

**AFRICAN UNION**

**الاتحاد الأفريقي**



**UNION AFRICAINE**

**UNIÃO AFRICANA**

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Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA

P. O. Box 3243

Telephone: 517 700

Fax: 5130 36

website: [www. www. www.au.int](http://www.wwww.aau.int)

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**ASSEMBLY OF THE UNION**  
**Twenty-Sixth Ordinary Session**  
**30 - 31 January 2016**  
**Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA**

**Assembly/AU/Draft/Dec.1-17(XXVI)**  
**Assembly/AU/Draft/Decl.1-2(XXVI)**  
**Assembly/AU/Draft/Res.1(XXVI)**

**DRAFT DECISIONS, DECLARATIONS**  
**AND RESOLUTION**

**DRAFT**  
**DECISION ON THE DOMESTICATION OF THE FIRST TEN-YEAR**  
**IMPLEMENTATION PLAN OF AGENDA 2063**  
**Doc. EX.CL/931(XXVIII)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Commission on the domestication of the First Ten-Year Implementation Plan of Agenda 2063 and **REITERATES** that it is a common continental framework for socio-economic development;
2. **COMMENDS** the Member States that have integrated Agenda 2063 in their National Development Frameworks;
3. **APPRECIATES** the continued collaboration with the United Nations (UN) Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the African Development Bank (AfDB), Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) in the operationalization of Agenda 2063, and development of:
  - i) indicators for the First Ten-Year Implementation Plan, and their convergence with the UN Sustainable Development Goals;
  - ii) Monitoring and Evaluation Framework;
  - iii) Capacity Assessment Study and its Plan.
4. **CALLS UPON** the Secretary General of the United Nations to expeditiously establish Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data through Intergovernmental Process as captured in the Secretary General's Synthesis Report – the Road to Dignity;
5. **REQUESTS** the Commission in collaboration with UNECA, AfDB to facilitate Statistical reforms in countries, specifically legislative reforms, human resources development and financial resources in the context of implementation of Agenda 2063 First Ten-Year Implementation Plan and Sustainable Development Goals;
6. **ALSO REQUESTS:**
  - i) all African Union (AU) Organs to internalise and align their respective programmes with the First Ten-Year Implementation of Agenda 2063;
  - ii) the Pan African Parliament (PAP) to work with National and Regional Parliaments and the Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC) to mobilize its constituency to ensure the alignment with Agenda 2063;
7. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to:

- i) finalise the Draft Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, expedite its institutionalisation and report at the July 2016 Summit;
  - ii) develop detailed proposals of the Flagship Projects, their implementation arrangements and their financial implications;
- 8. URGES** Member States, the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), the Commission, the NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency (NPCA), in partnership with the UNECA, AfDB, and ACBF to validate and integrate recommendations of the:
- i) Domestic Resource Mobilisation Strategy into the National Financing mechanisms/frameworks;
  - ii) Capacity Assessment Study into the curricula (education systems) at different levels in order to make education system responsive to the National, Regional and Continental needs;
- 9. UNDERSCORES** the need for continuous popularization and raising awareness of Agenda 2063 through all available platforms.

**DRAFT**  
**DECISION ON THE SPECIALISED TECHNICAL COMMITTEES**

**The Assembly,**

**1. TAKES NOTE** of the Reports of the Specialized Technical Committees(STCs) and the recommendations of the Executive council thereto;

**A. *First Extraordinary Session of the Specialized Technical Committee on Justice And Legal Affairs Doc. EX.CL/935(XXVIII)***

**2. ADOPTS** the following Legal Instruments:

- i) Road Safety Charter;
- ii) Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Older Persons;
- iii) Model Law on Medicine Regulation;
- iv) Statute of the Africa Sports Council;
- v) Statute of the African Minerals Development Centre;
- vi) Statute on the Establishment of Legal Aid Fund for the African Union Human Rights Organs;
- vii) Statute of the African CDC and its Framework of Operation;
- viii) Statute of the African Science Research and Innovation Council (ASRIC);
- ix) Statute of the African Observatory in Science Technology and Innovation (AOSTI);
- x) Statute of the Pan African Intellectual Property Organization (PAIPO);
- xi) Rules of Procedure of the Specialized Technical Committee on Health Population and Drug Control;
- xii) Rules of Procedure of the Specialized Technical Committee on Public Service, Local Government, Urban Development and Decentralisation
- xiii) Rules of Procedure of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council of the African Union;
- xiv) Rules of Procedure of the African Governance Platform;
- xv) Rules of Procedure of the Specialized Technical Committee on Social Development, Labour and Employment;
- xvi) Rules of Procedure of the Specialized Technical Committee on Youth Culture and Sport;
- xvii) Rules of Procedure of the Specialized Technical Committee on Education Science and Technology;
- xviii) Rules of Procedure of the Specialized Technical Committee on communication and ICT;
- xix) Rules of Procedure of the African Union Commission on the International Law;
- xx) Amended Statute of the Pan African University.

3. **CALLS ON** Member States to sign and ratify the said Legal Instruments, where applicable, as expeditiously as possible to enable them enter into force

4. **DECIDES** that the STC on Justice and Legal Affairs will meet annually in ordinary session and that an appropriate budget be allocated in this regard;

***B. On the Specialized Technical Committee on Education Science and Technology(STC-EST 1)***

5. **ADOPTS** The Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA 2016-2025) as the framework for transformative education and training system.

6. **CALLS UPON** Member States, RECs, Partners, Private Sector , and NEPAD to:

i) popularize and raise awareness on CESA 2016-2025 and develop implementation plans, and mobilize domestic resources for its implementation;

ii) collaborate with the Commission towards the implementation of the CESA .

7. **ADOPTS** the validated Pan-African Quality Assurance and Accreditation Framework (PAQAF)

8. **URGES** Member States to ratify the 2014 Addis Ababa Convention and expedite the establishment of the Informal Working Group for its implementation and designate focal points for follow up.

9. **REQUESTS:**

i) the Commission in collaboration with UNESCO to coordinate educational partnership and support for the implementation of the process of harmonization of education in Africa;

ii) Member States and partners to promote alignment of TVET Skills Portability initiatives with on-going work on harmonization and quality assurance in higher education;

10. **ADOPTS** the Africa Space Policy and the Africa Space Strategy to formalize an African Outer space Programme, as articulated in the AU Agenda 2063;

11. **URGES** Member States, RECs, Partners such as AfriGEOSS and the Commission to popularize space science and technology in socio-economic development , mobilize domestic resources and implement the Space policy and strategy;

12. **REQUESTS** the AU Space Working Group to develop:

- i) the framework for the implementation of the African Space Policy and Strategy;
  - ii) Governance Framework that covers the relevant legal requirements and protocols for an operational African Outer-Space Programme;
- 13. RECALLS** the Decision of the African Union Assembly/AU/Dec.565(XXIV) on the offer made by Egypt to host the proposed African Space Agency, and to allocate USD10 million to implement the project and **REQUESTS** the Commission and the Republic of Egypt to carry out consultations with a view to evaluating legal, structural and financial implications and report to the Assembly through the relevant structures;
- 14. RECOGNIZES** the immense value of Home Grown School Feeding programmes to enhancing retention and performance of children in schools, and in boosting income generation and entrepreneurship in local communities;
- 15. CALLS FOR:**
- i) the establishment of a multidisciplinary technical committee of African experts under the chairmanship of the Commission and the support of institutions such as the WFP and the Centre of Excellence Against Hunger in order to undertake a general study on the relevance and impact of school feeding in the AU Member States;
  - ii) the institution of the African Day of School Feeding on the 1st March of every year beginning 2016;
  - iii) the drafting of modalities for observing the African Day of School Feeding by the Commission, in consultation with the Member States and relevant partners;
- 16. ENCOURAGES** Member States which have school feeding programs, to continue their efforts; and **INVITES** other Member States to learn and adapt lessons from those running school feeding programmes to enhance access and retention of children in school.

**DRAFT**  
**DECISION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS ON THE**  
**INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT**  
**Doc. EX.CL/952(XXVIII)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the recommendations of the Executive Council on the implementation of Decisions on the International Criminal Court (ICC);
2. **REITERATES**
  - i) the commitment of the African Union and its Member States to the fight against impunity in accordance with the Constitutive Act of the African Union;
  - ii) its previous decisions Assembly/AU.Dec.547(XXIV) and in particular paragraph i) 17 (d) that requested the ICC to terminate or suspend the proceedings against Deputy President William Samoei Ruto of Kenya until the African concerns and proposals for amendments of the Rome Statutes of the ICC are considered; and
  - iii) 17(e) that requested the suspension of proceedings against President Omer Albashir of the Sudan and **URGES** the United Nations (UN) Security Council to withdraw the referral case in The Sudan.
3. **COMMENDS** the Republic of South Africa for complying with the Decisions of the Assembly on non-cooperation with the arrest and surrender of the President of the Sudan and decide that by receiving President Bashir, the Republic of South Africa was implementing various AU Assembly Decisions on the warrants of arrest issued by the ICC against President Bashir and is consistent with its obligations under international law;
4. **REITERATES** its decision on the need for all Member States to comply with the Assembly Decisions on the warrants of arrest issued by the ICC against President Bashir of The Sudan pursuant to Article 23 (2) of the Constitutive Act and Article 98 of the Rome Statute of the ICC;
5. **EXPRESSES ITS DEEP CONCERN** regarding the wisdom of the continued prosecution of the case of Deputy President William Ruto of the Republic of Kenya and **CALLS ON** the ICC to terminate the case without further delay as any continued prosecution is without foundation given the unambiguous absence of any incriminatory evidence capable of belief;
6. **COMMENDS** the members of the Open ended Committee of Foreign Ministers ("*Open ended Ministerial Committee*") under the chairpersonship of H.E. Dr.

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia for the work done and **REITERATES** its previous decision that the Open Ended Ministerial Committee meet with the United Nations Security Council to engage on all issues that have been consistently raised by the African Union;

7. **TAKES NOTE** of the conclusions of the 14<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the States Parties of the ICC in which the ASP reaffirmed its understanding on the non-retroactive application of Rule 68 to situations commenced before November 2013 (with regard to the Kenyan agenda) and expressed “willingness to consider, within the framework of the appropriate subsidiary body of the Assembly, proposals to develop procedures for the implementation of Article 97” (with regard to the South African agenda) and **EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION** to the President of the Assembly of States Parties, H.E. Sidiki Kaba for ensuring that in spite of perceived resistance by some State Parties, the issues and concerns of the African Union and its member states were allowed to be articulated at the 14<sup>th</sup> Assembly of States Parties to the ICC;

- a) **deeply aggrieved** by the failure of the UN Security Council to respond to the requests of the AU for deferral of the Sudan and Kenyan cases for the past five years;
- b) **taking serious issue** with the capture of the ICC by the so-called “Principals of the Court” comprising the Prosecutor Registrar and President of the Court in the continued privileging of views of civil society over clearly held positions of African Member States parties to the Rome Statute;
- c) Noting the disturbing public dismissive disregard of the decisions of the 14<sup>th</sup> ASP by the Prosecution in relation to the pending Rule 68 Appeal against Kenya’s Deputy President;

8. **DECIDES** that:

- i) the Bureau of the Open ended Ministerial Committee be expanded to ensure equitable regional representation **AND REQUESTS** the Overall Dean and the Regional Deans in Addis Ababa to urgently undertake consultations with a view submitting their respective representatives to serve on the Bureau;
- ii) the Permanent Representatives’ Committee approve adequate resources to the Commission through the Office of the Legal Counsel to support the work of the Open ended Ministerial Committee in pursuing all political, legal, and strategic avenues in addressing AU’s concerns before the United Nations and the ICC;
- iii) the Open-ended Ministerial Committee review the ICC’s interpretation of its power pursuant to Article 93 of the Rome Statute to oblige State Parties to



forcibly compel unwilling witnesses to testify before the Court, in order to reject witness compulsion *in toto* and inform the Court and the next ASP accordingly;

- iv) the Open-ended Ministerial Committee's mandate include the urgent development of a comprehensive strategy including collective withdrawal from the Court to inform the next action of AU Member States to the Rome Statute, and to further submit such strategy to an extraordinary session of the Executive Council which now has mandate to take such decision;
- v) the Commission continues to engage with relevant stakeholders within the ICC in order to issues raised in the various Decisions of the AU Policy Organs on the ICC;
- vi) the AU Mission in Brussels provide secretariat and institutional support to the African Group in The Hague in order to ensure effective coordination of its activities;

**9. REITERATES:**

- i) the imperative need for all African States Parties to the Rome Statute of the ICC to continue to ensure that they adhere and articulate commonly agreed positions in line with their obligations under the constitutive Act of the African Union;
- ii) its call on all AU Member States to sign and ratify, as soon as possible, the Protocol on Amendments to the Protocol of the African Court of Justice and Human and Peoples' Rights;

**10. REQUESTS** the Commission in collaboration with all stakeholders to follow-up on this matter with a view to ensuring that the African proposals and concerns are addressed and to report regularly to the Assembly through the Executive Council.

**DRAFT**  
**DECISION ON THE ITEMS PROPOSED BY MEMBER STATES**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the items proposed by Member States and **ENDORSES** the recommendation contained therein;

**A. ON AN AFRICAN ARCHITECTURE FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**  
*(Item proposed by Cameroon) Doc. EX.CL/945(XXVIII)Add.1*

2. **AGREES** in principle to support the idea and emphasize the relevance and opportunity for the AU to have an architecture for risk reduction in Africa at national, regional and continental levels;

3. **REQUESTS** the Commission in collaboration with Cameroon to submit a roadmap for the creation of the Centre of excellence for disaster risk research prevention and management;

4. **AGREES** to work with partners with respect to providing resources to mitigate disasters.

**B. ON PROPOSED 2017 THEME OF THE AFRICAN UNION ON**  
**“HARNESSING THE DEMOGRAPHIC DIVIDEND THROUGH**  
**INVESTMENTS IN THE YOUTH”***(Item proposed by the Republic of*  
*Malawi) – Doc. EX.CL/945(XXVIII)Add.3*

5. **RECALLS** Assembly Decisions Assembly/AU/Dec.363(XVII) and Assembly/AU/Decl.1(XVII) taken in Malabo in 2011 to accelerate youth development and empowerment and the pleas made by young people through AU Intergenerational Dialogues with Heads of State and Government for the prioritization of the demographic dividend agenda at the highest levels of decision-making in Africa;

6. **TAKES COGNIZANCE** that:

(i) the youth are Africa’s greatest asset which, if properly harnessed, can play a vital role in determining the continent’s development trajectory for the next 50 years;

(ii) harnessing the demographic dividend is not automatic or guaranteed but is earned through economic reforms that create jobs, investments in human capital and efficient governance;

7. **NOTES** that deriving maximum benefits from the youth bulge at the national level demands a coordinated approach and response at the continental level;

8. **ADOPTS** *the theme* of “**Harnessing the demographic dividend through investments in the Youth**” for the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Sessions of the Assembly in 2017;
  9. **REQUESTS** the Commission to work with the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and other United Nations and Development agencies to expedite the implementation of a continental initiative on Demographic Dividend for Africa and to develop a roadmap with key deliverables and milestones to be adopted during the 27<sup>th</sup> session of the AU Heads of State and Government Summit in June 2016, that would guide Member States and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) on concrete actions to be undertaken in 2017 and beyond;
- C. ON THE BID TO HOST THE SECRETARIAT OF ECOSOCC (*Item proposed by Zambia*) – Doc. EX.CL/945(XXVIII)Add.6**
10. **WELCOMES** and **FULLY SUPPORTS** the offer by Zambia to host ECOSOCC;
  11. **URGES** Zambia working with the Commission to expedite the processes regarding legal, structural and financial implications;
  12. **REQUESTS** the Commission to undertake the appropriate evaluation mission and present a detailed report to the next Session of the Executive Council scheduled for June/July 2016;
- D. ON THE AFRICAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE 2015 ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (IP) FOR EMERGING AFRICA (*item proposed by Senegal*) – Doc. EX.CL/945(XXVIII)Add.7**
13. **UNDERLINES** the importance of Intellectual Property (IP) in the implementation of Agenda 2063;
  14. **CALLS UPON** the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) to strengthen its partnership with the African Union, Regional Economic Communities, and the African Countries to address the challenges of IP for African development and in particular, to enhance its technical assistance;
  15. **REQUESTS** the Commission to establish an Expert Working Group to develop a program of action for the implementation of the Dakar Declaration on Intellectual Property for Africa, in collaboration with WIPO.

**E. ON THE CONVENING OF ANOTHER WORLD CONFERENCE AGAINST RACISM** (*Item proposed by The Islamic Republic of the Gambia*) – Doc. EX.CL/945(XXVIII)Add.2

16. **URGES** The Islamic Republic of the Gambia to carry out necessary consultations with all relevant stakeholders. In the meantime, the AU would reflect on the practical modalities of convening such a world conference;
17. **REQUESTS** the Commission and the African Group in New York to:
- (i) Work collaboratively and pursue the tabling of the proposal: “Convening of Another World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related intolerance” at the United Nations General Assembly and the Human Rights Council and to provide a feedback on the outcome of their efforts at the June 2016 Summit;
  - (ii) Pursue the tabling of a United Nations General Assembly Resolution on Slavery, Colonialism, Occupation, Reparations and Restitution including the convening of an international conference to discuss these issues as well as measures and strategies to address their lasting negative impact.

**DRAFT**  
**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON GOVERNANCE,  
CONSTITUTIONALISM AND ELECTIONS IN AFRICA**  
**Doc. Assembly/AU/9(XXVI)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Commission on Governance, Constitutionalism and Elections in Africa and the recommendations contained therein;
2. **RECALLS** the previous decisions of the Assembly adopting the Common African Position on Post-2015 Development Agenda and the Africa Agenda 2063 both of which commit Member States to creating democratic developmental states anchored on participatory democratic governance, sustainable peace, and political stability on the continent;
3. **CALLS UPON** Member States to :
  - (i) accelerate the signing, ratification, domestication and implementation of the African Charter on the Values and Principles of Decentralization, Local Governance and Local Development which was adopted in 2014;
  - (ii) prioritize the continued operationalization of the AU High Council of Local Authorities (AU-HCLA);
  - (iii) ensure the development and adoption of the Common African Position on Habitat III. The AU-STC No. 8, its subcommittees, and other related bodies, like the High Council of Local Authorities and the Habitat III Bureau, will be important institutions for future action in areas of effective local and urban governance and should be fully operationalized and empowered to work within their respective domains;
  - (iv) make deliberate efforts to ensure professionalization and depoliticisation of the security establishment by building constructive civil-military relations. This should entail ensuring accountability of the security establishment through the relevant portfolio committee of parliament;
  - (v) take cognizance of the growing trend of the formation and use of youth/militia arms of political parties. The AU must firmly discourage this trend in its Member States as it undermines democratisation and peace-building. The AU should call upon Member States to take immediate steps to discourage political parties from establishing such groups and disband them where they already exist;

- (vi) In line with the ACDEG, to maintain zero-tolerance on military coups and other methods of unconstitutional changes of government (UCG) and maintain its tough measures against perpetrators of UCG including asset freeze and travel ban etc.;
  - (vii) ensure that constitutional amendments are done in accordance with the provisions of the ACDEG (as a baseline) and the active participation of their citizens;
  - (viii) establish permanent, impartial and independent Constitutional Review Commissions whose mandate should be to oversee all constitutional review processes;
  - (ix) sign, ratify, domesticate and implement ACDEG in order to entrench a culture of democracy, constitutionalism and peace;
  - (x) continue to provide technical support to EMBs and other stakeholders, especially political parties, the media, judicial institutions and law enforcement bodies and civil society to boost their institutional capacity and human resource to enhance effective and efficient management of electoral and democratic processes;
  - (xi) encourage to fulfil their financial and other obligations to the AU especially contributing to the Democracy and Electoral Assistance Fund;
  - (xii) integrate women and youth in national and regional politics, in recognition of the need to be gender sensitive and the important role that women and youth play in political processes;
4. **ENCOURAGES** Member States emerging from protracted violent conflict and in the process of transition to democracy and peace should pay particular attention to the timing of elections.

**DRAFT**

**DECISION ON THE EXTRAORDINARY AFRICAN UNION SUMMIT ON MARITIME SECURITY AND SAFETY AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA**

**The Assembly,**

1. **RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.583(XXV), paragraph 22, adopted at its Twenty-fifth Ordinary Session held in Johannesburg, relating to the extraordinary African Union Summit on Maritime Security and Safety and Development in Africa to be held in Lome, Togo:
2. **TAKES NOTE** of the postponement of the Extraordinary Summit scheduled for Lome, Togo;
3. **DECIDES** to hold the said Summit on **15 October 2016** in Lome, Togo, to be preceded by a preparatory session of the Executive Council on 13 October 2016;
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to expedite the process of reviewing the issue, in collaboration with government experts and relevant Specialized Technical Committees (STC), including relevant documents with a view to ensuring adoption and signing of an African Charter on Maritime Security and Safety and Development;
5. **WELCOMES**, in this regard, the offer by the Government of Togo to host a meeting of the competent Specialized Technical Committee in the matter, in preparation for the said Summit.
6. **REQUESTS** the Commission to report on the implementation of this decision in July 2016.

**DRAFT**  
**DECISION ON THE ELECTION OF FIFTEEN (15) MEMBERS OF THE**  
**PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION**  
**Doc. EX.CL/954(XXVIII)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the election of the fifteen (15) Members of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union by the Executive Council;
2. **APPOINTS** the following five (5) Members of the Peace and Security Council for a three-year term as of March 2016:

- |    |                     |                        |
|----|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. | <b>Congo (Rep.)</b> | <b>Central Region</b>  |
| 2. | <b>Kenya</b>        | <b>Eastern Region</b>  |
| 3. | <b>Egypt</b>        | <b>Northern Region</b> |
| 4. | <b>Zambia</b>       | <b>Southern Region</b> |
| 5. | <b>Nigeria</b>      | <b>Western Region</b>  |

3. **ALSO APPOINTS** the following ten (10) Members of the Peace and Security Council for a two-year term as of March 2016:

- |     |                     |                        |
|-----|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1.  | <b>Burundi</b>      | <b>Central Region</b>  |
| 2.  | <b>Chad</b>         |                        |
| 3.  | <b>Rwanda</b>       | <b>Eastern Region</b>  |
| 4.  | <b>Uganda</b>       |                        |
| 5.  | <b>Algeria</b>      | <b>Northern Region</b> |
| 6.  | <b>Botswana</b>     | <b>Southern Region</b> |
| 7.  | <b>South Africa</b> |                        |
| 8.  | <b>Niger</b>        | <b>Western Region</b>  |
| 9.  | <b>Sierra Leone</b> |                        |
| 10. | <b>Togo</b>         |                        |



**DRAFT****DECISION ON THE ELECTION OF ONE (1) MEMBER OF  
THE AFRICAN COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE RIGHTS  
AND WELFARE OF THE CHILD (ACEWRC)  
Doc. EX.CL/955(XXVIII)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the election of one (1) member of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC) by the Executive Council;
2. **APPOINTS** the following member of the ACERWC for a **five (5)-year term**:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Country</b>
<b>Mr. Mohamed Ould Ahmedou dit H'Meyada</b>	<b>Mauritania</b>

**DRAFT**

**DECISION ON THE DATES AND VENUE OF THE 27<sup>th</sup> ORDINARY SESSION  
OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE AFRICAN UNION IN July 2016**

**The Assembly,**

1. **DECIDES** that the dates of the Twenty-Seventh Ordinary Session of the Assembly which will be held in Kigali, Rwanda, shall be the following:
  - i) Thirty-Second Ordinary Session of the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC): from 10 to 12 July 2016;
  - ii) Twenty-Ninth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council: from 13 to 15 July 2016;
  - iii) Twenty-Seventh Ordinary Session of the Assembly: 16 to 18 July 2016.

**DRAFT**  
**DECISION ON STREAMLINING OF THE AU SUMMITS AND**  
**THE WORKING METHODS OF THE AFRICAN UNION**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the Comparative Study on the Working Methods of the African Union and the Streamlining of the AU Summits and request Member States and the Commission to implement its recommendations agreed to by the Assembly;
2. **ALSO TAKE NOTE** of the outcomes of the Mek'ele Ministerial Retreat on the implementation of the AGENDA 2063;
3. **DECIDES** to approve the following recommendations of the Executive Council:
  - i) Revise and review the Constitutive Act in order for it to be an effective tool to accelerate, facilitate and deepen the efficiency and the integration process on the continent;
  - ii) Expedite and encourage all Member States to sign and ratify the Protocol to the Constitutive Act of the African Union relating to the Pan-African Parliament and the Protocol on Amendments to the Protocol on the Statute of the African Court of Justice and Human Rights, so as to further deepen integration on the continent;
  - iii) Subject the items proposed by Member States to due process of prior analysis of policy, legal, financial and structural implications by the Commission before being submitted to Policy Organs and they should only relate to the Theme of the Year. The Commission should continue to exercise its responsibility to initiate the Agenda of the Policy Organs also taking into consideration the necessary legal, structural and financial implications;
  - iv) Dissolve the Ministerial Drafting Committee as currently constituted. The AU has since improved its decision making process with the Commission proposing draft decisions which are considered by the PRC, then submitted to the Executive Council and onwards to the Assembly;
  - v) Expedite the work of the PRC subcommittee on Rules, Standards and Credentials to incorporate the decisions of the Assembly on the Working Methods and Streamlining of Summits;
  - vi) Enhance the implementation of the Decisions of the AU Summits, including using the Scorecard approach to be presented by the Executive Council to the Assembly on the implementation of decisions;

vii) Empower the African citizens, through these reforms, to directly petition the African Court on the implementation or otherwise on the Decisions taken by the Policy Organs as long as State Party from which the citizen or individual comes from has accepted the jurisdiction of the Court to receive such cases.

4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to report on the implementation of this Decision to the 27th Ordinary Session of the Assembly in June/July 2017.

**DRAFT DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL  
ON ITS ACTIVITIES AND THE STATE OF PEACE AND SECURITY IN AFRICA  
Doc. Assembly/AU/2(XXVI)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the report of the Peace and Security Council on its Activities and the State of Peace and Security in Africa ;
2. **NOTES WITH CONCERN** that, despite the tireless efforts that Africa continues to make for the promotion of peace, security and stability, violent conflicts, terrorism and other destabilizing factors, including disease outbreaks and climate change, continue to pose a serious threat to the socio-economic and political equilibrium of our continent;
3. **STRESSES ONCE AGAIN** the need for a more resolute preventive action to better protect African civilians against the destructive humanitarian consequences from violence of all kinds, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Protocol relating to the establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union and the Constitutive Act of the AU;
4. **WELCOMES** the new advances recorded in Côte d'Ivoire with the successful holding of presidential elections on 25 October 2015, and **ENCOURAGES** the Ivorian authorities to continue their efforts to deepen the reconciliation process,, in order to sustainably consolidate peace in the country. The Assembly **WELCOMES** the successful holding of elections in Guinea, as well as the declared readiness of President Alpha Conde to work with all political actors, in a spirit of national cohesion. The Assembly **WELCOMES** the declaration of the end of the Ebola epidemic in Guinea, after Liberia and Sierra Leone, which thus marks a crucial stage in combating this scourge. The Assembly **PAYS TRIBUTE** to all those who contributed to this important victory against the Ebola epidemic, especially to the Chairperson of the Commission, for her personal commitment in this fight. The Assembly **CALLS UPON** the international community to increase its support to countries affected in their efforts towards socio-economic recovery;
5. **CONGRATULATES** the people, the political actors and the civil society of Burkina Faso on the exemplary nature of the Transition in their country, despite the many challenges encountered throughout the process. The Assembly **WELCOMES** the new authorities, especially the new President of Faso, Roch Marc Christian Kaboré. The Assembly **PAYS A DESERVED TRIBUTE** to the President of the Transition, Michel Kafando, and Prime Minister Yacouba Isaac Zida, for the many sacrifices made and the resilience they have shown. The Assembly **URGENTLY APPEALS** to Member States and the international community to mobilize adequate emergency assistance for Burkina Faso and its long-term stability, thus contributing to the consolidation of democracy and the

rule of law. The Assembly **REQUESTS** the Commission, in consultation with ECOWAS and the United Nations, to consider, within the framework of the International Follow-up and Support Group for the Transition in Burkina Faso (GISAT-BF), the modalities for increased support from the international community to Burkina Faso and to agree on the most appropriate mechanism for this purpose ;

6. **WELCOMES** the positive developments in the political situation in Madagascar, and **URGES** the Malagasy political actors to continue to work for the consolidation of the gains and enhancement of the on-going efforts in the socioeconomic and governance fields. The Assembly **APPEALS** to the international community to actively participate in the Roundtable scheduled in June 2016 and to **CONTINUE** to support the efforts of the Malagasy Government to strengthen political stability and revive the development of the country. The Assembly **URGES** all the Comorian actors to work for the smooth organisation of the elections scheduled for 2016, in compliance with the Constitution, in order to consolidate the significant gains made by the Union of the Comoros on the path to reconciliation and stability, and **REITERATES** the commitment of the AU, on the basis of its relevant instruments, particularly the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance, to contribute to the success of the electoral process. The Assembly **APPEALS** to the International community to help mobilize the necessary resources for this purpose, and for the long-term development of The Comoros;
7. **WELCOMES** the progress made in Somalia towards the realization of Vision 2016, and **UNDERLINES** the imperative for all Somali political stakeholders to demonstrate the required political will and unity of purpose, in order to consolidate the progress made and successfully conclude the on-going process that will culminate in the holding of elections. The Assembly **PAYS TRIBUTE** to all the AMISOM uniformed and civilian personnel, as well as to the T/PCCs for their continued commitment and the sacrifices made thus far, and **APPEALS** for the mobilization of adequate support for the Mission to enable it fully discharge its mandate. The Assembly **REITERATES** the imperative of enhanced command and control for AMISOM, in line with the relevant provisions of the revised harmonized CONOPS, as a critical factor in ensuring the effectiveness of the Mission. The Assembly **EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE** to the international community and **URGES** its members to continue to provide the necessary support to the Federal Government of Somalia and its institutions. The Assembly **REITERATES ITS DEEP CONCERN** at the prevailing humanitarian situation, and **CALLS FOR** a scaled-up humanitarian response;
8. **REITERATES ITS CONCERN** at the continued impasse in the peace process between Eritrea and Ethiopia, and **ENCOURAGES** the Commission to take the required initiatives to assist the parties to overcome the challenges at hand. The Assembly **CALLS** for continued efforts to facilitate the normalization of the relations between Djibouti and Eritrea, in line with the relevant provisions of decision Assembly/AU/Dec.583(XXV);

9. **REITERATES ITS SUPPORT** to the efforts of the African Union High-Level Implementation Panel on Sudan and South Sudan (AUHIP) aimed at facilitating an inclusive National Dialogue, as well as at achieving cessation of hostilities in Darfur and the two states of South Kordofan and Blue Nile. The Assembly **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the readiness expressed by the parties to overcome their differences and **URGES** them to continue to fully cooperate with the AUHIP and demonstrate the required political will. The Assembly **CALLS for** renewed efforts towards addressing the challenges at hand in the Darfur region and **REITERATES ITS SUPPORT** to United Nations/African Union Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) in discharging its mandate;
10. **COMMENDS** the Chairperson of the Inter-Governmental Authority for Development (IGAD) and the other leaders of the region, as well as the Team of IGAD Special Envoys, for their sustained efforts in facilitating the signing of the Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan. The Assembly **COMMENDS** the AU High Representative for South Sudan, the members of the AU High-Level ad hoc Committee on South Sudan and international partners that are members of the IGAD-Plus Mechanism, for their contribution to the finalization and signing of the Agreement. The Assembly **FURTHER COMMENDS** the Chairperson of the Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (JMEC) for his efforts in support of the South Sudanese stakeholders towards the full implementation of the Agreement. The Assembly **REITERATES** the AU's full support to the Agreement, and the President of JEMEC and **CALLS ON** all the South Sudanese parties to abide scrupulously by its terms. The Assembly **CONGRATULATES** the members of the AUCISS for the commitment shown in discharging their mandate, and **EXPRESSES ITS FULL SUPPORT** for the implementation of the communiqué PSC/AHG/COMM.1(DXXVII) adopted by the PSC at its meeting of 26 September 2015. The Assembly **APPEALS** for enhanced humanitarian support to alleviate the suffering of the affected populations;
11. **WELCOMES** the positive rapprochement between Sudan and South Sudan. The Assembly **ENCOURAGES** the two countries to make renewed efforts towards the effective implementation of the Cooperation Agreement, in particular with respect to border and security issues, and to fully take advantage of the facilitation role of the AUHIP. The Assembly **UNDERLINES** the need for the parties to live-up to their commitments under the June 2011 Agreement on Abyei, as well as to give a new impetus to efforts aimed at addressing the final status of the Area. The Assembly **REITERATES ITS APPEAL** to the international community to provide the required support to the Joint Approach, in order to help Sudan and South Sudan achieve their shared vision of two viable states living side-by-side in peace and working together on issues of common concern, The Assembly **FURTHER ENCOURAGES** the AUHIP to continue its exemplary efforts in support of both countries to achieve their shared vision for a peaceful and secure region;

12. **REITERATES** its support to the ongoing efforts to promote a regional and holistic approach to the challenges of peace, security, stability and development in the Horn of Africa, in support of IGAD, and **ENCOURAGES** the AU High Level Implementation Panel (AUHIP) to expedite its efforts in this respect;
13. **REITERATES THE DEEP CONCERN** of the AU about the continuing political impasse in Burundi, as well as the rising violence, the resulting insecurity and humanitarian consequences. The Assembly **REAFFIRMS THE STRONG CONDEMNATION** by the AU of all acts of violence, whoever the perpetrators may be, and violations of human rights and the inflammatory statements which are likely to worsen the current tension and create the conditions for devastating violence in Burundi and the region. The Assembly **REAFFIRMS** the conviction of the AU that only a sincere and genuinely inclusive dialogue, based on the respect of the Arusha Agreement and the Constitution of Burundi, will enable the stakeholders concerned to overcome the serious difficulties of the moment and reject any use of force to attain political goals. In this regard, the Assembly **STRESSES** the centrality of the regional dialogue, facilitated by the Mediator of the East African Community (EAC), President Yoweri K. Museveni, **WELCOMES** the reactivation of the Inter-Burundian dialogue, with the meeting held in Entebbe on 28 December 2015, **REAFFIRMS** the support of the AU to the mediator, as well as the need to rapidly continue the dialogue in Arusha, as programmed by the Mediation. The Assembly **REITERATES** the determination of the AU to ensure that all those who hinder the pursuit of peace and contribute to the perpetuation of violence are accountable for their acts. The Assembly **APPEALS** to the Government of Burundi to accept, without further delay, the deployment of the African Prevention and Protection Mission in Burundi (MAPROBU) and **EXPRESSES ITS DETERMINATION**, for lack of explicit consent of the Government, to take the necessary action, within the spirit of the PSC Communiqué of 17 December 2015 and in conformity with the relevant provisions of the Constitutive Act. The Assembly **FURTHER UNDERSCORES** the need for close coordination between the African stakeholders within the framework determined by the African Peace and Security Architecture and **ENCOURAGES** the efforts made in this regard by the AU, EAC and ICGLR. The Assembly **THANKS** the UN, the EU and other international partners for the support to the African efforts in the search for a speedy and negotiated solution to the crisis. The Assembly **APPEALS** to the international community to mobilise the necessary humanitarian support for the affected population and the host countries of refugees;
14. **REITERATES** the importance of the effective implementation of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for DRC and the Region and **WELCOMES** the progress made, including through the revitalisation of its governance structures, especially as the Region continues to face serious challenges to peace and security. The Assembly **ALSO WELCOMES** the approval by the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Regional Oversight Mechanism of the recommendations made to this effect by the Ministerial Retreat in Nairobi. The Assembly **REITERATES** the urgent need, with the support of MONUSCO, to neutralise the negative forces in



Eastern DRC, including the FDLR and ADF. The Assembly **URGES** all the parties concerned to accelerate the implementation of the Nairobi Declaration, particularly in view of the delays in the granting of amnesty to the former combatants of M23 and their repatriation to the DRC. The Assembly **EXPRESSES ITS SUPPORT** to the Conference on Investment by the private sector in the Great Lakes Region scheduled in Kinshasa in February 2016, as a crucial element for the sustainable promotion of peace and security in this region;

15. **WELCOMES** the successful holding of the constitutional referendum and the presidential election held in December 2015, in the Central African Republic. The Assembly **URGES** the Central African actors to endeavour resolutely for the successful conclusion of the Transition on 31 March 2016, as agreed during the ECCAS Summit held on 25 November 2015 in Libreville. The Assembly **EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION** to the countries of the region and international partners for their continued commitment and multifaceted assistance to the RCA, and **APPEALS** for the mobilisation of the resources necessary to enable the newly elected government to take up the challenges related to the humanitarian situation and the functioning of the State, particularly in the provision of basic services. The Assembly **CONGRATULATES** the AU Special Representative, Head of MISAC, on the initiatives and activities carried out in support to the efforts of the authorities of the Transition for the restoration of the constitutional order and the stabilisation of the CAR.
16. **WELCOMES** the progress made to date in the fight against the Lord Resistance Army (LRA), thanks to the efforts deployed within the framework of the Regional Cooperation Initiative for the Elimination of the LRA (RCI-LRA), and **NOTES** that the LRA continues to pose a serious threat to civilian populations. The Assembly **COMMENDS** the Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs) to the Regional Task Force (RTF) for their efforts and **URGES** them to sustain their efforts, and fulfill their pledges in terms of troops to be deployed. The Assembly **WELCOMES** the consultations undertaken with international stakeholders to enhance coordination in the counter-LRA operations and **CALL ON** all partners to pursue and enhance their support to the AU-led efforts aimed at eliminating the threat posed by this group;
17. **WELCOMES** the progress made in the operationalization of the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF), as well as in the fight against the Boko Haram terrorist group. The Assembly **ENCOURAGES** the countries of the region to persevere in their efforts and to enhance their cooperation within the framework of the MNJTF. The Assembly **COMMENDS** the Commission for the steps taken, in support of the operationalization of the MNJTF, including the upcoming donors' Conference, scheduled for 1 February 2016. The Assembly **EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE** to African States and the international partners for the support provided to the MNJTF, and **APPEALS** for intensified international mobilization to degrade and defeat Boko Haram terrorist group and to assist the populations affected by the attacks by this group and the countries hosting refugees fleeing the atrocities committed by this terrorist group. The Assembly **STRESSES**, once again, the

need to complement the military and security operations against the Boko Haram terrorist group by sustained national and regional efforts, to improve livelihoods, promote education and job creation, as well as ensure the protection of human rights, particularly those of women and girls;

18. **URGES** the Head of State and the Guinea Bissau politicians to find a definitive solution to the institutional crisis, to enable the country embark on the priority area of socio-economic recovery and peace building through the implementation of the necessary reforms concerning the fight against impunity, national reconciliation and the Defence and Security Sector. The Assembly **STRESSES** the importance of respecting the Constitution and, **EXPRESSES** its support for a revision of the Constitution, as that would make it possible to clarify the Articles that were the sources of divergent interpretations. The Assembly **SUPPORTS** the development of a Stability Pact and the process of organising a conference on national reconciliation;
19. **welcomes** the dynamics emerging from the signing and early implementation of the Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in Mali, while underscoring the need for a lasting peace for the entire Sahel region. The Assembly **ENCOURAGES** the Malian parties to pursue, with determination and in good faith, their efforts for the implementation of the Agreement within the framework of the Agreement Monitoring Committee, which, during its High-Level Meeting held in Algiers on 17 and 18 January 2016, welcomed the progress made. The Assembly **URGES** the international community to continue and intensify its support, including financial, to the on-going efforts. The Assembly **REITERATES ITS FIRM CONDEMNATION** of the terrorist attacks against Mali, welcoming the Assessment Mission planned in relation to the proposed establishment of an Intervention Force in northern Mali, as decided by the Meeting of Ministers of Defence held in Bamako, from 2 to 4 September 2015. The Assembly **REITERATES ITS SUPPORT** to the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) and to its Troop Contributing Countries. The Assembly **URGENTLY APPEALS** to the international partners to further increase their support to the countries of the Sahel which continue to face serious threats to peace and security and socio-economic consequences of the degradation of the environment. In this regard, the Assembly **REQUESTS** the Commission to conduct the necessary consultations with a view to the holding of an International Conference on Peace and Development in the Sahel, to be held under the joint auspices of the AU, the UN and ECOWAS;
20. **REITERATES** the AU's call for the early resolution of the four-decade long conflict in Western Sahara, in full respect of the international legality. The Assembly **APPEALS** to the UN Security Council to fully assume its responsibility in this respect, with the view to achieving a fair, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara, in the context of arrangements consistent with the UN principles and purposes. The Assembly **REITERATES ITS CALL** to the UN General Assembly regarding the determination of a date for the holding of the self-

determination referendum for the people of Western Sahara and protection of the integrity of the Western Sahara as a non-self-governing Territory from any act, which may undermine it, including protection of its natural resources, as well as addressing the situation of human rights in the occupied territories and the camps. The Assembly **CONDEMNS** the delaying of the visit of the UN Secretary General to the territory and **CALLS** for early accomplishment of the visit of Ban Ki-Moon in the region to expedite a peaceful solution to the conflict. The Assembly **REITERATES** the declaration adopted at its 24<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session held in Addis Ababa, from 30 to 31 January 2015, regarding the convening by the Crans Montana Forum, a Switzerland-based organization, of a meeting in the occupied city of Dakhla, in Western Sahara. In view of the intention of this entity to convene a similar event in the Territory, in 2016, the Assembly **CALLS ON** Crans Montana to desist from this activity and **APPEAL** to all Member States, African civil society organizations and other relevant actors to boycott any such event;

21. **WELCOMES** the signing of the Libyan Political Agreement and **CALLS on** the international community to provide the necessary technical, security, and counter-terrorism assistance to the new Government of National Accord. The Assembly **CALLS UPON** all Libyan stakeholders, who have yet to endorse the Agreement, to do so expeditiously. The Assembly **STRESSES AU's DEEP CONCERN** at the prevailing humanitarian and security situation in the country and **STRONGLY CONDEMNS** all acts of violence and **REITERATES** that there is no military solution to the current crisis. The Assembly commends the ICG-L and the neighboring countries for their sustained efforts and positive contribution to the signing of the Libyan Political Agreement;
22. **WELCOMES** the report of the High-Level Independent Panel on Peace Operations (HIPPO) and the subsequent report of the UN Secretary-General, and **EXPRESSES FULL SUPPORT** for the communiqué adopted by the PSC at its 547<sup>th</sup> meeting, held in New York. The Assembly **FURTHER WELCOMES** the consultations undertaken by the Commission with the UN Secretariat and members of the UN Security Council, and **UNDERLINES** the urgency of finalizing the AU-UN framework for an enhanced partnership in the area of peace and security. The Assembly **REITERATES** the AU's commitment to implement the decision made at the 25th Ordinary Session of the Assembly that AU Member States should contribute 25% of the cost of AU efforts on peace and security, including AU-led peace operations. Furthermore, the Assembly **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to formally write to the UN Secretary general to outline the parameters of the types of support the AU would seek from the UN, including the types of operations the AU plans to seek financing for from the UN, as well as other relevant issues, including interaction, both at strategic and operation levels, between the AU and the UN, in the context of Chapter VIII of the UN Charter, building both on the PSC communiqué of 26 September 2015 and the consultations held with the UN and members of the UN Security Council. The Assembly **WELCOMES** the appointment, by the Chairperson of the Commission, of Dr. Donald Kaberuka as her High Representative for AU Peace Fund, and

**LOOKS FORWARD** its interaction with member States, the UN and other relevant partners. The Assembly **REITERATES ITS CALL** to all Member States to support this initiative within the relevant UN organs, and **URGES** AU partners to do the same, as part of the overall efforts to advance collective security;

23. **COMMENDS** the efforts undertaken by the Commission, Member States, RECs and the international partners to advance the implementation of the regional and international regimes against illicit SALW and WMD. The Assembly **STRESSES UPON** Member States the need to renew efforts and commit the required human and financial resources to ensure sustainable action. The Assembly **ENCOURAGES** the PSC to pay particular attention to the threat posed by illicit SALW within the wider context of conflict prevention and management, and **STRESSES THE NEED** for a development-oriented approach of the implementation of the regional and international WMD regimes, including through the convening of an open session of the PSC to generate the required momentum and start a dialogue towards this end;
24. **RECALLS** Article 7 (3) of the Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the PSC, which affirms that “Member States agree to accept and implement the decisions of the Peace and Security Council, in accordance with the Constitutive Act”. In this regard, the Assembly **REITERATES** that the African Members of the UN Security Council have special responsibility to ensure that the decisions of the PSC are well reflected in the decision making process of the UNSC on peace and security issues of concern to Africa. In light of the above,, the Assembly **REQUESTS** the African members of the United Nations Security Council (A3), working with the Commission, including the AU Permanent Mission to the UN, to present reports through the PSC to Assembly, on their efforts within the Security Council and the extent to which they managed to promote African positions as articulated by the PSC. The Assembly **FURTHER REQUESTS** the PSC to provide timely guidance to the African members of the UNSC to facilitate consistency in the promotion and defense of African positions on issues of concern to the continent. In this regard, the Assembly **APPROVES** the conclusions of the third edition of the High-level Seminar on Peace and Security in Africa, held in Oran (Algeria) from 20 to 22 December 2015 and **CONGRATULATES** the Government of Algeria, in collaboration with the AU Commission, for its continued efforts to facilitate the holding of this Oran annual Forum, as a framework aiming at contributing to the objective of promoting and defending the African Union decisions an positions within the United Nations decision-making process.

**DRAFT**  
**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT**  
**ORIENTATION COMMITTEE (HSGOC) ON NEPAD**  
**Doc. Assembly/AU/3(XXVI)**

**The Assembly:**

1. **NOTES WITH APPRECIATION** the report by the Chairperson of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC), H.E. Macky Sall, President of the Republic of Senegal;
2. **ENDORSES** the conclusions of the Thirty Fourth Session of the NEPAD HSGOC Meeting;
3. **REAFFIRMS** the continued relevance and uniqueness of the vision, sector priorities and core values enshrined in NEPAD as the flagship programme of the African Union (AU) and as a shared vision to advance regional, political and economic integration for the economic emancipation of African people;
4. **RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.283 (VIV) on the need for the NEPAD Agency as the technical body of the African Union to have the required flexibility to carry out its mandate and **THEREFORE CALLS** on the African Union Commission to facilitate the implementation of that decision in line with the aspirations of NEPAD and its initiators;
5. **ENDORSES** the implementation of key regional and continental programmes and projects as reflected in the NEPAD Agency Results-based Performance Report for January-December 2015 **SPECIFICALLY NOTING** the progress on African Science Technology and Innovation Indicators (ASTII); African Medicines Regulatory Harmonization Programme (AMRH); NEPAD Agency's contribution to the fight against Ebola Virus Disease; Strategic engagements on natural resources governance; technical support to Africa's participation in the global climate change negotiations; technical support to Regional Economic Communities (RECs) under the Partnership for African Fisheries (PAF); National Agriculture and Food Security Investment Plans (NAFSIPs); National Gender Climate Change Agriculture programmes and Capacity Development for Women in Agribusiness under CAADP; institutional development support to member states and RECs under the Capacity Development Strategic Framework (CDSF) and the design of the Youth and Skills project under the Rural Futures Programme;
6. **APPRECIATES** progress recorded to date relating to the implementation of the Rural Futures Program which is promoting multi-sectorial approach for rural transformation by creating an enabling environment through a people centred development based on equity and inclusiveness; **FURTHER COMMENDS** NEPAD Agency for the commencement of the Decent Job for Rural Areas Project in four (4) AU member states and **CALLS FOR** member states to support the

- Rural Futures Program as it provides opportunities for youth employment and fosters rural transformation;
7. **NOTES** the progress made in the development the NEPAD Policy Framework on Youth Employment in Africa;
  8. **COMMENDS** the Government of Germany for the support provided to the NEPAD Skills Development Initiative which is expected to act as a catalyst for entrepreneurship development and **URGES** the NPCA to ensure a speedy implementation of the project;
  9. **TAKES NOTES** of the importance of the African Rural Development Forum as a platform to engage on dialogue on inclusive development and rural transformation as well as on south-south cooperation to be held the second half of 2016. **REQUESTS** African Members States, FAO, IFAD and other development partners to fully support and participate in the Forum;
  10. **RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.579 (XXV) and **NOTES WITH APPRECIATION** the outcomes of the Dakar regional dialogue and training on tax policies and administration in the extractive industry; and **REQUESTS** the NEPAD Agency to undertake the exercise in the other regions as well as the implementation of the outcomes of Dakar, including an in-depth understanding of the extractives' value chain;
  11. In furtherance of the NEPAD Natural Resources Governance Programme, **TAKES NOTE** of the NEPAD partnership between OECD, NEPAD and GIZ on the CONNEX Initiative and **REQUESTS** this partnership to strengthen knowledge generation and exchange as well as capacity development for African countries and AU institutions, in particular the NEPAD Agency;
  12. **NOTES WITH APPRECIATION** the support extended to African Union Member States and Regional Economic Communities under the NEPAD Climate Change Fund and **REAFFIRMS** full support to NPCA to seek accreditation to the Green Climate Fund as a Regional Implementing Entity. **ALSO CALLS** on development partners and Member States to contribute financially to the NEPAD Climate Change Fund;
  13. **WELCOMES** the adoption of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and **COMMENDS** the effective collaboration between the NEPAD Agency, African Union Commission, African Development Bank and the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) in hosting the African Pavilion at the 21<sup>st</sup> Conference of Parties (COP 21) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Paris, France **WHILST NOTING** the successful outcomes of the Africa Pavilion and Africa's overall participation at COP 21;
  14. **APPRECIATES** the technical and financial support provided by the NEPAD Agency to Africa's climate change negotiating bodies particularly the African

Group of Negotiators during its preparatory and consultative meetings towards the 21<sup>st</sup> UNFCCC Conference of Parties and **REQUESTS** NEPAD Agency to continue to provide technical support to member states in implementing and monitoring the outcomes of the Paris Climate Agreement;

15. **RECALLS** the resolutions of the Inaugural Conference of the Specialized Technical Committee (STC1/ARDWE/EXP/1) on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment endorsing the African Resilient Landscape Initiative (ARLI), the Africa Landscapes and Forests Restoration Initiative (AFR100) and the African Landscape Action Plan (ALAP). **NOTES** with interest the commitment of African countries and development partners to bring 100 million hectares of degraded and deforested land under restoration in Africa by 2030 to improve soil fertility and food security, improve access to clean water, combat desertification, increase biodiversity and habitat, create green jobs, bolster economic growth and livelihood diversification;
16. **URGES** AU member states and sub-regional institutions to adopt the landscape approach in their interventions; **ENCOURAGES** actions to strengthen governance in natural resources management, transparency and the rule of law while also empowering communities and recognizing the rights pertaining to lands and resources; and **REQUESTS** technical and financial partners to support African countries in the implementation of the Resilient Landscape Initiative through investment in integrated landscape management and land restoration;
17. **NOTING** Africa's commitment in the Malabo Declaration to prioritise agricultural commodity value chains, and **RECALLING** the 2006 Abuja Food security Summit resolutions with respect to promoting and protecting rice as a strategic commodity, **REQUEST** the NEPAD Agency and the AUC in collaboration with the African Development Bank (AfDB), AfricaRice, FAO and other relevant partners, to convene a Special AU Summit on Rice with a view to facilitate the attainment of continental self-sufficiency on Rice by 2020. **FURTHER REQUEST** the NEPAD Agency and the AUC to implement this Decision and report to the HSGOC and Assembly during the January 2017 AU Summit;
18. **COMMENDS** the African Union Commission, the NEPAD Agency and the AfDB including key strategic partners and the private sector for successfully holding the first PIDA Week held at the Headquarters of the African Development Bank in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire; **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Council for Infrastructure Development (CID) under the Institutional Architecture for Infrastructure Development in Africa (IAIDA) and **CALLS** for the institutionalization of the PIDA Week events. **WELCOMES** the proposal of Dr. Akinwumi Adesina, President, African Development Bank Group, to host the PIDA Week events annually;
19. **COMMENDS** the NEPAD Agency for establishing the Continental Business Network (CBN) and **WELCOMES** the efforts made to involve the private sector in PIDA implementation through the CBN. **NOTES** that the CBN as a platform will

facilitate private sector participation in developing and financing infrastructure across the continent. **THEREFORE CALLS ON** the African Union Commission and the NEPAD Agency to work with private sector organisations to further the infrastructure dialogue between the CBN members and governments at the highest-level;

20. **RECALLS** the Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.540 (XXIII) approving the setup of the Africa Global Partnership Platform (AGPP) and **COMMENDS** H.E President Macky Sall for hosting the inaugural plenary session of the AGPP in Dakar, Senegal. **NOTES** with interest the AGPP thematic focus of agriculture and infrastructure as key sectors for Africa's development and **FURTHER WELCOMES** the AGPP as a high level dialogue on shared responsibilities between Africa and its development partners.
21. **CALLS UPON** the Member States, the G7 and G20 to jointly support the operations of the AGPP Secretariat so as to ensure that the AGPP serves as a dynamic interlocutor between Africa and bodies such as the G7 and G20 on Africa's policies and priorities with respect to economic growth and social development. **NOTES WITH APPRECIATION** the leadership of H.E President Macky Sall in engaging his G7 and G20 counterparts on Africa's inclusive development;
22. On implementation of the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA 2024), **COMMENDS** the progress made in the establishment of the Alliance for Accelerating Excellence in Sciences in Africa (AESA). **ENDORSES** the request by the Technical Specialised Committee (STC) on Education, Science and Technology that the NEPAD Agency working with the AUC should advise member states and RECs on matters of technology prospecting including regulatory and ethical requirements that need to be put in place in order for the continent to benefit from emerging technologies for economic development and environmental sustainability. **FURTHER DIRECTS** the NEPAD Agency to establish a system for obtaining expert contribution on the matters of technology development, acquisition and deployment for economic development;
23. On implementation of the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa (PMPA), **COMMENDS** the progress made in the implementation of the African Medicines Regulatory Harmonization (AMRH) Programme especially in the East African Community (EAC) region. **THEREFORE CALLS UPON** the NEPAD Agency, the West Africa Health Organization (WAHO) and the West Africa Monetary Union (WAEMU) to expedite the roll-out of the AMRH Programme in the West Africa Region in 2016 and present progress to implement the HSGOC at its January 2017 Summit;
24. **CONGRATULATES** the President and the people of the Republic of Zimbabwe for establishing the Pan-African Minerals University of Science and Technology (PAMUST) which aims to contribute to building skills in mineral resources beneficiation and improve the quality, productivity, and competitiveness of the



African mining industry; **FURTHER CALLS UPON** the NEPAD Agency to support the establishment of PAMUST; and **REQUESTS** the African Development Bank and private sector to support PAMUST;

25. **CONGRATULATES** the countries that have been declared free of Ebola during the third and fourth quarters of 2015 and **CALLS UPON** the NEPAD Agency to continue mobilizing partners and resources to continue with the work on developing and testing vaccines and therapies for Ebola Virus Disease and other emerging diseases;
26. **COMMENDS** the NEPAD Agency for establishing an online platform that will promote learning and foster information and knowledge sharing for Africa's transformation. **CALLS UPON** the NEPAD Agency, in collaboration with other partners, to support Member States and RECs to effectively use the online learning and knowledge exchange platform. **FURTHERMORE, URGES** the NEPAD Agency to facilitate systematic learning and sharing knowledge and expertise among RECs and Member States around pertinent issues obtaining to Africa's transformation. The platform is available on <http://nepad.assyst-uc.com/>;
27. **REQUESTS** the NEPAD Agency to strengthen its think-tank function as stipulated in its mandate in order to effectively inform development discourses on the continent and guide the implementation of continental development frameworks, drawing on best practices;
28. **IN GENERAL EXTOLS** the enriched quality of the technical work of the NPCA under the leadership of the Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Ibrahim Assane Mayaki.

**DRAFT**  
**DECISION ON THE REFORM OF THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL**  
**Doc. Assembly/AU/4(XXVI)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **RECALLS** Decisions Assembly/AU/Dec.564(XXIV), Assembly/AU/Dec.573 (XXIII), Ext/Assembly/AU/Dec.1 (IV), Assembly/AU/Dec.430 (XIX), Assembly/AU/Dec.485 (XXI) and Assembly/AU/Dec.574(XXV);
2. **TAKES NOTE** of the Seventeenth Report of the Committee of Ten Heads of State and Government on the reform of the United Nations Security Council;
3. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** of the Committee of Ten Heads of State Consultative Summit Held in Windhoek, Republic of Namibia on 15th January 2016 and the on-going high-level outreach consultations with other interest groups;
4. **FURTHER TAKES NOTE** of the progress made at both the intergovernmental negotiations and outreach with Member States of the United Nations in garnering support for the Common African Position;
5. **WELCOMES** the support that the Common African Position continues to garner on United Nations Security Council reform;
6. **FURTHER WELCOMES** UN General Assembly Decision 69/560 adopted by consensus to immediately continue with the intergovernmental negotiations in informal plenary during the 70<sup>th</sup> session building on the gains made as well as the informal meetings held during the 69<sup>th</sup> session;
7. **REAFFIRMS** that the Common African Position, as contained in the Ezulwini Consensus and Sirte Declaration, shall continue to serve as the only viable option that reflects Africa's legitimate right and aspiration to rectify, inter alia, the historical injustice endured by the Continent;
8. **ALSO REAFFIRMS** its unanimous and unequivocal adherence to the Common African Position contained in the Ezulwini Consensus and the Sirte Declaration consisting of the claim of two additional non-permanent seats and two seats in the permanent category with same rights, privileges and obligations accorded to the current permanent members, including the right to veto;
9. **RESERVES** the right to determine the criteria for the selection of the two Member States to represent Africa in the Security Council as Permanent Members;
10. **UNDERTAKES** to defend, canvass and promote the African Union Common Position at the on-going intergovernmental negotiations on the reform of the UN Security Council;

11. **CALLS ON** all African Union Member States to continue to speak with one voice on all aspects of “the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the UN Security Council and related matters”;
12. **FURTHER CALLS ON ALL** African Union Member States the need not to adhere to other negotiating groups or special interests, as it is not in keeping with the spirit of the Common African Position;
13. **REITERATES** its call on all African Union Member States to include the issue of the Security Council reform among their foreign policy priorities in their engagements with non-African partners; in particular, the need to correct without further delay, the historical injustice that the African continent continues to suffer;
14. **DECIDES** to include an allocation in the Commission’s Budget for the purpose of funding the activities of the Committee of Ten;
15. **REITERATES** that the Committee of Ten remains seized of its mandate until Africa achieves its objectives on the reform of the UN Security Council, and requests the Committee to present a report to the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly in June 2016.

**DRAFT**  
**DECISION ON THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA**  
**Doc. Assembly/AU/6(XXVI)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **RECALLS** the decision (*Assembly/AU/Dec.475(XXI)*) of the May 2013 Assembly that requested establishment of a High Level Committee (HLC) of Heads of State and Government to sensitize and coordinate the activities of African Leaders and members of the High Level Panel, and build regional and inter-continental alliances on the Common African Position on the post 2015 Development Agenda;
2. **TAKES NOTE** of this final report of the High Level Committee (HLC) on the Post 2015 Development Agenda;
3. **COMMENDS** the leadership role of H.E. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and members of the High Level Committee as well as their respective Sherpas for the level of enthusiasm, responsiveness and commitment to the Post-2015 Development process;
4. **COMMENDS** the coordinating role of the African Union Commission, and the technical support of the African Development Bank (AfDB), the Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Regional Bureau for Africa, and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in the entire process of the Post-2015 Development Agenda.
5. **WELCOMES the adoption of the new development agenda, titled:** Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and that of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA), which significantly capture Africa's priority areas and are compatible with African Agenda 2063.
6. **WELCOMES** compatibility of SDGs with African Agenda 2063 FTYIP and the synergies that will emerge in their implementation.
7. **COMMENDS** African Statisticians for their active participation in the quantification and costing of AA2063 and SDGs indicators to enable credible monitoring and evaluation process.
8. **ENDORSES** the formulation of accountability framework that caters for both Africa Agenda 2063 and Agenda 2030 for SDGs;
9. **RECOMMENDS** capacity building support for member states on the domestication, prioritization and implementation/roll out of the Agenda 2063 which includes the global agenda 2030 on SDGSs .

**DRAFT DECISION ON THE 2017 THEME**

**The Assembly,**

1. **WELCOMES** the proposal by the Republic of Malawi to declare 2017 the year of “HARNESSING DEMOGRAPHIC DIVIDEND THROUGH INVESTMENTS IN THE YOUTH”;
2. **REQUESTS** the Commission to take necessary measures to launch in January 2017 the theme of the year.

**DRAFT DECISION ON THE SCALE OF ASSESSMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF FINANCING THE AFRICAN UNION**

**The Assembly,**

1. **ENDORSES** the report of the Executive Council on the scale of assessment and implementation of the Alternative Sources of Financing the African Union and the recommendations thereon;
2. **REQUESTS** the Ministerial Sub-Committee on Scale of Assessment and Contributions to continue to develop modalities for the implementation of the Alternative Sources of Financing the African Union and report the progress to the next summit;
3. **WELCOMES:**
  - i) Angola's willingness to be assessed at 8%;
  - ii) The decision of Cote D'Ivoire to increase its assessed contribution to 3%;
  - iii) The decision of Ethiopia to increase its assessed contribution to 4%;
  - iv) The decision of Chad to increase its assessed contribution to 1.6 Million USD;
  - v) The decision of Ghana to take share of the 4% difference in the scale of assessment.
4. **DECIDES** that:
  - i) the 4% difference will be assessed on Chad, Cote D'Ivoire, Ethiopia and Ghana;
  - ii) All the other Member States will be assessed as per Assembly decision Assembly/AU/Dec.578(XXV); and that
  - iii) the attached table on the revised Scale of Assessment to form part of this decision;
5. **THANKS** Member States that have volunteered to share the 4% difference of the Scale of Assessment in a spirit of African solidarity and **ENCOURAGES** Member States to pay their contributions to the Union budget in a timely manner.

<b>SCALE OF ASSESSMENT</b>			
<b>Member State</b>	<b>2016 - 2018</b>		<b>Assessed Contribution 2016</b>
	<b>As per Assembly/AU/Dec.578(XXV) decision (June 2015)</b>	<b>Scale of Assessment as agreed by Heads of States 30-01-2016 (2016-2018)</b>	
Nigeria	12.000	12.000	20,380,000.80
South Africa	12.000	12.000	20,380,000.80
Egypt	12.000	12.000	20,380,000.80
Algeria	12.000	12.000	20,380,000.80
<b>Total 1st Tier</b>	<b>48.000</b>	<b>48.000</b>	<b>81,520,003.20</b>
Angola	12.000	8.000	13,586,667.20
Ethiopia	2.289	4.000	6,793,333.60
Sudan	3.322	3.322	5,641,863.55
Libya	3.260	3.260	5,536,566.88
Ghana	2.380	3.086	5,241,056.87
Côte d'Ivoire	1.596	3.000	5,095,000.20
Kenya	2.737	2.737	4,648,338.52
Tunisia	2.339	2.339	3,972,401.82
U.R. of Tanzania	1.656	1.656	2,812,440.11
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	1.488	1.488	2,527,120.10
Cameroon	1.457	1.457	2,474,471.76
Zambia	1.335	1.335	2,267,275.09
Uganda	1.141	1.141	1,937,798.41
<b>Total 2nd Tier</b>	<b>37.000</b>	<b>36.821</b>	<b>62,534,334.12</b>
Gabon	1.095	1.095	1,859,675.07
Chad	0.763	0.942	1,599,830.06
Equatorial Guinea	0.887	0.887	1,506,421.73
Mozambique	0.871	0.871	1,479,248.39
Botswana	0.842	0.842	1,429,996.72
Senegal	0.841	0.841	1,428,298.39
South Sudan	0.798	0.798	1,355,270.05
Congo	0.766	0.766	1,300,923.38

<b>SCALE OF ASSESSMENT</b>			
Zimbabwe	0.751	0.751	1,275,448.38
Namibia	0.697	0.697	1,183,738.38
Burkina Faso	0.685	0.685	1,163,358.38
Mauritius	0.679	0.679	1,153,168.38
Mali	0.619	0.619	1,051,268.37
Madagascar	0.605	0.605	1,027,491.71
Benin	0.473	0.473	803,311.70
Rwanda	0.432	0.432	733,680.03
Niger	0.422	0.422	716,696.69
Guinea	0.354	0.354	601,210.02
Sierra Leone	0.279	0.279	473,835.02
Togo	0.247	0.247	419,488.35
Mauritania	0.238	0.238	404,203.35
Malawi	0.217	0.217	368,538.35
Swaziland	0.216	0.216	366,840.01
Eritrea	0.196	0.196	332,873.35
Burundi	0.155	0.155	263,241.68
Lesotho	0.129	0.129	219,085.01
Liberia	0.111	0.111	188,515.01
Cape Verde	0.106	0.106	180,023.34
Central African Republic	0.087	0.087	147,755.01
Djibouti	0.083	0.083	140,961.67
Seychelles	0.079	0.079	134,168.34
Somalia	0.076	0.076	129,073.34
Guinea-Bissau	0.055	0.055	93,408.34
Gambia	0.048	0.048	81,520.00
Saharawi Arab D.R.	0.044	0.044	74,726.67
Comoros	0.037	0.037	62,838.34
São Tomé and Príncipe	0.018	0.017	28,871.67
<b>Total 3rd Tier</b>	<b>15.001</b>	<b>15.179</b>	<b>25,779,002.68</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.001</b>	<b>100.000</b>	<b>169,833,340.00</b>



**DRAFT**  
**DECISION ON AFRICA'S ENGAGEMENTS IN THE**  
**GLOBAL CLIMATE NEGOTIATIONS**  
**Doc. Assembly/AU/7(XXVI)**

**The Assembly,**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Coordinator of the Committee of the African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC), H.E. Abdel Fattah El Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt on climate change action in Africa and Africa's engagement in the global climate negotiations; and **ENDORSES** the recommendations contained therein;
2. **CONGRATULATES** France on hosting a successful Twenty-first Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and for facilitating the adoption of the Paris Agreement that is binding to all Parties;
3. **WELCOMES** the adoption of the Paris Agreement by the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change at its Twenty-first session and **URGES** all Member States to participate in the High-level signature ceremony for the Agreement to be convened by the Secretary General of the United Nations on 22 April 2016 in New York;
4. **CALLS ON** all Member States to ratify the Paris Agreement; and **ACKNOWLEDGES** the UNFCCC Decision to host the Twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 22) on the African continent, in Marrakesh, the Kingdom of Morocco from 7 – 18 November 2016;
5. **EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** to the African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN) as well as the African Union Commission (AUC), and the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) for representing the interests of Africa in the climate change negotiations and the constructive manner in which they have advanced the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change process; **URGES** AMCEN, AUC and AGN to maintain the unity of the group and to continue to represent African interests in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change process; and **CALLS ON** the AGN in collaboration with the Commission to continue to provide the necessary technical support and advice to AMCEN and through AMCEN to CAHOSCC;
6. **COMMENDS** the African Union Commission, the African Development Bank, and the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, as well as the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa for the establishment and effectiveness of the Africa Pavilion at COP21; **APPRECIATES** the space provided by the Pavilion for African countries and institutions to showcase Africa's response to climate change; **ACKNOWLEDGES** the support provided by France and Partners:

ClimDev-Africa, Benin, GIZ, SOS Sahel, Norway, The World Bank and Islamic Development Bank; and **CALLS** on Member States to support the continued mounting of an Africa Pavilion at future COPs;

7. **REQUESTS** AMCEN to develop, in collaboration with the AGN and the Commission, a proposal regarding strengthening the 3-tier negotiation structure, a strategy on how to maximize the benefits of the Paris Agreement for Africa, and an assessment of the needs of African countries for the implementation of their Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) to the Paris Agreement, including in relation to means of implementation. **FURTHER REQUESTS** AMCEN to present recommendations in advance of the Twenty-second conference of the Parties on ways and means for mobilizing adequate resources to support the implementation of the intended nationally determined contributions by African States;
8. **REAFFIRMS** the endorsement by the CAHOSCC in its meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2015 in New York of African Adaptation Initiative (AAI) and the African Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI), building up on the continental initiatives of the Climate for Development in Africa (ClimDev-Africa) and the High Level Work Programme on Climate Change Action in Africa (WPCCA); and **WELCOMES** the launching of the two Initiatives by the Coordinator of the CAHOSCC during COP 21 in Paris;
9. **RECALLS** the Assembly's Decision (Assembly/AU/Dec.580(XXV)) which established a technical working group chaired by the President of AMCEN to develop the African Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI), and which encouraged AMCEN to develop with the AGN a proposal for an African Adaptation Initiative; and **COMMENDS** the work by AMCEN, the AGN and the technical working group comprising AUC, NEPAD Agency, AGN, AfDB, UNEP and IRENA in this regard;
10. **REQUESTS** AMCEN to establish a technical working group in collaboration with AUC, NEPAD, AGN, AFDB, UNECA, UNEP, UNDP, to carry on the work with regard to the African Adaptation Initiative, with the aim of increasing its visibility and ensuring mobilization of adequate resources needed for its operationalization and implementation;
11. **ENCOURAGES** developed countries to support the implementation of the African Adaptation Initiative, taking into consideration the reaffirmation of the Paris Agreement that adaptation is a global challenge, and of the importance of support for and international cooperation on adaptation efforts, taking into account the needs of developing countries; and **STRESSES** the importance of coordination and synergy between the technical working group and the African Risk Capacity (ARC), ClimDev-Africa as well as other relevant initiatives and efforts;
12. **EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** for the support by G7 and G20 for the AREI, as well as for the Joint Statement on Advancing the Africa Renewable Energy Initiative by Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Sweden, United States of

America, United Kingdom and EU reiterating expressions of support for the initiative from G7 Leaders in June 2015 and G20 energy ministers in October 2015, and jointly committing to mobilize at least \$10 billion USD cumulatively from 2015 to 2020; **ALSO EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** for the support provided by the UN Secretary General to the Africa Adaptation Initiative;

13. **CALLS ON AMCEN** to take appropriate swift measures, in collaboration with the Commission, under the guidance of the CAHOSCC, to ensure the operationalization and implementation of the African Renewable Energy Initiative (AREI) and African Adaptation Initiative (AAI) and the in line with Agenda 2063.
14. **REQUESTS** Partners to continue to support Member States and the Commission in addressing the adverse impacts of climate change on the socio-economic development on the continent.

**DRAFT DECLARATION  
ON THE SITUATION IN PALESTINE AND THE MIDDLE EAST  
Doc. EX.CL/930(XXVIII)**

**WE**, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, having met at our Twenty Sixth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia Africa from 30 to 31 January 2016;

**TAKING NOTE** of the Report on the Situation in the Middle East and Palestine, and **RECALLING** all resolutions and decisions of the Organization of African Unity/African Union on the Situation in Palestine towards achieving lasting peace and security in the Middle East;

**REAFFIRMS** our full support to the Palestinian people in their quest for the restoration of their legitimate rights to establish an independent State co-existing peacefully with the State of Israel;

**REITERATING** our wish for the peaceful resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict in accordance with the principles of international law and all relevant United Nations resolutions; and **EXPRESSING** support for the two-state solution;

**RENEWING** our call for the resumption of negotiations between the two sides in order to reach a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East;

**COMMENDING** the AU Member States as well as the UN Agencies that raised the Palestinian Flag in political support of the State of Palestine;

**CONDEMNING** the continued occupation of Palestinian lands and the Judaization campaign aimed at changing all Islamic and Christian features of the Holy City and reducing the Palestinian population to the fullest extent through the confiscation of their lands and the destruction of their homes, a sectarian concept which undermines the foundation of the peace process;

**DENOUNCING** the Israeli practices against the Palestinian prisoners and detainees, which are contrary to the international law and international humanitarian law, and **CALLING** on the Israeli government to release all Palestinian and Arab political prisoners and detainees in the Israeli jails;

**EQUALLY DEMANDING** that Israel refrains from using acts of terrorism against the Palestinian's civilian populations as well as arbitrary arrests of Palestinians including children and women which is an act of violation of international laws and human rights norms including the Geneva Convention on the Rights of Women and Children;

**FURTHER CONDEMNING** Israel for withholding Palestinian funds and tax revenues, which constitute a cornerstone of the Palestinian economy, and **CALLING** on the

international community to put pressure on Israel to release Palestinian tax funds that has withheld.

**FURTHER CONDEMNING WE HEREBY:**

1. **CALL ON** the international community to exert pressure on Israel to stop all settlement activities, release Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails and support the efforts of the Palestinians for membership in international agencies and to join international conventions and protocols;
2. **REJECT** the land and sea blockage imposed on the Gaza Strip, which led to the deterioration of the economic and humanitarian situation, and **DEMANDS** an immediate lifting of all restrictions on the Gaza Strip;
3. **URGE** the UN Security Council to shoulder its responsibilities in maintaining international peace and security, and to take the necessary steps to resolve the Arab-Israeli conflict in all its aspects, to achieve a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region based on the principle of a two-state solution, according to the 1967 borders, and apply the provisions of relevant international law and previous decisions of the Council in this regard;
4. **REQUEST** Member States to boycott goods and products that are produced and exported from the settlements in the Palestinian territories including East Jerusalem;
5. **REQUEST** the United Nations and the Quartet to move immediately to shoulder their responsibilities and pressure Israel to commit to the process of serious peace process negotiations;
6. **FURTHER REQUEST** Member States to continue to support the Palestinian people in their struggle to establish a sovereign state over its national territory with Quds El-Sharif (Jerusalem) as its capital;
7. **REAFFIRM** the right of the Palestinian people to establish their own Palestinian Independent State with East Jerusalem as its capital on its borders of June 1967, and supports the Palestinian approach to obtain full membership of the State of Palestine at the United Nations;
8. **REITERATE** that a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East, demands a full withdrawal of Israel from the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories to the line of June 1967, including the Syrian Golan Heights and territories still occupied in southern Lebanon.

**DRAFT****DECLARATION ON THE LIFTING OF THE LONG-STANDING UNITED STATES OF AMERICA'S UNILATERAL SANCTIONS IMPOSED ON THE SUDAN****Doc. EX.CL/945(XXVIII)Add.5**

**WE**, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, meeting at our Twenty Six Ordinary Session, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia:

**GUIDED** by the Constitutive Act of the African Union adopted in 2000 at Lomé Summit (Togo) which provides that one of the objectives of the African Union shall be to achieve greater unity and solidarity between the African countries and the peoples of Africa ;

**CONSIDERING** the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the African Charter on Human and People's Rights and other relevant human rights instruments;

**AFFIRMING** the United Nations Human Rights Council Resolution No. A/HRC/27/L.2 on Human Rights and Unilateral Coercive Measures adopted on 18 September 2014 , which created special procedures to assess the impact of the unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights;

**CALLING UPON** the Commission to develop modalities for the follow up on the implementation of this declaration;

**BEARING IN MIND** the negative impact of the unilateral coercive measures imposed on the Republic of Sudan by the United States of America since 1997, which has, inter alia, crippled the economy of the country, increased the inflation rates, restricted the imports and exports, hindered the country's strategy to achieve socio-economic development, interrupted the on-going plans to cope with Post 2015 Sustainable Development Goals and affected the country's obligation towards its commitments to the African Union Agenda 2063;

**RECOGNIZING** that the unilateral coercive measures resulted in freezing and confiscation of private and governmental transfers and assets respectively, deprived the people of the Sudan of the use of open sources in the internet, economically discouraged foreign direct investments, lowered the per capita income and increased the percentage of population poverty;

**CONCERNED** by the harmful effect of the bank transfer embargo, which has forced the people dealing with Sudan to carry money in cash outside the banking system making it difficult for the authorities to fight money laundering thus encouraging cross boarder crimes. This has affected all socioeconomic aspects, especially in the health sector resulting into the increase in maternal and infant mortality due to the restrictions created on importing medical serums and equipment normally;

**STRESSING** that unilateral coercive measures and legislation are discouraged under international law, international humanitarian law, the UN Charter, Constitutive Act of the African Union and the norms and principles governing peaceful resolutions among states;

**EXPRESSING** its deep concern at the designation of the Republic of the Sudan as a State sponsoring terrorism by the Department of State of the United States of America, since 1993, which has restrained Sudan from playing active role in combating terrorism, smuggling and trafficking in persons, transnational crimes and illegal immigration;

**FURTHER RECOGNIZING** the Sudan's tireless effort in peace-making through the multifaceted negotiations in Chad, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Kenya, Eritrea, Egypt, Libya, Qatar and many other countries, including, the signing and implementation of several agreements mainly the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) that led to the establishment of the sisterly Republic of South Sudan, as well as the initiation of on-going inclusive process of national dialogue to accommodate all the people of Sudan within national issues;

**TAKING NOTE** of Sudan's initiative in the establishment of the Committee on Intelligence and Security Service in Africa (CISSA) in order to combat terrorism regionally and internationally;

**REAFFIRMING** that no state may use or encourage the use of any type of measures including but not limited to economic or political measures, to coerce another state in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights and to secure from it advantages of any kind;

**UNDERLINING** that under no circumstances should people be deprived of their basic means of survival;

**ALARMED** by the disproportionate and indiscriminate human cost of the United States of America's unilateral sanctions and their negative effects on civilian population, in particular women and children of the Sudan;

1. **DECLARE** our full support of the Republic of the Sudan until the comprehensive lifting of all unjust United States of America's unilateral sanctions;
2. **CALL UPON** the United States of America to lift all its unilateral coercive measures, restrictions and sanctions imposed on the Republic of the Sudan as soon as possible to allow it to continue the peace building process;
3. **REGRET** the extraterritorial nature of the measures which, inter alia, impacts the payment of the financial contribution of the Sudan to the African Union, in addition to threatening the sovereignty of the country;
4. **CALL UPON** all states of the world not to recognize these measures or apply them, and to take effective administrative or legislative measures, as appropriate, to counter the extraterritorial application or effects of unilateral coercive measures.

**DRAFT**  
**RESOLUTION ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE CUBA-UNITED STATES**  
**OF AMERICA RELATIONS**

**The Assembly,**

1. **WELCOMES** the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between the Governments of the Republic of Cuba and the United States of America and the reopening of Embassies in the respective capital cities and other initiatives launched to make progress in bilateral ties;
2. **CALLS FOR** the lifting of the long-standing and unjust economic, commercial and financial blockade on Cuba;
3. **URGES** the President of the United States to take all the necessary measures within his wide executive powers to deal with all outstanding issues regarding the embargo.