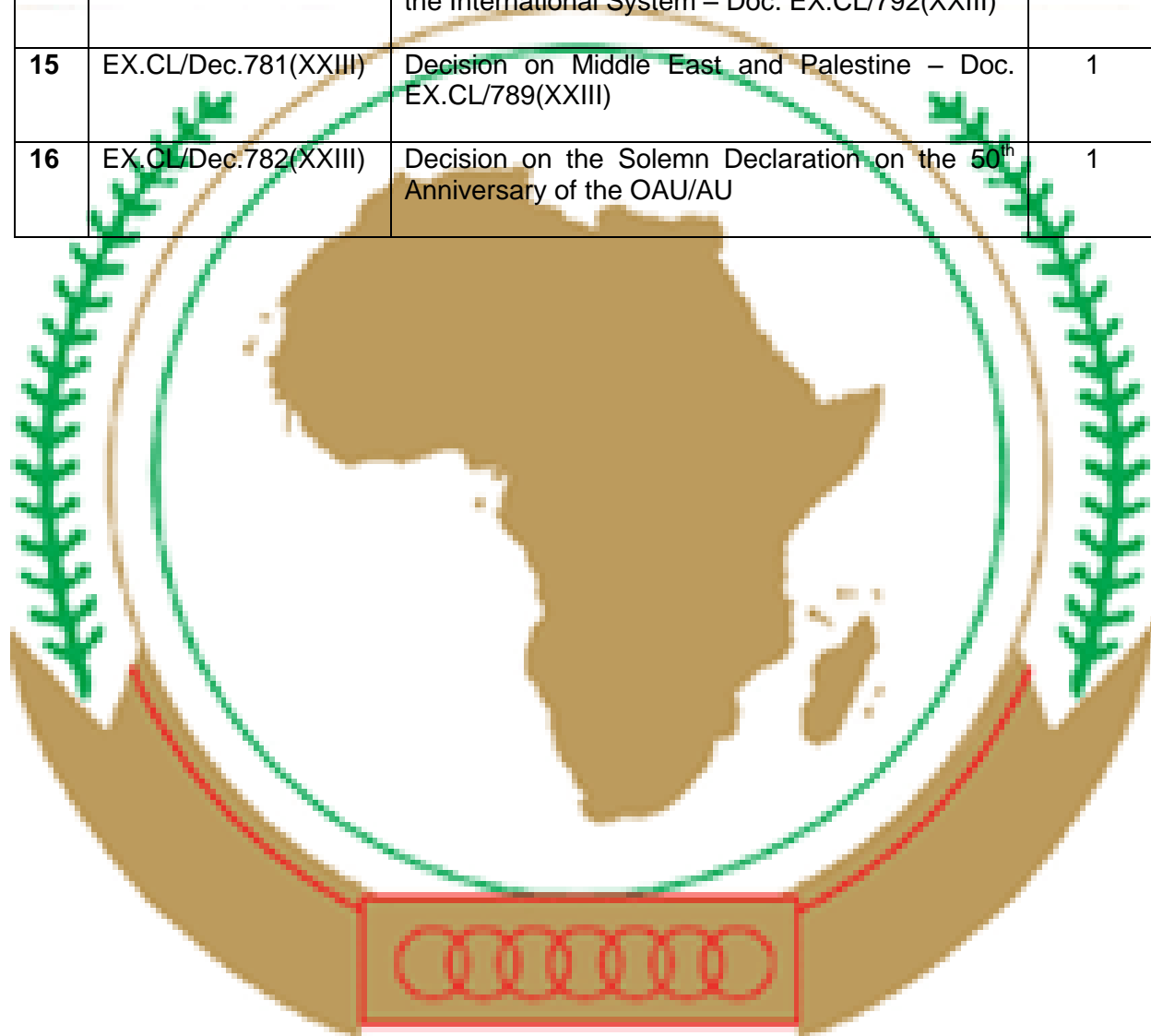
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
Twenty-Third Ordinary Session
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EX.CL/Dec.767- 782(XXIII)



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**DECISION ON THE BUDGET OF THE AFRICAN UNION
FOR THE 2014 FINANCIAL YEAR
Doc. EX.CL/787(XXIII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the PRC, and **ENDORSES** its recommendations on the Draft Budget for the 2014 Financial Year;
2. **APPROVES** a total regular budget of **US\$308,048,376** for the African Union for year 2014, broken down into **US\$137,884,958** Operating Costs and **US\$170,163,418** Programs and recommends it to the Assembly for adoption, and to be financed as follows:
 - i) A total amount of **US\$126,050,898** assessed to Member States and **US\$170,098,545** is secured from International Partners;
 - ii) A total amount of **US\$8,916,329** to be charged to the General Fund with respect to:
 - The impact of the 5% salary increase; and SAP User License Fees and VSAT services: US\$4,166,329;
 - NEPAD Programming and Coordinating Agency: US\$2,500,000;
 - African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights: US\$1,000,000;
 - African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights: US\$750,000;
 - Pan-African Parliament: US\$500,000.
 - iii) The cost of maintenance of premises and budget for security services amounting to **US\$2,105,986** shall be covered from Acquisition of Properties Fund;
 - iv) Renovation of building C and other costs related to improvement of premises estimated at **US\$876,619** to be covered from the assistance of the Peoples' Republic of China;
3. **APPROVES** the Budget breakdown among the AU Organs as follows:

Organ	Member States			Partners			Total Budget 2014		
	Operational	Program	Total	Operational	Programs	Total	Operational	Programs	Total
AUC	91,508,707	5,520,089	97,028,796		125,881,823	125,881,823	91,508,707	131,401,912	222,910,619
PAP	10,891,648		10,891,648		3,400,476	3,400,476	10,891,648	3,400,476	14,292,124
AfCHR (The Court)	6,938,014		6,938,014		1,681,571	1,681,571	6,938,014	1,681,571	8,619,585
ACHPR (The Commission)	4,076,044		4,076,044		1,569,423	1,569,423	4,076,044	1,569,423	5,645,467

Organ	Member States			Partners			Total Budget 2014		
	Operational	Program	Total	Operational	Programs	Total	Operational	Programs	Total
ECOSSOC	993,710		993,710		-	-	993,710	-	993,710
NEPAD	4,410,000		4,410,000	6,304,442	29,687,801	35,992,243	10,714,442	29,687,801	40,402,243
AUCIL	371,024	44,100	415,124		203,892	203,892	371,024	247,992	619,016
Advisory Board on Corruption	492,436		492,436		1,015,421	1,015,421	492,436	1,015,421	1,507,857
Peace & Security Council		759,253	759,253		-	-	-	759,253	759,253
ACERWC		45,873	45,873		353,696	353,696		399,569	399,569
Sub-Total	119,681,583	6,369,315	126,050,898	6,304,442	163,794,103	170,098,545	125,986,025	170,163,418	296,149,443
Additional Sources	Member States			Partners			Total Budget 2014		
	Operational	Program	Total	Operational	Programs	Total	Operational	Programs	Total
General Fund	8,916,329		8,916,329			-	8,916,329		8,916,329
Acquisition of Properties Fund	2,105,986		2,105,986			-	2,105,986		2,105,986
Government of China	876,619		876,619			-	876,619		876,619
Sub-Total	7,148,933	-	7,148,933	-	-	-	7,148,933	-	7,148,933
GRAND TOTAL	131,580,516	6,369,315	137,949,831	6,304,442	163,794,103	170,098,545	137,884,958	170,163,418	308,048,376

4. **ALSO APPROVES** a budget for Special Projects of US\$24,241,656; Pass-Through Funds of US\$90,536,525; and Technical Assistance of US\$37,763,663, funds to be mobilized from Partners;
5. **AUTHORIZES** the Commission to mobilize funds from Partners to close the funding gap of **US\$78,185,573 (US\$29,878,153** for regular Programs and **US\$48,307,420** for the special projects) on the Program budget till the end of 2013 and report back the status to the PRC before the summit in January 2014;
6. **ALSO AUTHORIZES** the Commission to use the Acquisition of Properties Fund to build a Storage facility on the available land in the compound for a maximum cost of **US\$200,000**;
7. **APPROVES** a budget of **US\$2.2 million** from Acquisition of Properties Fund for AUC Security System Modernization project;
8. **AUTHORIZES** the Commission to proceed with the construction of the residence of the Deputy Chairperson, and to defer that of the Commissioners;

9. **ENCOURAGES** the Commission to explore the possibilities of establishing a Program Implementation Fund to be capitalized through voluntary contributions by Member States, the private sector, independent foundations, development partners and other appropriate sources including certain percentage from the General fund;
10. **ALSO ENCOURAGES** the Commission in collaboration with the PRC to engage in improved budgeting processes, through programme audit and needs assessment for all the structures of the African Union for adequate allocation of funds, as well as identifying ways and means of removing over dependence on partner programme funding, while mobilizing domestic resources;
11. **CONSIDERS** the possibility of ensuring in the future an appropriate funding so as to provide the different AU Organs and Structures with timely recruitment of the approved positions in order to adequately address their capacity constraints and enable them to effectively fulfil their respective mandates;
12. **RECOMMENDS** that as from the financial year 2015 any such request from all AU Organs and Structure should be considered under the budgeting process to be covered under the assessed contributions of Member States;
13. **REQUESTS** the Commission to carry out a comprehensive Staff audit and needs assessment for all AU Organs and report at the next Session of the Executive Council in January 2014;
14. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to ensure that the creation of new AU Organs take into account the financial impact on the African Union;
15. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission and the PRC to jointly review the status of the General Fund and to report on the outcomes to the next session of the Executive Council in January 2014;
16. **AUTHORIZES** the Commission to allocate to the Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture the available resources mobilized from Partners to the tune of **US\$ 1.95 million**, to enable it carry out its programmes as earlier approved;
17. **REQUESTS** the Commission to prepare and submit a study to the PRC to establish Maintenance of Properties Fund with the proposals for modality of funding;
18. **WELCOMES** the proposal of the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to host a Ministerial Retreat at an appropriate time so as to reflect on how the Executive Council can meaningfully contribute to the improvement of methods of work and the functioning of the Union.

**DECISION ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION
STRATEGIC PLAN 2014-2017 AND AU AGENDA 2063
Doc. EX.CL/799(XXIII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the PRC on the consideration of the Draft Strategic Plan 2014-2017 of the AU Commission and the progress report on the development of AU Agenda 2063 as well as the observations made by Member States on these issues;
2. **RECALLS** its Decision EX.CL/Dec.1(XIV) taken during the 14th Extraordinary Session held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 8 April 2013, through which it approved, in principle, the Draft Strategic Plan 2014-2017 of the AU Commission and recommended it for adoption by the 21st Ordinary Session of the Assembly, subject to the Commission and the PRC doing further work on improving the indicators and mainstreaming gender and youth in the Plan;
3. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** that all inputs provided by Member States during the 14th Extraordinary Session have been adequately integrated into the document;
4. **COMMENDS** the Commission and the Permanent Representatives Committee for the work done in further refining the Draft Strategic Plan as requested;
5. **REQUESTS** the Commission to include the issues of terrorism, transnational crime and piracy at the appropriate place in the Plan;
6. **RECOMMENDS** the Draft Strategic Plan 2014-2017 for adoption by the 21st Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union scheduled to be held on 26 and 27 May 2013;
7. **CALLS UPON** Member States to support the implementation of the AU Commission Strategic Plan 2014-2017, in particular by providing the necessary and timely contributions to the annual budgets of the AU as well as to support the resource mobilization activities, including domestic resources. In this regard, **FURTHER CALLS UPON** the Commission and Member States to ensure people awareness through all media and information channels, including the development and dissemination of a popular version of the plan with a view to ensuring greater ownership of this important Plan;
8. **FURTHER TAKES NOTE** of the progress in the development of AU Agenda 2063 and **ENCOURAGES** the AU Commission, in collaboration with the African Development Bank and the Economic Commission for Africa to continue refining the Draft Framework document through a consultative process involving all segments of African society;

9. **REQUESTS** the Commission to present the Framework Document for consideration by AU Policy organs in January 2014 and the final Agenda 2063 for adoption in June 2014;
10. **AGREES** to discuss all relevant issues pertaining to the implementation of the Strategic Plan and Framework for the Agenda 2063 during the proposed Ministerial Retreat to be hosted by the Government of the Federal Republic of Ethiopia at an appropriate time.



**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE
ON STRUCTURES- EX.CL/785(XXIII)iii**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) on Structural Reforms Doc. **EX.CL/785(XXIII)xi** and **ADOPTS** the recommendations contained therein;
2. **APPROVES** the structure of the Pan-African University composed of nineteen (19) posts to be implemented from 2014;
3. **FURTHER DIRECTS** the Commission to proceed with the recruitment of twenty-four (24) short-term Security Guards at grade GSB8 on non-renewable contract for a period not exceeding one(1) year pending the comprehensive structural review of the Security and Safety Division;
4. **DECIDES** with regards to Pan-African University that:
 - i) In line with Regulation 6.4 of the African Union Staff Regulations and Rules, the recruitment process shall be competitive and conducted transparently without any form of discrimination. All professional positions and General Service Category A positions (GSA6, GSA5 and GSA4) shall be opened to competition by all citizens of AU Member States;
 - ii) In line with the implementation of the structure of the Pan-African University, the Permanent Representative Committee shall consider the revised Statutes of the PAU submitted to it by the Commission for consideration by the Executive Council in its next session;
 - iii) Pan-African University should submit through the Commission to the PRC an Annual Recruitment Report during the consideration of its budget; and
 - iv) Recruitment for all Professional positions shall be governed by and merged with the overall quota distribution in the Commission, taking into account the regional distribution and gender balance. All Pan-African University's recruitments shall be approved by the Chairperson of the Commission as per the AU Staff Regulations and Rules;
5. **RECOMMENDS** to the Assembly to amend Article 8.2 of the Statutes of the PAU as follows:
 - i) the grades and privileges of PAU Rectorate and all other positions should be determined by the Executive Council and its Advisory PRC Subcommittee;
6. **FURTHER DECIDES** with regards to Security and Safety Division within the Administration and Human Resource Management Directorate that:

- i) The restructuring of the Security and Safety Division be deferred pending the completion of modernization of Security Services Project and the introduction of new technology improvements and equipment that would lead to a reduction of the human resources required by the Division;
- ii) The twenty-four (24) additional short term Security Guards shall be fluent in at least in at least one of the official working languages and the Commission shall ensure that all positions of the Security and Safety Services Division shall be opened for recruitment from all Member States taking into account the relevant rules of the AU;
- iii) The comprehensive review of the Division's structure shall be carried out on the basis of a study by an international independent security experts and the Commission shall submit a report to the PRC through its Sub-Committee of the whole on Structural Reform for consideration;
- iv) Upon completion of modernization of Security Services Project, the Commission shall review the number of access gates to its premises with the view to rationalizing their use and reduce their numbers.



DECISION ON AFRICA'S STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS
Doc. EX.CL/785(XXIII)iv

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Sub-Committee of the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) on its activities relating to Multilateral Cooperation and on Africa's strategic partnerships;
2. **DECIDES** as follows:
 - A. **Africa-South America**
 - i) **EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** to the People and Government of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea for successfully hosting the 3rd Africa-South America (ASA) Summit and pre-Summit meetings in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, from 20 to 23 February 2013;
 - ii) **ENDORSES** the Malabo Declaration and the various Decisions adopted by the 3rd ASA Summit;
 - iii) **WELCOMES** the setting up of an Ad Hoc Committee composed of the chair of the AU (Ethiopia), chair of the Union of South American Nations - UNASUR (Peru), preceding host of the ASA Summit (Venezuela), the current host (Equatorial Guinea) and the next host (Ecuador), the Regional Coordinators for Africa and South America (Nigeria and Brazil), the African Union Commission, and UNASUR, to consider the modalities for establishing the Permanent Secretariat;
 - iv) **URGES** the two sides to adhere to the time frames of the Road Map on the establishment of the ASA Trust Fund, adopted during the Malabo Summit;
 - v) **RECALLS** the 27 joint projects, 11 of which were proposed by South America side and 16 by the African side, and **CALLS UPON** the two sides to prioritize and start implementation of those projects which do not require substantive financing;
 - vi) **REQUESTS** the Commission in collaboration with UNASUR to facilitate the task of the Ad-hoc Committee and ensure proper implementation of the Malabo Declaration and Plan of Action;
 - vii) **TAKES NOTE** of the postponement of the Ad-hoc Working Group Meeting on ASA Financing, planned for Caracas, Venezuela, from 24 to 26 April 2013, and **CALLS UPON** the two sides to set a new date suitable for both sides as well as see the possibility of merging this meeting with the meeting of the Experts Committee scheduled to take place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in June 2013;

- viii) **REQUESTS** the Commission, together with the PRC Sub-Committee on Multilateral Partnerships, to undertake review of the partnership to assess its benefit to the African side;

B. Africa-Arab Partnership

3rd Africa-Arab Summit

- i) **EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** to the State of Kuwait for offering to host the 3rd Africa-Arab Summit to be held in Kuwait in November 2013;
- ii) **ALSO EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** to the Commission and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States for the progress made towards the preparation of the Summit, and **REQUESTS** them to continue their collaboration to ensure that all the necessary logistical and material preparations are completed on time;
- iii) **ENDORSES** the outcome of the Tripartite Consultative Meeting between the Commission, the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and the State of Kuwait held in Kuwait on 9 March 2013; and **REQUESTS** the PRC, through its Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation, to actively participate in the post-mortem evaluation of the Summit;
- iv) **REQUESTS** the Commission in collaboration with the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and the State of Kuwait to determine the exact date of the Summit and communicate to Member States in good time;
- v) **CALLS UPON** Member States of the African Union to actively participate in all meetings of the 3rd Africa-Arab Summit which will be held on 18 to 20 November 2013 in Kuwait;

Transformation of the Africa-Arab Cultural Institute into an Africa-Arab Institute for Culture and Strategic Studies

- i) **EXPRESSES SERIOUS CONCERN** over the non-implementation of the Decision EX.CL/Dec.535(XVI) of the 16th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in January 2010, on the transformation of the Africa-Arab Cultural Institute (AACI) into an Africa-Arab Institute for Culture and Strategic Studies (AAICSS);
- ii) **ALSO EXPRESSES DEEP CONCERN** over the deteriorating financial situations of the Institute;
- iii) **APPRECIATES** the role AAICSS would play in promoting the cultural exchanges between the two brotherly peoples and in guiding the Africa-

Arab Partnership on the basis of researches and studies on strategic issues affecting the two regions jointly and individually;

- iv) **REQUESTS** the Commission, following consultations with the PRC and in collaboration with the League of Arab States, to review the performance of the Institute and, through the Executive Council of the Institute, make recommendations on its continuity to the 3rd Africa-Arab Summit, which will be held in Kuwait in November 2013;
- v) **DECIDES** to immediately release AU annual Contribution of US\$150,000 for the year 2013. In this regard, the Advisory Sub-Committee on Administrative, Budgetary and Financial matters is requested to consider the provision of an additional budget of US\$100,000;
- vi) **REQUESTS** the League of Arab States to take necessary measures to pay its annual contribution for 2013;

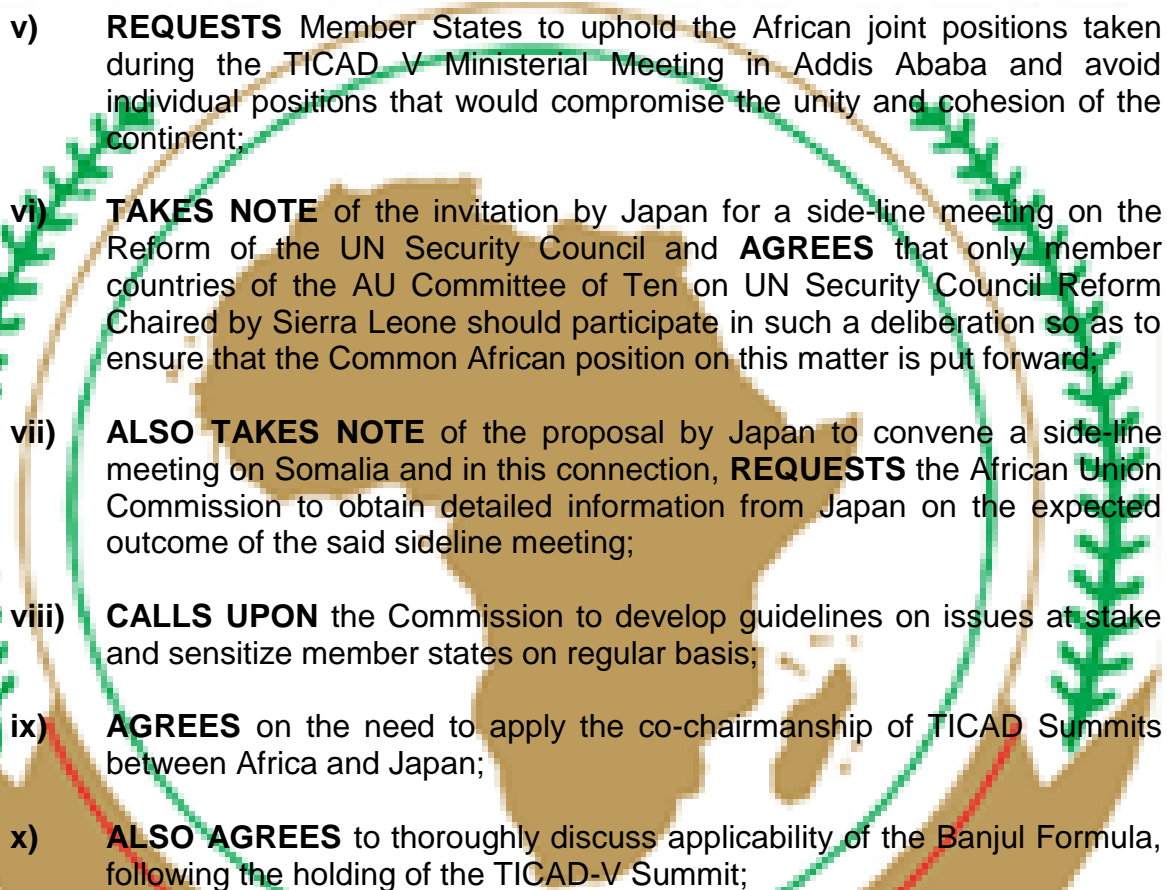
C. Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) V

- i) **EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** to the People and Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia for the successful hosting of the TICAD V Ministerial and Senior Officials Meetings held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 15 to 17 March 2013;
- ii) **ENDORSES** the draft Yokohama Declaration and Plan of Action of TICAD V, as finalized by the TICAD V Ministerial Meeting in Addis Ababa;
- iii) **REQUESTS** the Assembly to endorse the Three-Tier structure of the Follow-up Mechanism elaborated as follows:
 - 1) **Joint Secretariat:** MOFA Japan, African Union Commission, UNOSAA, UNDP and World Bank;
 - 2) **Joint Monitoring Committee:** composed of Japanese Government and related governmental organizations, TICAD Co-organizers, Permanent Representatives Committee of the African Union (PRC), African Diplomatic Corps in Tokyo (ADC) and NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, International Organizations and donor countries;

3) Follow-up Meetings:

- i. Annual Senior Officials Meeting;
- ii. Annual Ministerial Meeting;
- iii. Summit (every five years);

- 4) **Principle of Rotation:** principle of rotation shall be applied on all follow up meetings including the TICAD Summits;

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- iv) **REQUESTS** the Commission to undertake study, in collaboration with the PRC, regarding the modality for proposing a common position for the strategy on Low Carbon Development, in line with the current international instruments such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Kyoto Protocol and the ongoing negotiations under the Conference of Parties on Climate Change, and prepare a report to the Executive Council in this regard;
 - v) **REQUESTS** Member States to uphold the African joint positions taken during the TICAD V Ministerial Meeting in Addis Ababa and avoid individual positions that would compromise the unity and cohesion of the continent;
 - vi) **TAKES NOTE** of the invitation by Japan for a side-line meeting on the Reform of the UN Security Council and **AGREES** that only member countries of the AU Committee of Ten on UN Security Council Reform Chaired by Sierra Leone should participate in such a deliberation so as to ensure that the Common African position on this matter is put forward;
 - vii) **ALSO TAKES NOTE** of the proposal by Japan to convene a side-line meeting on Somalia and in this connection, **REQUESTS** the African Union Commission to obtain detailed information from Japan on the expected outcome of the said sideline meeting;
 - viii) **CALLS UPON** the Commission to develop guidelines on issues at stake and sensitize member states on regular basis;
 - ix) **AGREES** on the need to apply the co-chairmanship of TICAD Summits between Africa and Japan;
 - x) **ALSO AGREES** to thoroughly discuss applicability of the Banjul Formula, following the holding of the TICAD-V Summit;

D. Africa-Turkey

- i) **RECALLS** the agreement, reached during the First Ministerial Review Conference of the Africa-Turkey Partnership held in December 2011, in Istanbul, Turkey, that the 2nd Africa-Turkey Summit will be held in Africa;
- ii) **FURTHER RECALLS** the Decision EX.CL/Dec.730(XXII), of the 22nd Ordinary Session of the Executive Council, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia that the two Member States, Ethiopia and Equatorial Guinea, which requested to host the Summit are expected to finalize their consultations and communicate as soon as possible the name of the country that is going to host the Summit;

- iii) **REQUESTS** the Commission in collaboration with the host country, to make all the necessary logistical and material preparations for the 2nd Africa-Turkey Summit to be held in October 2013;
- iv) **REQUESTS** the PRC, through its Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation, to prepare African common positions on issues to be considered by the Summit;
- v) **REMINDS** Member States that participation to the 2nd Africa-Turkey Summit will follow the Banjul Formula in accordance with Executive Council decisions EX.CL/Dec.670 (XX) of January 2012 and EX.CL/Dec.699 (XXI) of July 2012;
- vi) **REQUESTS** the Commission, together with the PRC Sub-Committee on Multilateral Partnerships, to undertake review of the partnership to assess its benefit to the African side;

E. Africa-India

- i) **EXPRESSES CONCERN** over the delay in the signing of the Plan of Action of the Enhanced Framework for Cooperation of the 2nd Africa-India Forum Summit 2011-2014 and **CALLS UPON** the setting up of a Joint Working Group to accelerate implementation of the programmes and projects contained in the Plan within the agreed deadline;
- ii) **RECALLS** the Decision EX.CL/Dec.730(XXII), of the 22nd Ordinary Session of the Executive Council, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in January 2013, and **UNDERLINES** the need to urgently finalize consultations on the remaining Institutes;
- iii) **WELCOMES** the agreement reached to convene the 3rd Meeting of the African and Indian Ministers of Trade in South Africa and **URGES** the two sides to work together to ensure success for this important event;

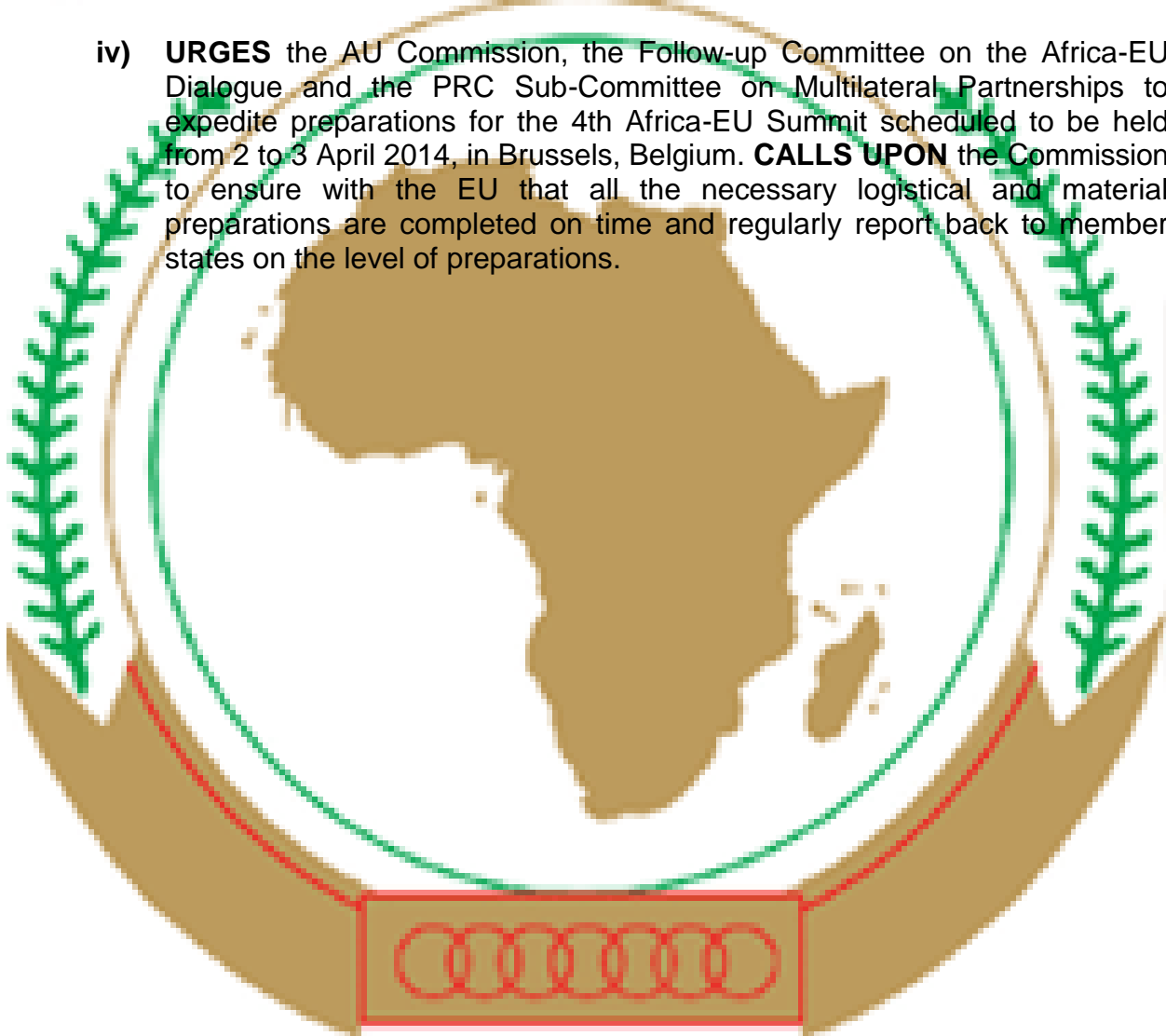
F. Africa-Korea

- i) **URGES** the Commission to finalize the implementation matrix for the Africa-Korea Joint Action Plan;
- ii) **CALLS UPON** for the early convening of the joint meeting of Experts to endorse the implementation matrix;

G. Africa-EU

- i) **RECALLS** its Decision of EX.CL/Dec.646 (XIX) June 2011, establishing the Division of Strategic Partnerships in the office of the Chairperson to coordinate and manage all partnerships;

- ii) **FURTHER RECALLS** the recommendations of the study on "The Global Review of Strategic Partnerships", as adopted by the Executive Council in January 2012, whereby a call was made for an effective mechanism to be put in place in order for the PRC Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation to play a more instrumental role in furthering concretization of the Africa-EU Partnership;
- iii) **REQUESTS** the Commission to consider the transfer of the Africa-EU Partnership to the Africa's Partnerships to the appropriate Division;
- iv) **URGES** the AU Commission, the Follow-up Committee on the Africa-EU Dialogue and the PRC Sub-Committee on Multilateral Partnerships to expedite preparations for the 4th Africa-EU Summit scheduled to be held from 2 to 3 April 2014, in Brussels, Belgium. **CALLS UPON** the Commission to ensure with the EU that all the necessary logistical and material preparations are completed on time and regularly report back to member states on the level of preparations.



**DECISION ON REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON CONTRIBUTIONS,
INCLUDING THE REVIEW OF THE STATUTORY CONTRIBUTIONS
OF SOME ISLAND STATES (EX.CL/DEC.756(XXII))
Doc. EX.CL/785(XXIII)v**

The Executive Council,

1. **CONGRATULATES** the countries which are up to date in their contributions;
2. **URGES** Member States to pay their contributions in time and encourage Member States which owe arrears of contributions to fully pay the amounts due;
3. **CONGRATULATES** the Democratic Republic of Congo for having honoured its commitments and Recommend the lifting of the temporary exemption granted to the DRC;
4. **RECOMMENDS** that sanctions imposed on the following Member States be maintained;
 - Republic of Guinea Bissau; and
 - Madagascar.
5. **ALSO RECOMMENDS** that sanctions be imposed on Sao Tome and Principe;
6. **REQUESTS** the Commission to liaise with the Republic of Somalia in order to come up with an agreement on the payment of its arrears and Request that an interim report on the issue be presented at the next session of the Executive Council;
7. **EXPRESSES** the concern of Member States on the delays by the Commission in the production of reports to the Partners and Request the Commission to impose sanction on Departments which delay in presenting their reports to the Partners.

**DECISION ON THE AMENDMENT OF TERMS OF REFERENCE
FOR THE PRC SUB-COMMITTEE ON AUDIT MATTERS
Doc. EX.CL/785(XXIII)vi**

The Executive Council,

1. **ADOPTS** the amendments to the Terms of Reference for the Sub-Committee as proposed;
2. **TAKES NOTE** of the reservations of the Member States of the Northern African Region on the proposed change of composition of the membership of the Sub-Committee;
3. **REQUESTS** the PRC to consider, at an appropriate time, the criteria on the composition of Sub-Committees and to report to the Executive Council.



**DECISION ON THE FIRST PROGRESS REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF
THE COMMISSION ON THE SITUATION IN WESTERN SAHARA –
Doc. EX.CL/788(XXIII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the first progress report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the situation in Western Sahara, as well as the recommendations of the PRC on the matter;
2. **TAKES NOTE** of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolution 2099 of 25 April 2013, on the situation in Western Sahara;
3. **REITERATES** OAU/AU's earlier decisions and pronouncements on the situation in Western Sahara, including undertaking the relevant provisions of the Plan of Action adopted by the Special Session of the Assembly of the Union on the Consideration and Resolution of Conflicts, held on 31 August 2009, and the support to the United Nations resolutions on the matter, in particular the call for direct negotiations between the two Parties, namely the Kingdom of Morocco and the Frente Polisario, without preconditions and in good faith, with a view to achieving a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara¹;
4. **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to pursue her efforts, as outlined in her report, including undertaking further consultations with the Parties, continued interaction with the United Nations, and other relevant international stakeholders;
5. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to submit a comprehensive report on the situation in Western Sahara at the next Ordinary Session of the Executive Council, in January 2014;
6. **DECIDES** to remain actively seized of the matter.

¹ The Reservation of the Republic of Senegal on Paragraph 3 was entered.

**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SOLEMN DECLARATION ON
GENDER EQUALITY IN AFRICA (SDGEA)
Doc. EX.CL/789(XXIII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Eighth Report of the Chairperson together with the synthesis of 2012 Reports of Fourteen Member States on the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SGDEA);
2. **STRESSES** the importance for Member States to report regularly on the implementation of the SGDEA;
3. **COMMENDS** Member States that have been regularly reporting on the implementation of the SDGEA and to urge those Member States that have not yet done so to report as required. In this regard the Commission should undertake capacity building activities towards Member States to enable them to report appropriately ;
4. **CONGRATULATES** in particular those Member States that have taken concrete measures to significantly promote gender balance in their various institutions;
5. **REQUESTS** the Commission, in consultation with Member States, to update and broaden its database so as to accurately report on the status of implementation of the SDGEA, in all relevant sectors, including the evaluation of the role of women in the media;
6. **REQUESTS** the Commission to implement the Decision of the Executive Council to ensure that the contribution to the Fund for African Women is based on the staggered implementation modalities of 1% of Member States' assessed contributions to the AU budget in accordance with Assembly Decision (Assembly/AU/Dec.277(XVI) and Executive Council Decision EX.CL/Dec.539(XVI);
7. **EXPRESSES** great concern on the prevailing violence perpetrated against women, including domestic violence and calls on Member States to exchange best practices to effectively combat such violence;
8. **COMMENDS** the efforts of the Commission in spearheading the 53 projects including training programmes in favour of rural women through the Fund of African Women and **REQUESTS** the Commission to report regularly on the implementation of such projects and their impact on the ground;
9. **CALLS FOR** increased efforts towards economic empowerment of women and gender mainstreaming at all levels and **REQUESTS** the Commission to report regularly on the results in this regard;

10. **REQUESTS** the Commission to increase its support to Somalia especially in training and capacity building for women in its reconstruction efforts so as to have an impact on the ground.



**DECISION ON THE THIRTY - FOURTH ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE
AFRICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS
Doc. EX.CL/796(XXIII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Thirty-Fourth (34th) Activity Report of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) and **AUTHORISES** the publication of the same and **ENDORSES** the recommendations contained in the Report of the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC);
2. **NOTES AS WELL** the achievements and activities undertaken by the ACHPR from November 2012 to April 2013;
3. **FURTHER TAKES NOTE** of the status of human rights on the Continent as outlined in the Activity Report, **CONGRATULATES** those State Parties that have taken measures to improve the human rights situation in their respective countries;
4. **EXHORTS** State Parties to take concerted action to address the human rights issues that the ACHPR has identified as being continuing concerns on the continent and to comply with the decisions and recommendations of the ACHPR;
5. **COMMENDS** State Parties that are up to date with their reporting obligations under Article 62 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, **TAKES NOTE** of those State Parties that have undertaken to present their reports to the next Ordinary Session of the ACHPR, and **ENCOURAGES** all those who are in arrears to submit their reports as soon as possible;
6. **REQUESTS** the ACHPR to continue to work closely with the AUC with a view to providing insurance cover for members of the ACHPR for the effective performance of their mandate;
7. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the AUC to expedite implementation of Ext/EX.CL/Dec.1(XIII) and submit proposals to harmonize the remuneration of elected officials of AU Organs to the next Ordinary Session of Executive Council;
8. **REITERATES** its request to the AUC to expedite recruitment for the Secretariat of the ACHPR, to enable the ACHPR effectively deliver on the mandate entrusted to it;
9. **TAKES NOTE** of the offer by the Republic of Angola to host the 55th Ordinary Session of the ACHPR, and **URGES** State Parties, especially those that have never done so, to consider hosting some of the future Sessions of the ACHPR;
10. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** with appreciation of the Report and **ADOPTS** the recommendations of the ACHPR Fact Finding Mission to the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) and stress the need to find a lasting solution to the

issue of Western Sahara through the self-determination of the Sahrawi people, and encourages the ACHPR to complete its report to include the situation in the territory under the control of the Kingdom of Morocco[†];

11. **STRESSES** the need to attend adequately to the humanitarian and human rights needs of the Sahrawi people within Western Sahara as well as the Sahrawi refugee community abroad;
12. **UNDERLINES** the need to effectively combat the illicit capital flight from the Continent, which gravely impede its development efforts;
13. **ENCOURAGES** the ACHPR to closely monitor the situation in Northern Mali and to report on the situation of human rights in that part of the country at the next session of the Executive Council in January 2014.



[†] The Reservation of the Republic of Senegal on Paragraph 10 was entered

**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE AFRICAN COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS
ON THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE OF THE CHILD (ACERWC)
Doc. EX.CL/797(XXIII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child;
2. **ADOPTS** the report and **COMMENDS** the Committee for the work accomplished towards implementation of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child and thanks all those members whose terms of office ends in July 2013 for serving the Committee with dedication and loyalty;
3. **URGES** those Member States that have not yet ratified the Charter to accelerate the ratification process, and the State Parties that are yet to submit report to the Committee to comply with the provisions of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child and expedite the process of submitting their reports;
4. **ADOPTS** the theme of the day of African Child for 2014: "A Child-Friendly, Quality Free and Compulsory Education for all Children in Africa" and call upon Member States to take the necessary and urgent measures to ensure implementation of the Right to Education for all Children;
5. **REQUESTS** the Commission to undertake a study on the measures required to ensure continuity of the membership of the Committee, including the possibility of the renewal of the mandate of the members for another term, in line with the EX.CL/Dec.233(VII).
6. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to undertake an assessment and submit a report for the January 2014 Summit on financing and human resources needed by the Committee with a view to adequately equipping the Committee to discharge its mandate effectively as envisaged in the African Charter.

**DECISION ON THE ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE AFRICAN UNION
COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL LAW (AUCIL)
DOC. EX.CL/800(XXIII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Activity Report of the African Union Commission on International Law (AUCIL) for the period July 2012 to May 2013 together with the recommendations contained therein;
2. **CONGRATULATES** the newly elected members of the AUCIL;
3. **RECOGNIZES** the importance of the legal opinions on various issues provided by AUCIL on the request of the Policy Organs of the Union;
4. **RECALLS** Executive Council Decision EX.CL/Dec.720(XXI), which recognized the need to reinforce the operational capacity of the AUCIL in terms of adequate financial resources and support structures and decided that they should be given due consideration by the relevant Sub-Committees of the PRC;
5. **REQUESTS** that the relevant Sub-committee of the PRC considers strengthening this Organ, including expanding the structure of its Secretariat in accordance with the Executive Council Decision EX.CL/Dec 720(XXI), as well aligning the grades of the members of the Secretariats of other Organs of the African Union;
6. **RECALLS** United Nations General Assembly resolution 2099 (XX) of 20 December 1965 adopted following an initiative by the Republic of Ghana, in which it established the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law to contribute towards a better knowledge of international law as a means of strengthening international peace and security and promoting friendly relations and cooperation among States;
7. **REQUESTS** the African Group in New York through the Commission to strongly support the request by the United Nations General Assembly to the Secretary-General to provide to the programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015 the resources necessary to ensure the continued effectiveness and further development of the Programme of Assistance, in particular the organization of the United Nations Regional Course in International Law for Africa and other similar United Nations Regional Courses on a regular basis and the viability of the United Nations Audio-visual Library of International Law, as contained in resolution 67/91;
8. **ENCOURAGES** the AUCIL, within the limits of available resources, to bolster its activities in the development and codification of International Law with specific focus on African Union Law. In this regard, draft conventions should be initiated in areas with specific interest to the African Union;

9. **ALSO ENCOURAGES** Member States and other Organs of the Union to extend necessary support to the AUCIL in the preparation of its Studies by, inter alia, providing information AUCIL may need for this purpose on issues of International Law of interest to the African Union.
10. **INVITES** AUCIL to undertake and finalize studies that have been requested in the past by the Policy Organs and to submit their outcomes to the latter for consideration;
11. **REQUESTS** the AUCIL to publish the findings of its research and studies in all working languages of the Union.



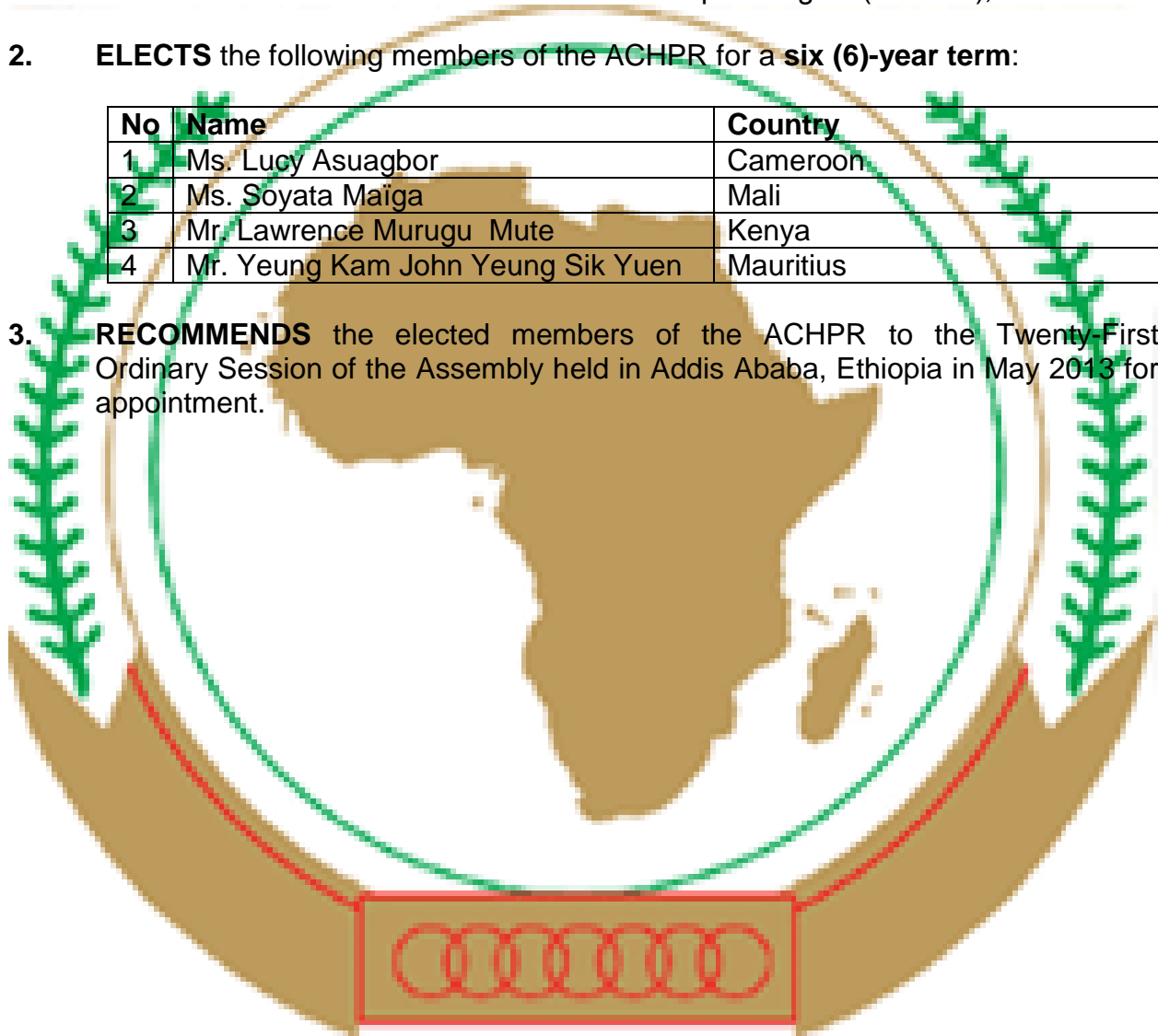
**DECISION ON THE ELECTION OF FOUR (4) MEMBERS OF THE AFRICAN
COMMISSION ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS (ACHPR)
Doc. EX.CL/793 (XXIII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Commission on Election of Four (4) Members of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR);
2. **ELECTS** the following members of the ACHPR for a **six (6)-year term**:

No	Name	Country
1	Ms. Lucy Asuagbor	Cameroon
2	Ms. Soyata Maïga	Mali
3	Mr. Lawrence Murugu Mute	Kenya
4	Mr. Yeung Kam John Yeung Sik Yuen	Mauritius

3. **RECOMMENDS** the elected members of the ACHPR to the Twenty-First Ordinary Session of the Assembly held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in May 2013 for appointment.



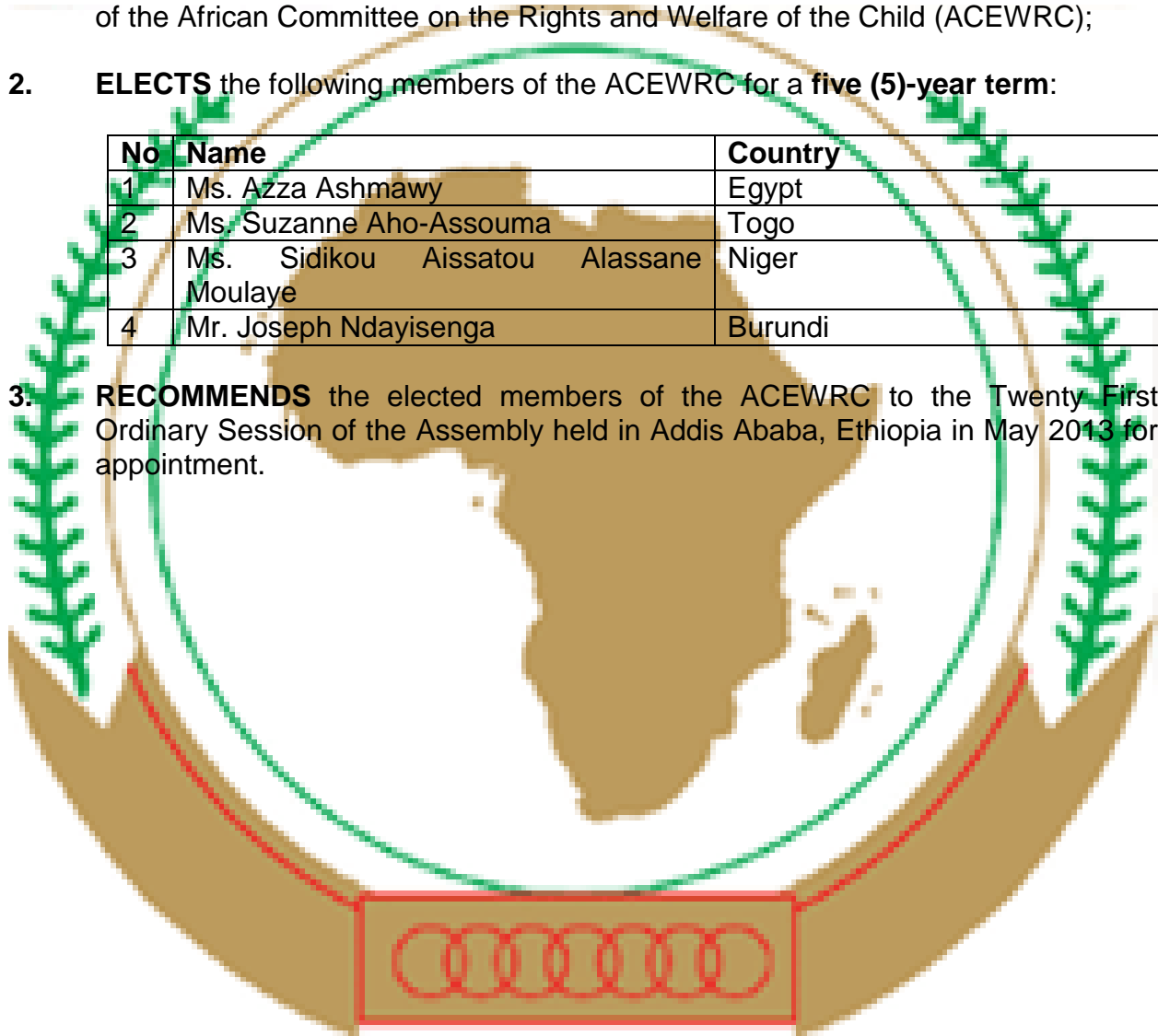
**DECISION ON THE ELECTION OF FOUR (4) MEMBERS OF THE AFRICAN
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE
OF THE CHILD (ACEWRC)
Doc. EX.CL/794 (XXIII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Commission on Election of Four (4) Members of the African Committee on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACEWRC);
2. **ELECTS** the following members of the ACEWRC for a **five (5)-year term**:

No	Name	Country
1	Ms. Azza Ashmawy	Egypt
2	Ms. Suzanne Aho-Assouma	Togo
3	Ms. Sidikou Aissatou Alassane Moulaye	Niger
4	Mr. Joseph Ndayisenga	Burundi

3. **RECOMMENDS** the elected members of the ACEWRC to the Twenty-First Ordinary Session of the Assembly held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in May 2013 for appointment.



**DECISION ON AFRICAN CANDIDATURES FOR POSTS
WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM
Dec.EX.CL/792(XXII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Ministerial Committee on African Candidatures within the international system;
2. **APPROVES** the following candidatures:
 - (i) **for membership of the United Nations Committee Against Torture:** the candidature of Ms Violet Awori of the Republic of Kenya at the elections due to be held in Geneva in October 2013;
 - (ii) **for membership of the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of the Racial Discrimination** for election due to be held in New York on 3 June 2013, the candidature of Mr Noureddine Amir of the Peoples' Democratic Republic of Algeria; the candidature of Mrs Kindéna Hohoueto of the Republic of Togo and the candidature of Honourable Justice Yeung Kam John Yeung Sik Yuen of the Republic of Mauritius;
 - (iii) **for membership of the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB):** the candidature of Dr Flore Ndembiyembe of the Republic of Cameroon at the elections scheduled to be held in April 2014;
3. **ALSO APPROVES** the following candidatures:
 - (i) **for membership of the International Maritime Organization (IMO),** the candidature of the Republic of South Africa and that of the Arab Republic of Egypt, at the elections due to take place, in London, United Kingdom, in November 2013;
 - (ii) **for membership of the World Heritage Committee,** the candidature of the United Republic of Tanzania at the elections due to be held in Paris, France, in November 2013;
 - (iii) **for membership of the Executive Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO),** the candidatures of the United Republic of Tanzania; the Republic of South Africa and the Arab Republic of Egypt at elections to be held during the ICAO General Assembly Montreal (Canada) in September/October 2013;
 - (iv) **for non-permanent membership of the United Nations Security Council,** the candidature of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for West Africa Region, at the elections due to take place in New York in October 2013;

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- (v) **for membership of the Executive Board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**, the candidature of the Republic of South Africa; the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Peoples' Democratic Republic of Algeria, at the elections due to take place in Paris, France, in October 2013;
 - (vi) **for the post of President of the 69th Session of the United Nations General Assembly for the period 2014-2015**, the candidature of the Republic of Uganda and Cameroon's withdrawal in favour of Uganda. In this regard, the Executive Council salutes the decision of H.E. Paul Biya, President of the Republic of Cameroon for this great gesture towards unity and solidarity among Member States;
 - (vii) **for the post of Vice President of the UN General Assembly**, the candidatures of the Republic of Botswana; the Republic of Cameroon; the Republic of Guinea and the Republic of Togo, during the 68th Session of the United Nation General Assembly at elections slated for 14 June 2013 as part of the six (6) seats allocated to Africa, two (2) of which are yet to be filled by the East and Northern Regions;
 - (viii) **for membership of the Economic and Social Council for the period 2014-2017**, the candidatures of the Republic of Botswana; the Republic of Congo; the Democratic Republic of Congo and Republic of Togo;
 - (ix) **for membership of the Executive Board of UN-Women for the period 2014-2017**, the candidatures of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea; the Republic of Senegal; the Republic of South Africa; the Republic of Togo and Somalia;
 - (x) **for membership of the United Nations Human Rights Council for the period 2014-2016**, the candidatures of the Peoples' Democratic Republic of Algeria; the Republic of Namibia; the Republic of South Africa and the Republic of South Sudan, at the elections slated to be held in November 2013 at the 68th Session of the United Nations General Assembly;
 - (xi) **for membership of the Council of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) for the period 2014-2017**, the candidature of the Arab Republic of Egypt at the elections slated to be held at the 38th Conference of FAO taking place in Rome, Italy in June 2013;
 - (xii) **for the post of President of the Human Rights Council in 2014**, the candidature of the Republic of Gabon at the election due to be held in December 2013.
4. **TAKES NOTE and DECIDES** to postpone to the January 2014 session, consideration of the candidature of Dr Matshidiso Moeti of the Republic of Botswana for the post of Regional Director of World Health Organization (WHO)

at the elections scheduled to be held in Cotonou, Republic of Benin, in September 2014.

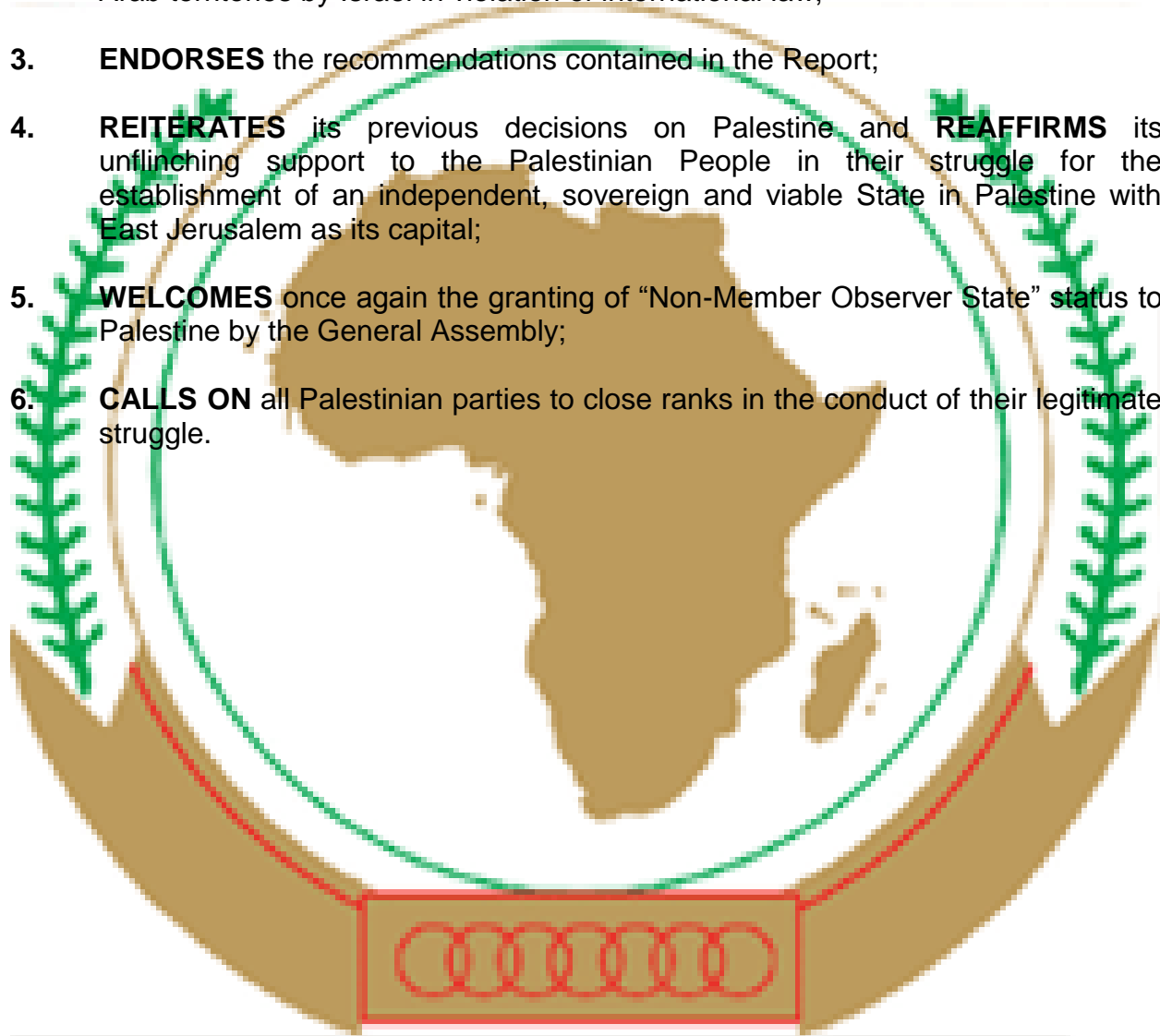
5. **TAKES NOTE** of the nomination of Dr Mukhisa Kituya of Kenya by the United Nations Secretary General for **the post of Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)**.
6. **ENCOURAGES** Member States and the Commission to work together to speedily review the Rules of Procedure of the Ministerial Committee on Candidatures;
7. **REQUESTS** the Commission in collaboration with Member States to enforce the implementation of the discussions of the African Union candidatures commonly endorsed and defend them throughout the selection/election process in line with the requirements of AU legal instruments and regulations in this regard.



DECISION ON MIDDLE EAST AND PALESTINE
Doc. EX.CL/790(XXIII)

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on Middle East and Palestine;
2. **EXPRESSES** deep concern on the continued occupation of Palestinian and other Arab territories by Israel in violation of international law;
3. **ENDORSES** the recommendations contained in the Report;
4. **REITERATES** its previous decisions on Palestine and **REAFFIRMS** its unflinching support to the Palestinian People in their struggle for the establishment of an independent, sovereign and viable State in Palestine with East Jerusalem as its capital;
5. **WELCOMES** once again the granting of “Non-Member Observer State” status to Palestine by the General Assembly;
6. **CALLS ON** all Palestinian parties to close ranks in the conduct of their legitimate struggle.



**DECISION ON THE SOLEMN DECLARATION ON THE 50TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE OAU/AU**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Solemn Declaration on the 50th Anniversary of the OAU/AU;
2. **COMMENDS** the Commission and the PRC for their efforts in producing the Solemn Declaration;
3. **REQUESTS** the Commission to refine the Declaration by incorporating as appropriate, the amendments and contributions received from Member States during the debate on this issue;
4. **RECOMMENDS** to the Assembly of the Union to adopt the revised Declaration and to launch and sign it in a public session during its 21st Ordinary Session to be held on from 26 to 27 May 2013.

