

DECISION ON THE PROGRESS REPORT ON AIDS WATCH AFRICA (AWA)
(Doc. Assembly/AU/6 (VI))

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Progress Report and the AIDS Watch Africa (AWA) Strategic Framework contained therein;
2. **WELCOMES** the decision to allocate each of the AWA Heads of State and Government a specific responsibility to spearhead in advocacy to combat HIV/AIDS in Africa;
3. **ALSO WELCOMES** the emphasis in the Strategic Framework on promotion of Universal Access to Prevention, Treatment and Care as well as the crisis of orphans and vulnerable children;
4. **URGES** AWA Heads of State and Government to intensify efforts to maximize the visibility of AWA as an advocacy platform;
5. **REQUESTS** the Commission to coordinate and monitor the implementation of the AWA Strategic Framework, and to annually report to the Ordinary Session of the Assembly on progress made.

**DECISION ON A SECOND DECADE OF EDUCATION FOR AFRICA
(2006 – 2015) AND THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PLAN OF ACTION
FOR THE SECOND DECADE - (Doc. EX/CL/224 (VIII)) Rev.2**

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on a Second Decade of Education for Africa (2006-2015) and the Framework of the Plan of Action for the Second Decade;
2. **ACCEPTS** the conclusions of the Evaluation Report, as amended;
3. **COMMENDS** Member States and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) on the efforts made to achieve the objectives of the First Decade; and salutes their collaboration in the evaluation of the said Decade;
4. **ACKNOWLEDGES** that while there have been significant advances in many areas, a number of obstacles and challenges which confront the Continent have prevented the full achievement of all the commitment made in 1997 by the Organization of African Unity;
5. **ALSO ACKNOWLEDGES** the need to accelerate and expand provision of quality education;
6. **ENDORSES** the framework of the Plan of Action of the Second Decade of Education for Africa;
7. **CALLS UPON** Member States to devote sufficient resources for the implementation of the Plan of Action;
8. **ALSO CALLS UPON** the Commission, the Regional Economic Communities and the Member States to strengthen cooperation as well as support coordination mechanisms for operationalizing this framework of the Plan of Action;
9. **RECOGNIZES** the existence of other initiatives involved in education in Africa, such as, Education For All, Millennium Development Goals, the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), and call for a better coordination between these initiatives and the framework for action for the second Decade;

10. **PROCLAIMS** the period 2006 – 2015, the Second Decade of Education for Africa;
11. **APPEALS** to International Agencies, as well as Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), Civil Society and Development partners to lend their technical and financial support to the implementation of the framework of the Plan of Action of the Second Decade of Education at national, regional and continental levels.

DECISION ON THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF AFRICAN FOOTBALL
(Doc.Assembly/AU.8 (VI)) Add.11

The Assembly:

1. **RECALLS** that the Confederation of African Football (CAF), which was founded in Khartoum, The Sudan, in 1957 by South Africa, Egypt, Ethiopia and The Sudan, will celebrate its Fiftieth Anniversary in 2007;
2. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the invaluable contribution of CAF to the development of the game of football in the Continent while protecting the interests of Africa in the international arena;
3. **ACKNOWLEDGES ALSO** the efforts of CAF in the promotion of unity, solidarity, peace and reconciliation, its humanitarian activities and its participation in preventive education campaigns against scourges affecting the youth of the Continent;
4. **DECLARES** 2007 «International Year of African Football»;
5. **INVITES** all Member States to support their national football associations in the organization of the Fiftieth Anniversary of CAF in 2007, while highlighting the hosting of the FIFA World Cup in South Africa in 2010;
6. **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the African Union Commission to cooperate with CAF in its efforts to achieve this objective and submit a report on the celebration in 2008.

**DECISION ON THE REVISED CHARTER FOR THE CULTURAL
RENAISSANCE OF AFRICA**

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the recommendation of the Executive Council to adopt the revised Charter for the Cultural Renaissance of Africa;
2. **ADOPTS** the revised Charter as recommended;
3. **APPEALS** to Member States for the speedy signing and ratification of the revised Charter.

**DECISION ON THE STATUTES OF THE AFRICAN ACADEMY
OF LANGUAGES (ACALAN)**

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the recommendation of the Executive Council to adopt the Draft Statutes for the establishment of the African Academy of Languages as an AU Specialized Office to be located in Bamako, the Republic of Mali;
2. **ADOPTS** the Draft Statutes as recommended;
3. **APPEALS** to Member States, the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), partners and other relevant organizations to support the AU Commission in the promotion of the activities of ACALAN.

DECISION ON THE LINKAGE BETWEEN CULTURE AND EDUCATION**The Assembly:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Algiers Conference of Ministers of Education in April 2005 and also the outcomes of the Extraordinary Session of the Ministers of Education in Addis Ababa in January 2006;
2. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the 1st Session of AU Conference of Ministers of Culture held in Nairobi, in December 2005;
3. **CONVINCED** that African cultural values and heritages should provide the basis for education at all levels;
4. **RECOGNIZES** the importance of African languages as media of instruction and vehicles of culture for the achievement of African Renaissance;
5. **RECALLS** the previous commitments made to protect and promote African tangible and intangible cultural heritages as well as to develop appropriate policies for the development of culture and proportion of indigenous African knowledge;
6. **REAFFIRMS** the indisputable interface between culture and education and the role of both culture and education in sustainable socio-economic development;
7. **CONVINCED** of the need to promote cultural literacy among Africans of all walks of life;
8. **ALSO CONVINCED** that culture and education are important weapons for the fight against poverty, HIV/AIDS pandemic and promotion of peace, stability and governance;
9. **DETERMINE** to eliminate certain cultural practices that have negative impacts on health, development, human rights and education;
10. **RE-COMMITS** to strengthen the interface between education and culture and give our full support to the implementation of programmes and projects to this effect;
11. **URGES** our ministries of culture and education to create the fora for regular consultations and streamlining culture in education and education in culture, in particular through the rebuilding of African educational systems;

12. **CALLS UPON** the Commission, in collaboration with Member States and RECs, to follow up and facilitate the implementation of this decision and to provide leadership in the process of re-instating the linkage between culture and education in Africa, specifically through the African Academy of Languages as well as reporting periodically thereon;
13. **INVITES** UNESCO and other relevant partners to provide support to both ministries of culture and education in their efforts to strengthen the interface between culture and education.

DECISION ON THE DROUGHT SITUATION IN THE IGAD SUB-REGION

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** with serious concern of the drought situation that is affecting countries in the Horn and Eastern African region and most particularly Djibouti, Somalia, Ethiopia and Kenya threatening the lives of millions of peoples and livestock in these countries;
2. **UNDERLINES** the need to sensitize the international community of the impending crisis situation before its further escalation which would result in the huge lose of lives and displacement of peoples;
3. **CALLS UPON** the international community and in particular the relevant UN Agencies to render maximum support and assistance to the affected countries with a view to saving human lives and minimizing the effect of the drought on the livelihood of the peoples.

DECISION TO DECLARE 2006 AS THE YEAR OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES
(Doc. EX.CL/223 (VIII))

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the recommendation of the Executive Council;
2. **DECLARES 2006** as the Year of African Languages;
3. **REQUESTS** the Commission, in collaboration with UNESCO and other relevant partners to coordinate activities related to the Year.

**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF SEVEN
HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT CHAIRED BY THE
PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA**

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Committee of Seven Heads of State and Government;
2. **COMMENDS** the Committee of Seven Heads of State and Government for its Report;
3. **REAFFIRMS** that the ultimate goal of the African Union is the full political and economic integration of the continent leading to the United States of Africa;
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to follow up on this Report in accordance with the Work Plan and the framework of action contained therein;
5. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to consider the contribution of the Brother Leader Muammer El-Gaddafi and all other pertinent ideas discussed during this Session as well as others that may be submitted or arise through consultations with all relevant stakeholders and Experts as envisaged in the Report and to submit a consolidated document with a roadmap for consideration by the Assembly at its next Ordinary Session in July 2006.

**DECISION ON THE ELECTION OF JUDGES OF THE AFRICAN COURT
ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS - (Doc. EX.CL/241 (VIII))**

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the results of the election conducted by the Executive Council;
2. **DECIDES** to appoint the following Judges of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights as elected by the Eighth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council:
 1. Ms. Sophia A.B. AKUFFO (2-year term)
 2. Mr. G.W. KANYIEHAMBA (2-year term)
 3. Mr. Bernard Makgabo NGOEPE (2-year term)
 4. Mr. Jean Emile SOMDA (2-year term)
 5. Mr. Hamdi Faraj FANOUSH (4-year term)
 6. Mrs. Kelello Justina MAFOSO-GUNI (4-year term)
 7. Mr. Jean MUTSINZI (6-year term)
 8. Mr. Fatsah OUGUERGOUZ (4-year term)
 9. Mr. Modibo Tounry GUINDO (6-year term)
 10. Mr. El Hadji GUISSSE (4-year term)
 11. Mr. Gérard NIYUNGEKO (6-year term)

**DECISION ON THE 19TH ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE AFRICAN COMMISSION
ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS - (Doc. EX.CL/236 (VIII))**

The Assembly:

1. **ADOPTS** and authorize, in accordance with Article 59 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (the Charter), the publication of the 19th Activity Report of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) and its annexes, except for those containing the Resolutions on Eritrea, Ethiopia, the Sudan, Uganda and Zimbabwe;
2. **REQUESTS** the concerned Member States to make available to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights within three (3) months of the adoption of the present Decision, their views on the said Resolutions and the ACHPR to submit a Report thereon to the next Ordinary Session of the Executive Council;
3. **CALLS UPON** the ACHPR to ensure that in future, it enlists the responses of all States parties to its Resolutions and Decisions before submitting them to the Executive Council and/or the Assembly for consideration;
4. **REQUESTS** States parties, within three (3) months of the notification by the ACHPR, to communicate their responses to Resolutions and Decisions to be submitted to the Executive Council and/or the Assembly;
5. **WELCOMES** the entry into force of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa on 25th November 2005 and **URGES** Member States which have not yet done so to ratify/accede to the Protocol;
6. **REITERATES** its request to the AU Commission to allocate adequate resources from its operational budget to the ACHPR as provided for in Article 41 of the Charter to enable the ACHPR discharge independently its mandate under the Charter;
7. **URGES** Member States, which have not yet done so, to present their outstanding periodic reports to the ACHPR in accordance with Article 62 of the Charter;
8. **REQUESTS** the ACHPR to complete, as soon as possible, the work undertaken on its relations with the various organs and institutions of the African Union, including the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights; and to submit to it, appropriate recommendations relating thereto;
9. **ALSO REQUESTS** the ACHPR to take part in the process of operationalization of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights.

**DECISION ON THE ELECTION OF ONE (1) MEMBER OF THE AFRICAN
COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE OF THE CHILD**
(Doc. EX.CL/242 (VIII))

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the election conducted by the Executive Council;
2. **DECIDES** to appoint Mrs. Dawlat Ibrahim HASSAN as a member of the African Committee on the Rights and Welfare of the Child as elected by the 8th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council.

DECISION ON THE HISSÈNE HABRE CASE AND THE AFRICAN UNION
(Doc.Assembly/AU/8 (VI)) Add.9

The Assembly :

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the briefing by President Abdoulaye Wade of Senegal and President Olusegun Obasanjo, the outgoing Chairperson of the African Union, on the Hissène Habré case and reiterates AU's commitment to fighting impunity in line with the relevant provisions of the Constitutive Act;
2. **DECIDES** to set up a Committee of Eminent African Jurists to be appointed by the Chairperson of the African Union in consultation with the Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union. The Committee shall be assisted in its work by the AU Commission (Office of the Legal Counsel);
3. **MANDATES** the Committee to consider all aspects and implications of the Hissène Habré case as well as the options available for his trial, taking into account the following benchmarks;
 - a) Adherence to the principles of total rejection of impunity;
 - b) Adherence to international fair trial standards including the independence of the judiciary and impartiality of proceedings;
 - c) Jurisdiction over the alleged crimes for which Mr. Habré should be tried;
 - d) Efficiency in terms of cost and time of trial;
 - e) Accessibility to the trial by alleged victims as well as witnesses;
 - f) Priority for an African mechanism.
4. **FURTHER MANDATES** the Committee to make concrete recommendations on ways and means of dealing with issues of a similar nature in the future;
5. **REQUESTS** the Committee to finalize its work and submit a report to its next Ordinary Session in July 2006.

**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF NEPAD HEADS
OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE**
(Doc.Assembly/AU/3 (VI))

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee;
2. **WELCOMES** the initiative to convene a Brainstorming Conference in Dakar, Senegal to further review the achievements of NEPAD and on possible improvements of its programmes and operations;
3. **REQUESTS** the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee to submit a report on the outcome of the Brainstorming Conference at its next ordinary session in July 2006.

DECISION ON UN REFORM

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Chairperson of the Expanded Follow-up Mechanism on UN reforms;
2. **AFFIRMS** the determination of Africa to correct the historical injustice that arises out of a situation in which the continent is the only region that does not have a permanent seat on the UN Security Council;
3. **DECIDES** to maintain the resolution presented before the UN General Assembly Session and **REQUESTS** all Member States to sponsor it;
4. **RENEWS** the mandate of the Committee of Ten Heads of State and Government and the Expanded Follow-up Mechanism to continue consultations with a view to promote and support the Common African Position as embodied in the Ezulwini Consensus and the Sirte Resolution on UN reform including the reform of the Security Council;
5. **ENCOURAGES** Member States to support this process;
6. **REQUESTS** the Committee of Ten to submit a progress report on this issue to the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly in July 2006

**DECISION ON ELECTION OF TEN (10) MEMBERS OF THE PEACE
AND SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION**
(Doc. Assembly/AU/7 (VI))

The Assembly :

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the results of the election conducted by the Executive Council;
2. **CONGRATULATES** the following Members of the Peace and Security Council for a two-year term :

- | | | |
|-----|--------------|-----------|
| 1. | Cameroon | (Central) |
| 2. | Congo | (Central) |
| 3. | Rwanda | (East) |
| 4. | Uganda | (East) |
| 5. | Egypt | (North) |
| 6. | Botswana | (South) |
| 7. | Malawi | (South) |
| 8. | Burkina Faso | (West) |
| 9. | Ghana | (West) |
| 10. | Senegal | (West) |

**DECISION ON THE REVIEW OF SYMBOLS - FLAG OF THE UNION,
ON THE HOLDING OF BILATERAL SUMMITS BETWEEN AFRICA AND
OTHER STATES AND ON THE NON-ASSIMILATION OF NORTH AFRICA
INTO THE MIDDLE EAST WITH REGARD TO NOMENCLATURE,
CONTENT AND CONCEPT – (Doc. Assembly/AU/8 (VI) Add.1, 2 and 4**

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE WITH SATISFACTION** of the proposals of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya;
2. **EMPHASISES** that the African Continent is a single human, geographical, political and cultural entity that can neither be partitioned, divided, annexed, nor integrated into any other region or part thereof into any space or continent other than its own;
3. **DECIDES** to submit the three proposals mentioned in the 1st sub-paragraph above to the Committee of Seven Heads of State and Government in conformity with the Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.90 (V) for consideration and make proposals to the 7th Ordinary Session of the Assembly scheduled in July 2006.

**DECISION ON THE NON-SUBMISSION OF DECISIONS OF THE AFRICAN UNION
SUMMITS TO THE RATIFICATION MECHANISMS OF AU MEMBER STATES
(Doc. Assembly/AU/8 (VI)) Add.3**

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** with satisfaction of the proposal of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya concerning Non-Submission of Decisions of the African Union Summits to the Ratification Mechanisms of AU Member States;
2. **CALLS UPON** all Member States to sign and ratify the Treaties, Charters, Conventions and Protocols adopted by the Assembly and **REQUESTS** National Parliaments to hold, if necessary, extraordinary sessions for their ratification.

**DECISION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PAN-AFRICAN STOCK EXCHANGE
AND ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FUND WITHIN THE AFRICAN UNION
TO MITIGATE THE EFFECTS OF THE INCREASE IN OIL PRICES
ON THE AFRICAN COUNTRIES**
(Doc.Assembly/AU/8 (VI)) Add.5 and 6

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of and **WELCOMES** the two proposals of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for the establishment of a Pan-African Stock Exchange and on the establishment of a fund within the African Union to mitigate the effects of the increase in oil prices on the African countries;
2. **COMMENDS** the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for its initiative which is an expression of its solidarity with countries of the Continent that are experiencing economic difficulties as a result of the oil price hike.
3. **DIRECTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to take necessary measures to convene a meeting of Experts to consider the two proposals and to report thereon, with specific proposals, to the 7th Ordinary Session of the Assembly in July 2006.

**DECISION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AFRICAN EDUCATIONAL,
SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (AFESCO)**
(Doc. EX/CL/243 (VIII) Add.10)

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the proposal;
2. **REQUESTS** the Commission to consider the issue further in cooperation with a Group of Experts to be set up for this purpose.

**DECLARATION ON THE OUTCOME OF THE 6TH WTO MINISTERIAL
CONFERENCE HELD IN HONG KONG, CHINA,
13 - 18 DECEMBER, 2005**

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the African Union, meeting at the 6th Ordinary Session of our Assembly in Khartoum, Sudan on 23rd – 24th January 2006;

Convinced that a multilateral trade system based on fair and equitable rules is crucial for the attainment of rapid and sustained economic growth and development, and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);

Recalling the commitment made in November 2001 in the Doha Declaration by WTO Members to place the needs and interests of developing countries at the heart of the Doha Work Programme;

Recognizing that a faithful and speedy implementation of the Doha Work Programme presents a good opportunity for our countries to be effectively integrated into the global economy and to have a fair share of global trade, which is growing at an unprecedented rate;

Recalling the Cairo Declaration and the Cairo Road Map on the Doha Work Programme, which we endorsed at the 5th Ordinary Session of our Assembly;

Taking Note of the Arusha Development Benchmarks for the 6th WTO Ministerial Conference adopted by the African Union Trade Ministers at the 2nd Extra-Ordinary Session of their Conference held in Arusha, Tanzania on 22-24 November 2005; and

Also Taking Note of the Report of the AU Commission on the 6th WTO Ministerial Conference held in Hong Kong, China from 13th to 18th December 2005;

1. **COMMEND** our Member States and African negotiators, especially the African Group in Geneva, for the tremendous efforts they deployed prior to and in Hong Kong towards safeguarding Africa's interests in the negotiations on the Doha Work Programme;
2. **EXPRESS OUR DEEP CONCERN** and disappointment at the limited progress achieved in Hong Kong on major issues of interest to Africa;
3. **WELCOME** the commitment contained in the Declaration of the 6th WTO Ministerial Conference to complete the Doha Work Programme fully and to conclude the negotiations launched at Doha successfully in 2006;
4. **REAFFIRM** our commitment to a successful completion of the Doha Development Round and call on the international community, especially

the industrialized developed countries, to show greater flexibility in their negotiating positions and muster the political will to remove the obstacles to the achievement of this objective by 2006;

5. **EMPHASIZE** that the success of the Doha Round will be measured by its development outcomes;
6. **TAKE NOTE** of the decision by the 6th WTO Ministerial Conference to ensure that the parallel elimination of all forms of agriculture export subsidies and disciplines on all export measures with equivalent effect is completed by the end of 2013 and **Call** for appropriate compensation to African countries that may be adversely affected by the delay in the elimination of agriculture export subsidies;
7. **WELCOME** the extension of the TRIPs Agreement transition period for LDCs and the incorporation of the temporary solution of August 2003 into an amendment of the TRIPs Agreement and **REITERATE** the need for the simplification of the cumbersome procedure, which has rendered the solution ineffective and unworkable in practice;
8. **COMMEND** the Aid for Trade Initiative and **REQUEST** that it be endowed with adequate resources, and appropriate governance and operational modalities that will enable the initiative serve as an effective instrument for the supply-side capacity building which our countries need in order to use trade for development;
9. **REITERATE** the need to expeditiously review the Special and Differential (S&D) treatment provisions of WTO Agreements with a view to strengthening them and making them more precise, effective and operational;
10. **REAFFIRM** the importance of ensuring that the obligations to be undertaken by our countries are proportional and commensurate with our level of development and will allow us sufficient flexibility to determine our trade policies in accordance with our countries' development goals;
11. **CALL** for significant progress and useful outcomes in the negotiations on the issues of implementation; small and vulnerable economies; commodities including cotton; trade, debt and finance; and trade and technology transfers which are critical to making the Doha Work Programme a real development Round;
12. **REQUEST** African Trade Ministers and negotiators to remain engaged, vigilant and united and to intensify their efforts in order to ensure that the interests and concerns of Africa are adequately addressed in the final outcome of the Doha Round of WTO negotiations; and

- 13. DIRECT** the AU Commission to take necessary measures to continue to coordinate Africa's common position and, in collaboration with the ECA and other organizations, give necessary technical support to Member States in the WTO negotiations.

DECLARATION BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE AFRICAN UNION

The Assembly of the African Union, meeting in its Sixth Ordinary Session in the Sudanese Capital, Khartoum, on 23 – 24 January 2006, expressed its gratitude and appreciation to the President of The Sudan, H.E. Mr. Omar Hassan Al-Bashir, for the warm welcome and generous hospitality the people and government of the Sudan have accorded during the Assembly and its preparatory meetings.

The leaders commend the government of The Sudan for the tremendous and historic achievement they made by concluding the Comprehensive Peace Agreement that brought to an end the civil war in Southern Sudan and wished The Sudan well in its post-conflict reconstruction efforts.

The leaders expressed their appreciation for the initiative taken by H.E. President Omar Hassan Al-Bashir to accept the postponement of his term of Chairmanship for the African Union until 2007. The leaders consider this gesture to be a true reflection of the great sense of responsibility and leadership demonstrated by President Al-Bashir.

The leaders agreed after extensive consultations that the Sudan will assume the Chairmanship of the Union in the year 2007. In this regard, they reiterated the importance of implementing the principle of rotation between the geographical regions in the continent.

They also agreed to that the Central Region would submit a candidate for the Chairmanship of the Union for the Year 2006.

A committee to consider the implementation of the rotation system between the regions will set out procedures for the determination of the Chairmanship among them for the coming years in accordance with the Constitutive Act of the African Union.

Khartoum, 24 January 2006

**DECLARATION 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) of the AU and the state of peace and security in Africa;
2. **WELCOMES** the progress made in the resolution of the conflicts facing the Continent since its last Summit, in July 2005, in particular the successful conclusion of the transition processes in Burundi, Comoros, Liberia and the achievements recorded in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), including the successful holding of the referendum on 18 December, 2005, Guinea Bissau and Sudan, with respect to the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA);
3. **COMMENDS** the PSC for its work and contribution to the promotion of peace and security in Africa, and **URGES** it to exert renewed efforts to address the scourge of conflicts in Africa. In this respect, the Assembly **REQUESTS** the PSC to put a particular emphasis on conflict prevention and post-conflict reconstruction;
4. **NOTES WITH APPRECIATION** the achievements of the African Union Mission (AMIS) in Darfur, in spite of the serious financial and logistical constraints facing the Mission and its contribution to the improvement of the security and humanitarian situation. The Assembly **STRESSES** the need for all parties to abide by their commitments as spelt out in the Agreements already signed and to extend full cooperation to the AU-led mediation to facilitate the early and successful conclusion of the Abuja Inter-Sudanese Peace Talks on the conflict in Darfur;
5. **EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** to the Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs) and partners for their contribution to AMIS and **URGES** them to continue to support AMIS to enable it perform its mandate;
6. **TAKES NOTE** of the progress made in the peace and reconciliation process in Côte d'Ivoire and **ENCOURAGES** the Ivorian parties to persevere on the path of dialogue and reconciliation and to extend full cooperation to the International Working Group (IWG) and the day-to-day Mediation;
7. **PAYS TRIBUTE** to all African leaders, the United Nations and the Regional Economic Communities, as well as the AU Partners, for their commitment and contribution to the promotion of peace and security in Africa. The Assembly **FURTHER PAYS TRIBUTE** to all the peace-keepers deployed in the Continent for their sterling efforts and **UNRESERVEDLY CONDEMNS** the

attacks against members of AMIS and UN peace-keepers that resulted, notably, in the killing of Nigerian and Senegalese members of AMIS and Guatemalan UN peace-keepers in the DRC. The Assembly **CONVEYS** Africa's condolences to the bereaved families and the Governments concerned.

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE CHAIRMANSHIP
OF THE AFRICAN UNION**

As instructed by the Assembly of the African Union at its Sixth Ordinary Session in the Sudanese Capital, Khartoum, on 23 and 24 January 2006, the Committee of Seven chaired by Botswana and composed of the Gabon, Zimbabwe, Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Tanzania, Egypt, held its meetings and concluded the following:

1. That the Sudan shall assume Chairmanship of the African Union for the year 2007;
2. The rotation principle between regions shall be respected when electing the Chairman of the African Union;
3. The region of Central Africa shall present a candidate for the Chairman of the Union for year 2006;
4. A committee shall be established to examine the implementation of the rotation principle for the coming years in conformity with the relevant provisions of the Constitutive Act of the African Union;
5. A Declaration shall be issued by the Assembly Heads of State and Government to express appreciation and gratitude to the people and government of the Sudan for their commendable effort and to congratulate them on their election as chairman of the African Union for the year 2007.

The meeting is submitting the above to the attention of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government for adoption.

Khartoum, 24 January, 2006

AFRICAN UNION
الاتحاد الأفريقي



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ASSEMBLY OF THE AFRICAN UNION
Sixth Ordinary Session
23 – 24 January, 2006
Khartoum, SUDAN

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