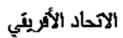
### **AFRICAN UNION**





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## DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

### PRESS RELEASE No. 07 / 17th AU Summit

## The Executive Council Calls for a more United Caring and Integrated Africa

**Malabo, June 29, 2011 -** The 19th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council of the African Union ended on Tuesday, June 28 in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea on a call for a more united, caring and integrated Africa. The call was made by Mr. Pastor Micha Ondo Bile, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Equatorial Guinea, during the official closing ceremony of the 19<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Executive Council.

With regard to the theme of the Summit "Accelerating Youth Empowerment for Sustainable Development", Mr. Ondo Bile said, African youth must be better equipped to face the contemporary challenges including those caused by globalization. This is possible through concrete investment in education. He advocated for policies to be developed aimed at ensuring the implementation of AU Decisions. This, he said, will visibly improve the living conditions of African people in order to end poverty, inequality amongst others.

On the issue of the budget of the Union, Mr Ondo Bile said the organization is credible and that it can carry out its own objectives through a well defined alternative source funding.

Meanwhile, the Executive Council discussed the draft agenda of the 17<sup>th</sup> AU Summit of Heads of State and Government and considered its draft decisions. Twenty-one (21) decisions were adopted. Mr Ondo Bile, expressed satisfaction with the outcome of the deliberations and the consensus reached for a common African position.

For more information, please visit the AU website: <a href="http://www.au.int/en/summit/17thsummit/17thsummit/">http://www.au.int/en/summit/17thsummit/17thsummit/</a>