

AFRICAN UNION

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REPORT ON THE INTER-SESSIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE AUCIL BUREAU

DECEMBER 2010 TO MARCH 2011

REPORT ON THE INTER-SESSIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE AUCIL BUREAU

I. MEETING OF THE PRC SUB-COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE, BUDGETARY AND FINANCIAL MATTERS: CONSIDERATION OF EMOLUMENTS FOR AUCIL MEMBERS AND 2011 BUDGET PROPOSALS

1. As mandated by the Second Ordinary Session of AUCIL, the Bureau members attended the meeting of the PRC Sub-committee on Administrative, Budgetary and Financial Matters to defend on behalf of its members, the 2011 Budget Proposals and Proposal on Emoluments for AUCIL Members.
2. The Chairperson of AUCIL, Prof. Blaise Tchikaya presented the proposed 2011 budget of AUCIL to the tune of **seven hundred and two thousand, three hundred and eighty three, and twenty cents (\$702,383.2)** made up of both the Operational and Programme Budgets based on the principle of equivalence with the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, as follows:
 - a. **Honorarium of USD \$500 per day during Sessions of the Commission (sessional allowance);**
 - b. **Inter-sessional allowance of \$3077 per month (calculated based on 30% of 90% of the salary of the President of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights);**
 - c. **Professional allowance of \$1025 per month (calculated based on 10% of 90% of the salary of the President of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights); and**
 - d. **Insurance and Medical Cover as per the AU Conditions.**
3. Once computed, the yearly implication for all members of AUCIL would amount to **six hundred and fifty one thousand, four hundred and sixty four (\$651,464).**
4. Accordingly, the AUCIL Chairperson informed the Sub-Committee that this Organ was requesting for a total allocation of **one million, three hundred and fifty three thousand, eight hundred and Forty Seven, and twenty cents (\$ 1,353,847.2).**
5. After the presentation, the members of the sub-committee made comments and observations after which they adopted the following recommendations:
 - i. **That based on its previous decisions the allocation to the Organs would be limited to 5% increase on the 2010 approved budget; and**
 - ii. **Proposal on emoluments and allowances should be jointly submitted by all Organs in 2011.**

II. THE 18TH AND 16TH ORDINARY SESSIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND ASSEMBLY OF THE UNION - 27 TO 28 AND 30 TO 31 JANUARY 2011, RESPECTIVELY

6. Due to paucity of funds in the 2010 AUCIL budget, only the Chairperson could attend the Summit sessions of the Executive Council and the Assembly.
7. The Chairperson embarked on a lobbying of members of the Executive Council to review the decision of the PRC Sub-Committee and the PRC on the budget and proposed emoluments and allowances for AUCIL. However, despite his spirited efforts the report of the PRC to the Executive Council was adopted in entirety.
8. Accordingly, the approved operational budget for AUCIL in 2011 is ***two hundred and thirty six thousand, two hundred and fifty (\$ 236,250)***. The Executive Council decision [EX.CL/Dec.600 (XVIII)] is herein attached for ease of reference.

III. CONFERENCE ON THE PROMOTION OF THE COURT – 9 – 11 MARCH 2011, LILONGWE, MALAWI

9. The Chairperson represented AUCIL at a Conference on the Promotion of the Court, which was organized by the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights based in Arusha, Tanzania.
10. The theme of the Conference was 'The African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights: Your New Partner in Strengthening the Protection of Human Rights in Africa' and the overall objective of the Conference was to enhance the protection of human rights in Africa by creating awareness about the court, encourage more signature and ratification of the Protocol Establishing the Court and encourage the submission of the declaration permitting direct access to the Court for individuals and NGOs.
11. The topics discussed during the Conference included:
 - i. Overview of the African Human Rights system
 - ii. General Presentation of the African Court;
 - iii. Access to and litigation before the African Court;
 - iv. The Advisory Jurisdiction of the African Court;
 - v. Enforcement of the Court's Decisions;
 - vi. The relationship between the Court and the African Commission;
 - vii. The relationship between the Court and Regional Courts;
 - viii. The relationship between the Court and national judiciaries; and
 - ix. Strategies for more ratifications of the Court's Protocol and deposit of Article 34(6) declaration.