

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي



UNION AFRICAINE

UNIÃO AFRICANA

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**DECISION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF COOPERATION BETWEEN AFRICA
AND THE TOKYO INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON AFRICAN
DEVELOPMENT (TICAD) - DOC. EX.CL/373(XI)A**

The Assembly:

1. **EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION** for Japan's sustained efforts to promote peace and prosperity in Africa, and for its initiative to organize TICAD IV in Yokohama, Japan from 28 to 30 May 2008;
2. **TAKES NOTE** of the progress made in the two Regional Preparatory Meetings in Zambia and Tunisia in October and November 2007 respectively, for the preparation of TICAD IV;
3. **CALLS UPON** Member States, the AU Commission and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to fully cooperate with the TICAD process in order to make strides 'Towards a Vibrant Africa: A Continent of Hope and Opportunity', which is the main theme of TICAD IV;
4. **ALSO CALLS UPON** Member States to elaborate concrete programmes and projects relating to the main areas of TICAD IV cooperation, namely (i) boosting economic growth, (iii) achieving the MDGs (ensuring human security), (iv) peace consolidation and (v) democratization and addressing environmental issues and climate change;
5. **REQUESTS** Member States to participate in the TICAD IV Ministerial Preparatory Conference in Gabon in March 2008 and **ALSO REQUESTS** the AU Commission, in collaboration with the RECs to provide necessary support to Member States in the above-mentioned Conference;
6. **CALLS UPON** African Heads of State and Government to fully participate in TICAD IV in conformity with the Banjul Decision (July 2006).

**DECISION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
CONSOLIDATED PLAN OF ACTION - DOC. EX.CL/385 (XII)**

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Third Ordinary Session of the African Ministerial Conference on Science and Technology (AMCOSTIII), held in Mombasa, Kenya from 12 to 16 November 2007;
2. **ENDORSES** the decision of the Executive Council on the report of the Third Ordinary Session of AMCOST;
3. **APPRECIATES** the current efforts by Member States, the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), the AU Commission and NEPAD in implementing Africa's science and technology programmes, and the strategic partnerships and cooperation in science and technology with other international organisations particularly the UN Agencies and the European Union;
4. **WELCOMES** the formation of a Pan African Association of African Women in Science and Technology;
5. **CALLS ON** RECs to establish science and technology desks and/or focal points by 2009 in order to improve communication, cooperation and information sharing.

**DECISION OF SUMMIT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SECOND
DECADE OF EDUCATION FOR AFRICA - DOC. EX.CL/386 (XII)**

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Third Ordinary Session of the Conference of Ministers of Education of the African Union (COMEDAF III) held in Johannesburg, South Africa from 6 to 10 August 2007;
2. **ENDORSES** the decision of Executive Council on the report ;
3. **CALLS ON** the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to establish strong education desks in their Secretariats by 2009 in order to support the implementation of the Plan of Action for the Second Decade of Education for Africa;
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to expedite the operationalisation of the Pan African Institute for Education for Development (IPED) and the Centre Internationale pour l'Education pour Filles et Femmes en Afrique (CIEFFA) as specialised institutions of the AU by recruiting qualified staff and building their institutional capacity;
5. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to oversee the formalisation of collaboration with the Association for the Development of Education for Africa (ADEA) as follows:
 - a. Signing of a memorandum of understanding between the AU and ADEA
 - b. Merger of the COMEDAF Bureau with the ADEA Bureau
 - c. Invitation to all Member States that have not yet done so, to join ADEA.
6. **CALLS ON** development partners to ensure harmonisation of their education programmes for Africa with the priorities set out in the Plan of Action for the Second Decade of Education for Africa.

**DECISION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AFRICAN EDUCATION,
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FUND**

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the decision of the Executive Council on the Establishment of an African Education, Science and Technology Fund;
2. **AUTHORIZES** the establishment of an African Education, Science and Technology Fund;
3. **REQUESTS** the AU Commission and the African Development Bank to expedite the creation of the Fund by 2009.

DECISION ON THE ACTION PLAN FOR THE ACCELERATED INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF AFRICA – DOC.EX.CL/378 (XII)

The Assembly:

1. **ENDORSES** the Action Plan for the Accelerated Development of Africa;
2. **REQUESTS** the Commission to disseminate the Action Plan and organize, in collaboration with the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), Regional Development Banks, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the World Bank , the European Investment Bank (EIB), IFC, the United Nations Organization for Industry (UNIDO) and other interested partners, regional meetings in Africa, that involve the participation of all industrial development stakeholders, for the effective implementation of the Action Plan;
3. **FURTHER REQUESTS** that the outcome of the regional meetings and progress reports on the operationalization of the Action Plan be presented regularly to CAMI meetings, which in turn will report thereon to the Assembly.

**DECISION ON PROMOTION OF MATERNAL, INFANT AND CHILD
HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT – DOC. EX.CL/380 (XII)**

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the 2nd Pan-African Forum on Children: Mid-term Review, which was held in Cairo, Egypt from 29 October – 3 November 2007 and the *Call for Accelerated Action on the Implementation of the Plan of Action on Towards Africa Fit for Children (2008-2012)* which was adopted by the Forum;
2. **RECOGNISES** with concern that poor maternal, infant and child health remains a major challenge confronting the continent and undermining its development efforts;
3. **RECALLS** the Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), particularly No. 4: *Reduce Child Mortality*, No. 5: *Improve Maternal Health*, and No. 6: *Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other diseases*, as vital indicators for monitoring socio-economic development of any country in Africa;
4. **ALSO RECALLS**, *inter alia*, the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (1990); Sirte Assembly Decision on Accelerating Action for Child Survival and Development in Africa to meet the MDGs, in particular MDG 4 on reducing child mortality and morbidity (2005); Maputo Plan of Action on the Policy Framework on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (2006); and the Africa Health Strategy (2007);
5. **WELCOMES WITH APPRECIATION** the world-wide support expressed through the numerous programmes and initiatives to mobilize resources to meet challenges related to the promotion of maternal, infant and child health, survival, protection, development and participation;
6. **REAFFIRMS** its previous commitments towards promotion of maternal, infant and child health, survival, protection, development and participation;
7. **REITERATES ITS COMMITMENT** to take responsibility and provide leadership to advance actions towards the implementation of the MDGs, particularly those related to the promotion of maternal, infant and child health, survival and development. In this regard, it will ensure that its statements at national, regional, continental and international levels (including the UN General Assembly) highlight the plight of women, infants and children in Africa, and the required action to rectify this related challenges;

8. **URGES** Member states, in collaboration with development partners and stakeholders, to effectively implement the commitments made to improve the rights and welfare of women, infants and children in Africa;
9. **CALLS UPON** development partners at all levels to intensify efforts to provide well-coordinated support, based on the respective needs and policies of affected communities and countries;
10. **MANDATES** the Chairperson of the African Union to undertake vigorous advocacy to mobilize resources and galvanise political will among the industrialized countries, at any available opportunity, including at such forums as the G8 Hokkaido Toyako Summit (2008), TICAD IV (2008), EU Summit (2008), to advance maternal, infant and child health and development in Africa;
11. **REQUESTS** the AU Commission to include the “Promotion of Maternal, Infant and Child Health and Development” on the Agenda of our 11th Ordinary Session in 2008;
12. **FURTHER REQUESTS** AU Commission to submit a progress report on the implementation of its commitments on children and progress towards achieving MDGs 4, 5 and 6 to the 12th Ordinary Session of the Assembly in 2009.

**DECISION ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL OF
THE AFRICAN UNION AND THE STATE OF PEACE AND SECURITY IN AFRICA**

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the activities of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) and the state of peace and security in Africa;
2. **WELCOMES** the efforts deployed to promote peace, security stability in Africa, as well as the progress made in this regard. The Assembly **ENCOURAGES** all the parties concerned to redouble their efforts to consolidate the gains realized thus far, and **REQUESTS** the Commission to continue to support the ongoing processes and mobilize the international community assistance in this respect;
3. **EXPRESSES ITS SATISFACTION** with the ongoing efforts to consolidate peace and stability in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), including the signing by the concerned parties of an Act of Commitment aimed at restoring peace and stability in Eastern DRC and speeding up the national reconciliation process, following the Conference on Peace, Security and Development on the North and South Kivu Provinces, held in Goma, from 6 to 23 January 2008, and **URGES** the parties to scrupulously honour their commitments, including those pertaining to disarmament of armed groups operating in the East of DRC;
4. **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the encouraging developments in Côte d'Ivoire, since the signing of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement and the progress made in its implementation, and **CALLS UPON** the parties to redouble their efforts so as to speed up the implementation of the Agreements that have been signed, in order to pave the way for the holding of presidential elections not later than the first half of 2008;
5. **WELCOMES** the resolution of the institutional crisis in Burundi with the establishment of a Government in line with the Constitution, following the political dialogue initiated by the President of the Republic with the political opposition parties in August 2007. At the same time, the Assembly **EXPRESSES ITS CONCERN** over the lengthy delays and difficulties faced in the implementation of the Comprehensive Ceasefire Agreement of 7 September 2006. The Assembly **ENCOURAGES** the Mediator to pursue his efforts and **REQUESTS** the Regional Initiative to remain actively seized of the peace process in Burundi;
6. **WELCOMES** the progress made regarding post-conflict reconstruction in Liberia and **REQUESTS** the Member States, the United Nations and bilateral and multilateral partners to continue to extend all the necessary support;

7. **TAKES NOTE** of the efforts deployed to re-launch the peace process in Darfur, particularly the opening of the Sirte peace talks on 27 October 2007. The Assembly **REAFFIRMS** its support to the joint efforts being exerted by the AU and the United Nations, especially through their respective Special Envoys, with a view to commencing substantive discussions on the pending issues, and **URGES** all the parties concerned to provide the necessary cooperation;
8. **WELCOMES** the launching of the African Union/United Nations hybrid operation in Darfur (UNAMID) and the transfer of authority which took place on 31 December 2007, **ENCOURAGES** the AU Commission and the UN Secretariat to pursue their efforts towards the early deployment of UNAMID, **FURTHER ENCOURAGES** the Government of the Sudan to continue to cooperate with the AU and the United Nations towards the early completion of the deployment of the Mission and the smooth conduct of its operations, and **REQUESTS** the AU, the UN and the Government of Sudan to continue to cooperate closely in order to create conditions conducive for the successful execution of UNAMID mandate. The Conference **COMMENDS** the African Union Mission in the Sudan (AMIS) and its personnel for the remarkable work accomplished in Darfur despite the numerous difficulties the Mission had to grapple with;
9. **WELCOMES** the measures taken by the parties to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in the Sudan to overcome the difficulties encountered in its implementation and **URGES** them to pursue their efforts to ensure the full implementation of the Agreement in letter and spirit;
10. **EXPRESSES ITS SERIOUS CONCERN** at the lack of progress in resolving the crisis in the Comorian Island of Anjouan, particularly the restoration of the Union Government authority in Anjouan. The Assembly **FULLY SUPPORTS** the efforts deployed by the AU in pursuance of the pertinent decisions of the PSC with a view to restoring State authority in Anjouan and put a definite end to the crisis arising from the attitude of the illegal authorities of Anjouan;
11. **EXPRESSES ITS CONCERN** over the persistent tension between the Sudan and Chad, **CALLS ON** the two Governments to exercise restraint and do everything possible to defuse the current tension and contribute to the restoration of normalcy along their common border and **WELCOMES** the efforts being deployed by Libya to assist the two countries;
12. **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the on-going efforts aimed at consolidating peace and reconciliation in the Central African Republic (CAR), including the holding of an inclusive political dialogue, and **ENCOURAGES** all the parties concerned to participate in the dialogue in a constructive spirit. The Assembly **UNDERScores** the work accomplished by the Multinational Force of the Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa (CEMAC) and **TAKES NOTE** of the decision of the Summit of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), held in Brazzaville on 30 October 2007, to transfer the CEMAC Multinational Force (FOMUC) from CEMAC to ECCAS;

- 13. REITERATES ITS DEEP CONCERN** at the continued impasse in the Ethiopia Eritrea peace process and at its implications for peace, security and stability in the region at large, **EMPHASIZES** the need for more sustained and coordinated efforts to help the parties overcome the current impasse in the peace process, including the demarcation of their common border, and normalize their relations, and **EXPRESSES THE READINESS** of the African Union to assist Eritrea and Ethiopia in this endeavour;
- 14. EXPRESSES DEEP CONCERN** at the post-electoral violence and tension in Kenya and at its social, humanitarian and economic consequences, as well as at its implications for peace and stability in Kenya and the region as a whole **ONCE AGAIN CALLS ON** all the parties to exercise restraint, refrain from acts of violence and from any other act that could further complicate the situation, as well as prevail on their supporters to put an immediate end to the violence, and speedily resolve the crisis and the electoral dispute within the established legal framework;
- 15. WELCOMES** the efforts made by the current Chair of the AU, John Kufuor, the Chair of the East African Community (EAC), Yoweri Museveni, and by other leaders and organisations both within and outside the region, to assist in resolving the crisis in Kenya. The Assembly **REQUESTS** the Kenyan parties to extend full cooperation to the mediation efforts being conducted by the group of eminent African elders led by former UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan;
- 16. REQUESTS** the PSC to pursue its efforts aimed at promoting peace, security and stability in the continent, with special attention to conflict prevention, and, whenever necessary, to be involved in all situations likely to pose a threat to peace and security in the continent;
- 17. RECALLS** decision Assembly/AU/Dec. 145 (VIII) adopted by the Assembly at its 8th ordinary session held in January 2007, calling upon the United Nations to examine, within the context of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, the possibility of funding, through assessed contributions, peace-keeping operations undertaken by the AU or under its authority, with the consent of the United Nations, and **WELCOMES** the steps taken by the AU Commission and Member States in pursuance of this decision;
- 18. LOOKS FORWARD** to the report that will be submitted by the United Nations Secretary-General on the relationship between the United Nations and regional organisations, in particular the African Union, in the maintenance of international peace and security, as provided for by Security Council Presidential Statement of 28 March 2007. The Assembly **WELCOMES** the offer by South Africa to avail its presidency of the United Nations Security Council, in April 2008, to discuss the report of the United Nations Secretary-General, and **REQUESTS** the Security Council to consider this report with the view to achieving concrete results in further strengthen cooperation between the AU and the UN. In this regard, the Assembly **REQUESTS** the

United Nations Security Council to collaborate with, and invite, the AU PSC during the consideration of this report;

19. **TAKES NOTE** of the report of the international workshop on security sector reform (SSR) in Cape Town, South Africa, on 7 – 8 November 2007, and **ENCOURAGES** the Commission to develop a comprehensive AU Policy Framework on SSR, within the context of the Policy Framework on Post-conflict Reconstruction and Development adopted by the Executive Council in Banjul, in June 2006.

DECISION ON ECONOMIC INTEGRATION - DOC. EX.CL/378 (XII)

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report and Declaration of the Second Conference of African Ministers of Integration, held in Kigali, Rwanda from 26 to 27 July 2007;
2. **ENDORSES** the recommendations contained therein;
3. **REQUESTS** Member States, the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and the AU Commission to take the necessary steps, in cooperation with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and development partners, to implement these recommendations with a view to speeding up the Continent's integration process;
4. **ALSO REQUESTS** the AU Commission to submit at the next Ordinary Session of Council scheduled for July 2008, a report on the status of the Continent's integration.

**DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE AFRICAN CONTINENTAL SHELF
AND CLIMATE CHANGE – DOC. EX.CL/391 (XII)**

The Assembly:

1. **RECALLS** the objectives and principles of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;
2. **FURTHER RECALLS** the decisions and Declarations of the Addis Ababa Summit of Heads of State and Government of the African Union on Science and Technology;
3. **CONSCIOUS** of the major geopolitical and strategic stakes linked to the African continental shelf and of its abundant mineral and biological resources, which constitute an important source of foreign currency earnings for the economic development of the continent;
4. **CALLS ON** Coastal Member States to speed up the process of preparing and submitting the claims for the extension of the limits of their continental shelf, **AND REQUESTS** the AU Commission to assist Member States in this regard, with the view to meeting the deadline of 12 May 2009;
5. **ENCOURAGES** Member States, to submit to the United Nations General Assembly a recommendation for a postponement, by an additional period of ten (10) years, the 12 May 2009 deadline, while striving to meet the set deadline;
6. **UNDERScores** the need to speed up the process and to adopt an African common position on this issue;
7. **REQUESTS** the Commission to engage, in collaboration with Member States, in a process to designate an eminent African personality as Special Envoy of the Union in charge of maritime and climate change matters;
8. **CALLS ON** the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, to provide the coastal Member States all the assistance required to conduct the necessary studies for submitting applications for the extension of their continental shelf.

DECISION ON THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGs)

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the statement by the United Nations Secretary General, His Excellency Mr. Ban Ki-moon, at the Twelfth Ordinary Session of the Assembly;
2. **COMMENDS** and supports the establishment by the United Nations Secretary General of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Africa Steering Group composed of leaders of the major multilateral and international organizations, including the African Union Commission, to support the accelerated achievement of the MDGs in Africa;
3. **FURTHER COMMENDS** the President of the 62nd Session of the UN General Assembly, His Excellency Mr. Serdjan Karim on his efforts in assisting African nations achieve the MDGs;
4. **WELCOMES** the initiative of the United Nations Secretary General and other partners to hold meetings on the MDGs in September 2008 to find ways to reinforce the partnership between developed and developing countries;
5. **ALSO CALLS UPON** the G8 to follow through with its commitments at Gleneagles and other international commitments in order to scale up aid disbursement to Africa in support of MDGs;
6. **FURTHER CALLS ON** African countries to participate fully in the 2008 Review Sessions to the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus scheduled to take place from 29 November to 2 December 2008, in Doha, Qatar;
7. **MANDATES** the AU Commission in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa to ensure effective African participation in that important event, and to this extent facilitate the harmonization of a common position;
8. **APPRECIATES** the scale up efforts by the United Nations System to support Africa's Development Agenda through such initiatives as the UN 10 Year capacity building programme in support of the AU and its NEPAD Programme;

9. **RECALLS** the Banjul Decision (Assembly/AU/Dec.78 (V)) on the MDGs and;
10. **REQUESTS** the AU Commission in collaboration with ECA to prepare status reports and related statistics on the implementation of the recommendations of the Africa MDG Steering and Working Groups;
11. **REQUESTS** the AU Commission to submit the status reports to its annual Summits.

**DECISION ON THE REPORTS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE AU SOLEMN DECLARATION ON GENDER EQUALITY IN AFRICA
(DOC. EX.CL/ 376(XII))**

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the reports and presentation on the implementation of the AU Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (SDGEA);
2. **CONGRATULATES** Member States that submitted their baseline reports in 2007 namely: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, Nigeria and **APPEALS** to Member States that are yet to submit their baseline reports to urgently submit these reports, for the AU to have a base upon which to build on the progress made;
3. **ALSO CONGRATULATES** Member states that have signed and ratified the Protocol on the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa and **ENCOURAGES** member states that have signed and not yet ratified to do so;
4. **CALLS ON** Member States to implement all the commitments made in the SDGEA;
5. **REQUESTS** Member States to adopt the content of the SDGEA as the framework for the acceleration of implementation of the existing instruments and platform for gender equality at the national level, in order to maximize the implementation of the SDGEA and incorporate it in the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) reports;
6. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to assist Member States in the process of reporting on the Solemn Declaration, and take necessary steps in this direction;
7. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the AU Commission to continue to expand and promote the Gender Parity Principle so far adopted by the Assembly to all the other organs of the African Union, including its NEPAD program, to the Regional Economic Communities and encourage member states to adopt Affirmative Action at the national and local levels in collaboration with political parties and the National parliaments.

**DECISION ON THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF LANGUAGES PROCLAIMED
BY THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON 16 MAY 2007**

The Assembly:

1. **RECALLS** the proclamation of 2008 as Year of African Languages and notes the poor mobilization of Member States for its celebration;
2. **REAFFIRMS** the special role of African languages in the socio-economic and cultural development, as well as in the political integration of the Continent;
3. **WELCOMES** the proclamation, by the 61st Session of the United Nations General Assembly, of 2008 as International Year of Languages;
4. **URGES** Member States to seize this opportunity to increase mobilization for the promotion and enhancement of African languages, through various activities at local, national and regional levels, in order to ensure Africa's contribution to the celebration of the International Year of Languages, as an extension of the Year of African Languages;
5. **INVITES** Member States to accelerate the implementation of the Language Plan of Action for Africa revised in Khartoum, and take the necessary measures to give African Languages the status of official working languages, together with the languages inherited from the colonial era;
6. **INVITES** the Regional Economic Communities to spare no effort, with the support of the African Academy of Languages (ACALAN), to make some common transborder languages official working languages in all areas of education and employment, together with the languages inherited from the colonial era;
7. **REQUESTS** AU Commission to ensure that ACALAN is provided with the means to coordinate the activities of 2008 – International Year of Languages, in cooperation with UNESCO, the MAAYA Network, the World Network for Linguistic Diversity and other partners.

**DECISION ON ELECTION OF TEN (10) MEMBERS OF THE
PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION
DOC. EX.CL/402 (XII)**

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the election conducted by the Executive Council;
2. **APPOINTS** the following ten (10) Members of the Peace and Security Council elected for a two-year term as of March 2008;
 1. Burundi Central Region
 2. Chad
 3. Rwanda Eastern Region
 4. Uganda
 5. Tunisia Northern Region
 6. Swaziland Southern Region
 7. Zambia
 8. Benin Western Region
 9. Burkina Faso
 10. Mali

**DECISION ON THE REFORM OF THE UNITED
NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL**

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Committee of Ten Heads of State on the Reform of the Security Council;
2. **REAFFIRMS** the Ezulwini consensus and Sirte Declaration on the Reform of the United Nations Security Council;
3. **DIRECTS** the African Permanent Representatives to the United Nations to participate in the forthcoming inter-governmental negotiations on the basis of the Ezulwini consensus and Sirte Declaration and to report to the Assembly accordingly, should they require further guidance;
4. **REQUESTS** the Committee of Ten to intensify its efforts in promoting the African common position;
5. **DECIDES** to renew the mandate of the Committee of ten until Africa achieves its objectives on the Reform of the United Nations Security Council;
6. **REQUESTS** the Committee of Ten to present a progress Report to the next ordinary session of the Assembly.

**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ON THE AUDIT
OF THE UNION AND THE REPORT OF THE MINISTERIAL
COMMITTEE ON THE UNION GOVERNMENT
DOC. ASSEMBLY/AU/8 (X)**

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Executive Council on the Audit of the Union and the Report of the Ministerial Committee on the Union Government;
2. **NOTES** that the Executive Council could not reach a general consensus on key issues and approaches in light of the Accra Declaration of 3 July 2007 (Assembly/AU/Decl.2 (IX)), due to time constraints;
3. **REAFFIRMS** that the ultimate objective of the African Union is the United States of Africa with a Union Government as envisaged by the Founding Fathers of the Organization of African Unity;
4. **DECIDES** to refer the issue of the Union Government to the existing Committee of Ten now elevated to the level of Heads of State and Government and expanded to include the immediate past Chairperson of the Union, under the chairmanship of the current Chairperson of the Union, with the same Terms of Reference (TORs). The membership of the Committee is as follows:
 - Tanzania (current Chairperson of the Union)
 - Ghana (immediate past Chairperson of the Union)
 - Botswana
 - Cameroon
 - Gabon
 - Egypt
 - Ethiopia
 - Libya
 - Nigeria
 - Senegal
 - South Africa
 - Uganda
5. **MANDATES** the Committee to consider the Report of the Executive Council on the Union Government as well as the background reports and submit appropriate recommendations to the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly in July 2008;
6. **AUTHORIZES** the convening of an Extraordinary Session of the Executive Council within three (3) months to consider the Report on the Audit of the African Union and the comments of the Commission as well as those of the other organs of the Union, with the view to making appropriate recommendations thereon to the Assembly, through the Committee of Heads of State and Government.

DECISION ON THE SITUATION IN THE COMOROS

The Assembly:

1. **REGRETS** that all the efforts so far deployed to resolve the crisis in the Comoros have not yielded the expected positive response from the illegal authorities of Anjouan and **STRESSES** that the persistence of that situation constitutes a serious threat to the reconciliation processes in the Comoros;
2. **EXPRESSES** its understanding of the frustration of the Comorian population and the authorities of the Union in view of the absence of tangible progress regarding the restoration of State authority in Anjouan and the organization of free, fair and transparent elections, as stipulated in the relevant Communiqués of the Ministerial Committee of the countries of the region;
3. **REQUESTS** all Member States capable of doing so to provide the necessary support to the Comorian Government in its efforts to restore, as quickly as possible, the authority of the Union in Anjouan and to put an end to the crisis born out of the persistent refusal by the illegal authorities of Anjouan to comply with the relevant texts governing the functioning of the Union of the Comoros. In this regard, the Assembly **REQUESTS** the Peace and Security Council (PSC) and the Commission to mobilize the assistance of Member States to the Union of Comoros;
4. **EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION** for the work accomplished by the African Union Electoral and Security Assistance Mission (MAES) to the Comoros and **APPEALS** to Member States to provide the necessary support to strengthen MAES so as to enable it to effectively carry out its mandate as spelt out by the PSC;
5. **URGES** the United Nations Security Council to adopt a resolution endorsing the sanctions imposed on the illegal authorities of Anjouan by the PSC of the AU since 10 October 2007.

**DECISION ON THE SITUATION IN KENYA FOLLOWING
THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION OF 27 DECEMBER 2007**

The Assembly:

1. **EXPRESSES ITS DEEP CONCERN** at the prevailing situation and its humanitarian consequences, as well as at its implications for peace and stability in Kenya and the region as a whole;
2. **STRONGLY DEPLORES** the loss of lives and **CONDEMNS** the gross violations of human rights that occurred in the past weeks;
3. **STRESSES** the need for all those involved in these violations to be held accountable and, to this end, **CALLS** for an in-depth investigation with a view to identifying those responsible and bringing them to justice;
4. **CALLS** on all the parties to exercise restraint, refrain from acts of violence, as well as prevail on their supporters to put an immediate end to the violence;
5. **STRONGLY URGES** the parties to commit themselves to a peaceful solution to the current crisis through dialogue and in conformity with the rule of law;
6. **WELCOMES** the visit undertaken by the former Chairman of the African Union, President John Kufuor, to Nairobi, from 8 to 10 January 2008, as well as the efforts deployed by President Yoweri Museveni, in his capacity as the Chairperson of the East African Community (EAC), and by other leaders of the region;
7. **STRESSES** the need for the parties to extend full cooperation to the mediation efforts undertaken by the group of eminent African elders led by Mr. Kofi Annan, former Secretary-General of the United Nations, and comprising Mr. Benjamin Mkapa and Mrs. Graca Machel, established as a follow-up to the visit of the former Chairperson of the AU. The Assembly **WELCOMES** the agreement on the ending of violence and the pursuit of dialogue, reached by the parties on 1st February 2008, and **URGES** them to build on this encouraging development to find a lasting solution to the current crisis. The Assembly **COMMENDS** Mr. Kofi Annan and the members of his team for the results achieved so far and **ENCOURAGES** them to pursue their efforts;
8. **STRESSES** the need to initiate a collective reflection on the challenges linked to the tension and disputes that often characterize electoral processes in Africa, including the strengthening of the African capacity at national, regional and continental levels to observe and monitor elections.

DECISION ON THE SITUATION IN CHAD

The Assembly:

1. **STRONGLY CONDEMNS** the attacks perpetrated by armed groups against the Chadian Government and **DEMANDS** that an immediate end be put to these attacks and resulting bloodshed;
2. **RECALLS** its rejection of any unconstitutional change in accordance with the principles enshrined in the Constitutive Act of the African Union, the Algeria's Decision, the Lomé Declaration on Unconstitutional Change of Government and the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance, and **STRESSES** that no authority that comes to power by force will be recognised by the AU;
3. **CALLS ON** all Chadian parties to unconditionally renounce the use of force and engage in constructive dialogue aimed at finding a peaceful solution to the problem facing their country;
4. **UNDERScores** its commitment to the principles of good neighbourliness and **CALLS ON** all the countries of the region to comply with the principles of the African Union on respect for the unity and territorial integrity of Member States;
5. **MANDATE** the Libyan Leader, Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, and President Denis Sassou-Nguesso of the Republic of the Congo, to engage the Chadian parties with a view to ending the fighting and to initiate efforts aimed at seeking a lasting solution to the crisis.

**DECISION ON ELECTIONS OF CHAIRPERSON AND
DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON - (DOC.ASSEMBLY/AU/2 (X))**

The Assembly:

1. **ELECTS** the following persons as follows:
 - a) Mr. Jean PING as Chairperson of the AU Commission;
 - b) Mr. Erastus J.O. MWENCHA as Deputy Chairperson of the AU Commission.
2. **CONGRATULATES** the newly elected Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson, wishes them the very best in carrying out their mandate and **ASSURES** them of the unwavering support of the Assembly.

DECISION ON APPOINTMENT OF AU COMMISSIONERS

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the election by the Executive Council of the Commissioners of the AU Commission;
2. **APPOINTS** the following persons as Commissioner of the African Union;
 - a) Mr. Ramtane LAMAMRA (Algeria) - Peace and Security Portfolio
 - b) Mrs. Julia Dolly JOINER (The Gambia) - Political Affairs Portfolio
 - c) Mrs. Elham Mahmood Ahmed IBRAHIM (Egypt) - Infrastructure and Energy Portfolio
 - d) Mrs. Bience Philomina GAWANAS (Namibia) - Social Affairs Portfolio
 - e) Mr. Jean Pierre Onvehoun EZIN (Benin) - Human Resources, Science and Technology Portfolio
 - f) Mrs. Elizabeth TANKEU (Cameroon) - Trade and Industry Portfolio
 - g) Mr. M. Maxwell MKWEZALAMBA (Malawi) - Economic Affairs portfolio
3. **CONGRATULATES** the newly elected Commissioners;
4. **DECIDES** that the Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture shall be elected from among female candidates from the Eastern Region;
5. **AUTHORIZES** the Executive Council to elect and appoint a Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture during its forthcoming Extraordinary Session and report to the 11th Ordinary Session of the Assembly;
6. **DECIDES** that the elected Commissioners who did not take the Oath of Office during the current session of the Assembly should do so before the Chairperson of the Commission.

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT
IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE ON NEPAD
Assembly/AU/10 (X)

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE WITH APPRECIATION** of the report by the Chairperson of NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee, H.E. Meles Zenawi, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia;
2. **ENDORSES** the conclusions of the 18th NEPAD HSGIC Summit;
3. **TAKES NOTE** of the recent recall of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), NEPAD Secretariat, Professor Firmino Mucavele, by the Government of Mozambique and **CALLS UPON** the Chairperson of the AU Commission in consultation with the HSGIC Chairperson to appoint urgently a new Chief Executive Officer in conformity with the rules, policies and practice governing AU appointments and final short-listing by a Panel of representatives of the Chairs of AU, AUC, HSGIC and Algeria, Egypt, Nigeria, Senegal and South Africa;
4. **FURTHER TAKES NOTE** of the poor financial situation of the NEPAD Secretariat and **AGREES** that Member States of HSGIC should pay up their arrears and annual contributions up to the next financial year, beginning in April 2008;
5. **URGES** Member States of the African Union to make voluntary contributions to the NEPAD Secretariat;
6. **REQUESTS**, in the spirit of broad inclusiveness in the NEPAD process, for the rotation of the membership of the HSGIC to take place every two years, excepting the five initiating countries and for the five AU regions to consult and present their candidates for elections to the HSGIC at the 11th AU Assembly;
7. **REITERATES** the importance of convening the NEPAD Review Summit at the earliest opportune moment, and for the event to hold before the 11th AU Assembly;
8. **AGREES** to proceed with the integration of NEPAD into the AU structures and processes, immediately, and in an expeditious manner, along the lines of the 13-point conclusions of the Algiers Brainstorming Summit of March 2007.

**DECISION ON THE DATE AND VENUE OF THE 11TH ORDINARY
SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE AFRICAN UNION**

The Assembly:

1. **WELCOMES** the offer of the Arab Republic of Egypt to host the 11th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union in Sharm El Sheikh in June/July 2008;
2. **REQUESTS** the Commission, in this respect, to conduct the necessary consultations with the Arab Republic of Egypt in order to decide on the exact dates of the Assembly and inform Member States as soon as possible.

**AU SUMMIT DECLARATION ON AFRICA'S INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT - DOC. EX.CL/379(XII)**

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the African Union, meeting at the 10th Ordinary Session of our Assembly in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 31 January to 2 February 2008 on the theme of African industrialization:

Recalling the objectives set for the accelerated and sustainable socio-economic development of Africa in the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community, the Constitutive Act of the African Union, the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Programme and the Strategic Plan of the AU Commission;

Re-affirming our commitment to claim the 21st Century as a century of rapid change for Africa and to eradicate poverty and improve the living conditions of our peoples by 2015;

Mindful of the imperative of resolving the paradox of widespread poverty in Africa in the midst of the rich endowment of our continent in natural resources;

Aware of the strong link between industrialization and rapid economic growth and development;

Desirous of transforming Africa from a primary commodity producing economy to a value adding industrial economy;

Taking note of the fact that in spite of the efforts made so far, Africa's share in global manufacturing is still less than one percent (1%);

Further taking into consideration the NEPAD Spatial Development Programme (SDP);

Determined to draw useful lessons from the experiences of the newly industrializing and emerging economies;

Hereby:

1. **ENDORSE** the Action Plan of the 1st Extraordinary Session of AU Conference of Ministers of Industry (CAMI) on the industrial development of Africa, and
2. **COMMIT OURSELVES** to:
 - Accelerate the pace of Africa's industrial development, especially the conversion of natural resources to higher value-added products;
 - Adopt policies and programmes for natural resource processing and greater value addition in Africa;

- Enhance public-private sector partnership, particularly in the areas of heavy infrastructure development;
 - Increase investment in Science and Technology, Human Capital Development, with emphasis on technical training, to enhance Africa's industrial productivity and competitiveness;
 - Pool resources and share knowledge and know-how in the area of industrial technology, planning and production management;
 - Establish and strengthen the legal and institutional frameworks for the promotion of African industrial enterprises at national, regional, continental and international levels;
 - Strengthen African Industrial Research and Development Institutions and Agencies to develop innovative approaches and programmes for the accelerated industrial development of Africa;
 - Encourage Africans in the Diaspora to increase their contribution to the industrial development of Africa;
 - Speed up the establishment of the African Investment Bank and the promotion of African regional and continental capital markets;
 - Achieve the harmonization of African business laws;
 - Take necessary measures at the national level to implement the Action Plan.
3. **REQUEST** the AU Commission, Regional Economic Communities and development partners, to take necessary measures towards effective implementation of the Action Plan;
 4. **REAFFIRM** our strong commitment to the principles of good governance, democracy, rule of law, accountability, sound macro-economic management, which are necessary for the accelerated development of our countries;
 5. **REITERATE** our commitment to the promotion of regional markets that are necessary for the attainment of economies of scale in the production of competitive industrial products in Africa;
 6. **UNDERTAKE** to develop and enhance Africa's industrial cooperation and partnership with the emerging industrial economies for the mutual benefits of both sides;
 7. **CALL UPON** our development partners to adopt policies and measures to encourage their companies to increase investment in local processing within Africa of the continent's natural resources;

8. **REQUEST** Member States to pay their contribution to (UNIDO) and the international community to strengthen UNIDO mandate and means to enable it serve as an effective agency for the accelerated industrial development of Africa;
9. **CALL ON** UNIDO to strengthen its visibility in Africa by implementing a programme that is regionally balanced and more focused towards Africa;
10. **REQUEST** the AU Commission, in collaboration with the relevant agencies, to prepare and submit for our consideration every two (2) years, Progress Reports on the State of Industrialization in Africa and the Implementation of the Action Plan.

DECLARATION ON ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS (EPAs)
DOC. EX.CL/394 (XII)

The Assembly:

1. **RECALLING** the objectives of the Abuja Treaty and the Constitutive Act of the African Union to accelerate the political and economic integration of Africa;
2. **ALSO RECALLING** the objectives of the Cotonou Partnership Agreement to make EPAs serve as instruments for the promotion of sustainable development, eradication of poverty, and reinforcement of regional integration;
3. **FURTHER RECALLING** AU Summit decisions that EPAs should serve to support African integration and promote unity and cohesion in Africa;
4. **CONCERNED** about the non-ratification of the revised EPAs by some ACP States;
5. **ALSO CONCERNED** about the lack of progress in the EPAs negotiations towards making them to achieve the development objectives of Cotonou Partnership Agreement;
6. **FURTHER CONCERNED** that the process leading to the conclusion of Interim Economic Partnership Agreements did not build on what was negotiated earlier and in particular that political and economic pressures are being exerted by the European Commission on African countries to initial Interim Economic Partnership Agreements;
7. **AWARE** that some countries had to initial Interim EPAs in order to avoid trade disruption and to conclude World Trade Organization (WTO) compatible arrangements by the deadline of 31 December 2007;
8. **FURTHER-CONCERNED** that the European Commission did not put much effort to explore other options to ensure that no Africa Caribbean Pacific country is worse-off;

Hereby,

1. **REITERATES** that EPAs must serve as instruments for the promotion of sustainable development, eradication of poverty and the reinforcement of regional integration in Africa, as agreed in the Cotonou Partnership Agreement;
2. **CALLS** for the review of the interim EPAs, in line with the concerns raised by African Heads of State during the Second Africa-EU Summit;

3. **URGES** the Regional Economic Communities and African Negotiating Groups that have initialed Interim Agreements to ensure that final agreements still to be signed are coherent with their regional integration agenda;
4. **ALSO URGES** the African negotiating groups and the Regional Economic Communities to work closely among themselves and with the AU Commission as well as the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) to achieve these objectives;
5. **FURTHER URGES** the Member States that have not already done so, to ratify the Cotonou Partnership Agreement;
6. **CALLS ON** the European Union and its Member States to deepen the EPA negotiating mandate of the European Commission to enable it to effectively address the development objectives of EPAs;
7. **RE-AFFIRMS** the mandate of the AU Commission to coordinate, monitor and harmonize the efforts of the concerned RECs and Member States in the negotiations of EPAs with the European Union;
8. **REQUESTS** the RECs and African Groups negotiating EPAs to facilitate the monitoring and coordinating role of the AU Commission by inviting the latter, to their preparatory meetings and negotiating sessions;
9. **CALLS ON** the European Union to respect the commitment it made in the Cotonou Partnership Agreement that no ACP country should be worse-off after the end of the Cotonou preferences;
10. **URGES** the European Union to provide additional resources beyond European Development Fund and not to link the disbursement of EDF and Aid for Trade resources to the signing of EPAs;
11. **WELCOMES** the proposal of the President of the European Commission for consultations on EPA negotiations between Africa and European Union at the highest political level;
12. **REQUESTS** the African Union Ministers of Trade and Finance to hold at the earliest opportunity a meeting in preparation for these consultations;
13. **ALSO REQUESTS** the African regional negotiating groups, Commissions of the AU, RECs, and the EU to work towards successful holding of the African-EU high level consultations on EPAs;
14. **URGES** the African Union Ministers of Trade and African Negotiators to remain vigilant in the upcoming stages of the EPA negotiations.

DECLARATION ON THE SITUATION IN SOMALIA

We, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 31 January to 2 February 2008, in the 10th Ordinary Session of our Assembly:

Having reviewed the situation in Somalia and the ongoing efforts aimed at promoting lasting peace, security and reconciliation in that country, in the light of the report submitted by the Chairperson of the Commission to the 105th meeting of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) [PSC/PR/2(CV)], held on 18 January 2008, and the communiqué adopted by the PSC on that occasion [PSC/PR/Comm(CV)],

Stressing that the situation in Somalia represents one of the most serious peace and security challenges facing the Continent,

Welcoming the steps taken within Somalia, including the convening of the National Reconciliation Congress (NRC), in July – August 2007, the recent appointment of a new Prime Minister, Mr. Nur Hassan Hussein, and subsequent formation of a new government, as well as the efforts made by the AU, notably through the deployment of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM),

Reiterating the conviction expressed by the PSC that, despite the daunting challenges confronting the peace and reconciliation process, the opportunity that arose in December 2006, when the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) regained control of Mogadishu and other parts of the country, in order to find a lasting solution to the crisis in Somalia still exists,

Stressing the need for both the Somali stakeholders and the international community as a whole to seize this opportunity to decisively address the conflict in Somalia and to take all steps required to this end,

Hereby:

1. **FULLY ENDORSE** all the steps identified in the PSC Communiqué referred to above;
2. **DEMAND** that all parties in Somalia reject violence, uphold the principles and spirit enshrined in the Transitional Federal Charter (TFC) and work towards genuine national reconciliation within that framework;
3. **ENCOURAGE** the TFG to urgently devise concrete ways to fully implement the outcome of the NRC, and adopt a broader inclusive approach to reach out to all Somali stakeholders who reject violence, both within and outside Somalia, in line with the TFC, and **WELCOME** the commitment of the newly appointed Prime Minister to an all-inclusive reconciliation;

4. **CALL UPON** all Member States, especially the countries of the region, and the larger international community to stand by the legitimate Somali Institutions and provide adequate and concrete support in order to enhance their capacity, including that of the TFG and its security and defence forces;
5. **URGE** the United Nations Security Council to take measures against those who seek to prevent or block a peaceful political process, threaten the TFIs or AMISOM, or take action that undermines stability in Somalia or the region, in line with its intention as stated in Resolution 1772(2007);
6. **COMMEND** Uganda and Burundi for having contributed troops to AMISOM, Nigeria for the steps it has taken for imminent deployment of the battalion which it pledged to contribute to AMISOM and Rwanda for having contributed to the training of the Somali defense and security forces. We **ALSO COMMEND** Ethiopia for its invaluable assistance to the TFG;
7. **STRONGLY APPEAL** to Member States to provide the required troops and personnel to reach the authorized strength of AMISOM, as well as financial and logistical support, to facilitate the deployment of the Mission and the sustenance of its operations;
8. **APPEAL** to the AU partners to provide increased logistical and financial support for AMISOM, especially in view of the fact that the AU, in deploying an operation in Somalia, is also acting on behalf of the larger international community;
9. **STRESS** the need for the deployment of a United Nations peacekeeping operation in Somalia that will take over AMISOM and support the long-term stabilization and post-conflict reconstruction of Somalia;
10. **APPEAL ONCE AGAIN** to the United Nations Security Council to urgently take the necessary steps for the early deployment of such an operation, bearing in mind that it has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security;
11. **APPEAL** to the international community, including Member States, to continue to provide humanitarian assistance to the needy population in Somalia, and **URGE** that all necessary steps be taken to create conditions conducive to the provision of humanitarian assistance, including unhindered access to needy population and security for humanitarian workers and organizations;
12. **AGREE** to review the situation at its next ordinary session and to assess the status of implementation of the PSC decision of 18 January 2008 and agree on the best way forward, and in the meantime, **REQUEST** the PSC to regularly review the situation in Somalia.

African Union Commission (AUC)

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Annual Reports, Decisions and Declarations

Assembly Decisions

2008-02-02

Decisions and Declarations Adopted by the Tenth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union held on 31 January - 2 February 2008, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Assembly of the Union

African Union Commission

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