

**DECISION ON IMPROVING RURAL LIVELIHOODS IN SEMI-ARID
AREAS OF AFRICA
Doc. EX.CL/631(XVIII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Conference of Ministers of Agriculture held in Lilongwe, Malawi from 28 to 29 October 2010, on Improving Rural Livelihoods in Semi Arid Areas of Africa;
2. **EXPRESSES** commitment for improving the livelihoods of peoples and communities living in rural areas of Africa;
3. **ALSO EXPRESSES** concern over the specific challenges faced by communities in their livelihoods in semi-arid areas of Africa;
4. **ENDORSES** the Resolutions adopted by the Conference of Ministers of Agriculture on Improving Rural Livelihoods in Semi Arid Areas of Africa;
5. **URGES** Member States to ensure that development policies and strategies address the specific challenges of semi-arid rural livelihoods;
6. **CALLS UPON** development partners to provide necessary technical and financial support for implementation of this Decision;
7. **REQUESTS** the Commission and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to facilitate and coordinate the implementation of this Decision;
8. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to report regularly on the implementation of this Decision.