

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي



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**EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF
THE CONFERENCE OF ENERGY
MINISTERS OF AFRICA (CEMA)
15 DECEMBER 2011
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

Original: French

DECLARATION OF ADDIS ABABA

DECLARATION OF ADDIS- ABABA ADOPTED BY THE EXTRAORDINARY SESSION
OF THE CONFERENCE OF ENERGY MINISTERS OF AFRICA (CEMA)

We, African Ministers in charge of Energy, meeting in an Extraordinary Session on 15 December 2011 in Addis- Ababa, Ethiopia;

Considering the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community adopted in Abuja, Nigeria, in June 1991;

Mindful of the Constitutive Act of the African Union adopted in Lomé on 11 July 2000, especially its Articles 14 to 16, which stipulate that the African Union Commission should in particular coordinate policies in the field of energy in view of its particular importance to Africa's development;

Considering the Decision of the Heads of State and Government of the African Union in July 2001 establishing NEPAD as a framework for Africa's development;

Considering the Declaration: Assembly/AU/Decl. 1 (XII) of the Twelfth Summit of the African Union of January 2009 which resolved to support the Programme for Infrastructure in Africa (PIDA) as the unique strategic and sectoral framework in Africa;

Considering the Ministerial Declaration adopted on the occasion of the First All Africa Energy Week held in Maputo, Mozambique, in November 2010 establishing the Conference of Energy Ministers of Africa (CEMA);

Considering the importance and the role of energy services, in the political and socio-economic development and physical integration of the continent, in order to ensure more meaningful participation to the globalization;

Noting the initiatives by the Regional Economic Communities in strengthening regional cooperation in the energy sector through the establishment of the regional power pools and regulatory agencies;

Welcoming the participatory and consensus building process of PIDA elaboration which led to the adoption of the PIDA study outcomes by the Regional Economic Communities and Specialized Institutions through the regional workshops;

Concerned by the low level of development of energy infrastructure, the high cost and low quality of energy services in Africa in terms of availability and security and consequently the poor access of African populations to modern services of energy, particularly for the low-income social segment;

Concerned by the low level of regional integration of energy networks in Africa;

Concerned by the huge financing needs for energy infrastructure of around forty three billion US dollars per year for the coming ten years, and the poor resource mobilization

by Member States, for the preparation, implementation and maintenance of energy infrastructure;

Underscoring the key role devolved to the AU Commission in coordination, harmonization, facilitation and advocacy in implementing energy infrastructure and services for the development of Africa;

Underscoring the decisive roles of NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency (NPCA) and the Regional Economic Communities as pillars of regional integration, the Member States as well as the Specialized Institutions in the implementation of programmes for energy infrastructure and services development ; and,

Underscoring the importance of environmental sustainability in developing Africa's energy infrastructure.

Reaffirming our determination to pool our efforts to promote sustainable development of integrated, reliable and efficient energy infrastructure networks and services for the socio-economic development and integration of the continent;

Reaffirming the urgency to launch continental and regional strategies for the promotion of regional energy markets and leading to a continental energy market as supports to the achievement of the objectives of the Millennium development goals, including poverty reduction

Commit ourselves to:

1. Promote the development of renewable energy resources in order to provide clean, reliable, affordable and environmentally friendly energy as well as nuclear energy for peaceful purposes to sustainably meet Africa's energy needs;
2. Pool our efforts to speed up the implementation of the programmes emanated from PIDA study and in particular the Priority Action Plan ;
3. Accelerate the facilitation of intra-Africa energy trade through the harmonization of laws, regulations, norms and standards to ensure interconnection, efficient operations and security of networks, and regional and continental energy market development;
4. Promote active participation of private sector in the development of regional and continental energy infrastructures;
5. Set up an adequate institutional framework for the development of major integrative hydroelectric power projects and high capacity oil refineries as well as gas and oil pipelines;
6. Take necessary measures in order to accelerate the implementation of the interconnections of power systems within and between the regions of the Continent;

7. Strengthen the African specialized institutions in energy sector, regional power pools and regulatory agencies in charge of coordination, planning and management of regional energy infrastructures;
8. Take necessary measures to ensure sustainable financing and appropriate management of the energy sector.

Recommend to the Heads of State and Government to:

1. Adopt and support the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) and its implementation Institutional Architecture.
2. Make PIDA an important pillar of the minimum integration program as well as the Plan of Action to establish a continental free trade area in line with the theme of the forthcoming XVIII Assembly of the African Union dedicated to the “Boosting Intra-African Trade”;
3. Prioritize in the national programmes, the various energy projects and programmes contained in the Priority Action Plan (PAP);
4. Request the AU Commission, NPCA, Regional Economic Communities, Member States and Specialized Institutions, in coordination with all African stakeholders in energy sector, to speed up the implementation of the Priority Action Plan of PIDA;
5. Request the African Development Bank, UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and all other development partners to support the implementation of the Energy programme of the Priority Action Plan;

URGE:

1. Member States of the African Union and Regional Economic Communities to strengthen African and international cooperation in the energy sector;
2. The African Union Commission to submit this Declaration to the next AU Conference of Heads of State and Government to be held in January 2012 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Done in Addis Ababa, 15 December 2011