

AFRICAN UNION

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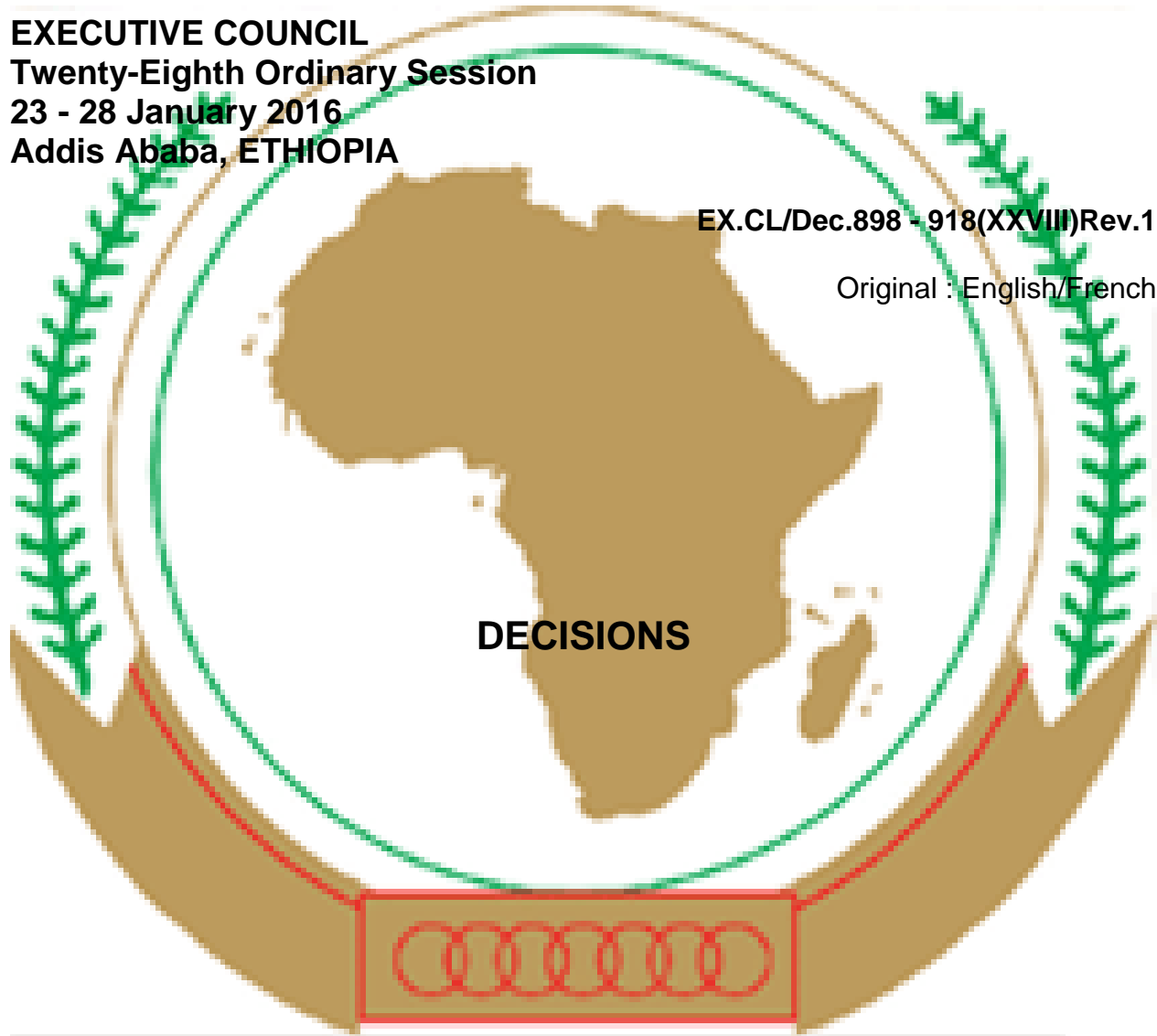


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**DECISION ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PREVIOUS DECISIONS OF THE
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND THE ASSEMBLY OF THE AFRICAN UNION
Doc. EX.CL/929(XXVIII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on Implementation of the Previous Decisions of the Executive Council and the Assembly of the African Union and **ENDORSES** the recommendations contained therein.
2. **REQUESTS** the Commission in collaboration with the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) to ensure :
 - i) Rationalization of the number of meetings held per year;
 - ii) Decisions proposed by the Commission do not exceed three (3) per Department and also ensure full implementation within the reporting period before another decision is taken on the same subject matter;
 - iii) The agenda of the Summit and decisions are rationalized to address strategic rather than administrative issues;
 - iv) Adequate financial resources are allocated to enable the Commission effectively implement the decisions of the Policy Organs;
 - v) Adoption of necessary measures to strengthen and use effectively monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for the implementation of Policy Organs decisions through the improvement of the follow-up matrix;
 - vi) Decisions adopted are reported on once a year to provide for adequate time for implementation by both the Commission and Member States of the same;
 - vii) Adequate resources are allocated to the Commission to speed up recruitment of qualified personnel;
 - viii) Decisions on which no action is taken after two (2) or three (3) years are recommended to the Policy Organs for cancellation;
 - ix) Review the process for adoption of Protocols/Treaties to facilitate ratification by Member States;
 - x) Implementation of decisions that require funding by partners are limited and that Member States make their contributions to the Union in a timely manner to allow for implementation of decisions.

3. **REQUESTS** the Commission to report on the implementation of this Decision to the Ordinary Session of the Executive Council scheduled for January 2017.



**DECISION ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVES' COMMITTEE
Doc. PRC/Rpt(XXXI)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) and **ENDORSES** the recommendations contained therein as follows:

**A. ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY MATTERS FOR THE 2015
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET**

2. **DECIDES** as follows:

- i) The proposed supplementary budget for 2015 will amount to USD 53,836,582.87 broken down as follows:
 - a) Operating budget of US\$ 1,035,250.39;
 - b) Programme budget: USD 52,801,332.48 to be financed as follows:
 - Contribution by Member States: :USD 1,324,752.39 subject to availability of funds;
 - Contributions by Partners: US\$ 52,511,830.48.
- ii) With effect from the 2017 budget, all budgetary requests should be realistic, detailed and annotated, including the amounts pledged by Partners;
- iii) Proposals for supplementary budget should be restricted to unforeseen and exceptional circumstances;
- iv) A supplementary budget of US\$ 150,000.00 should be secured from the Turkish Government as per the latter's pledge in 2015. This should be done before March 2017, failing which such pledge will be lost;
- v) A supplementary budget of US\$ 1,500,000.00 to be financed from the grant by the Government of the Republic of Congo;
- vi) A supplementary budget of ~~US\$ 154,000.00~~ for payment of forty-one (41) short term Commission Staff who were recruited for service delivery improvement and whose salaries were to be paid from a partner fund that was not released;
- vii) The salaries of the said staff members should be provided for in the 2016 budget and paid up to the end of their contracts;

- viii) The initial approved budget for 2015 is \$393,039.455.00. The total amount for supplementary budget is \$53,836,582.87 which brings the total approved budget for 2015 at \$466,874.038.00;
- ix) The Commission should ensure the observance of competence as well as gender and regional representation in conducting recruitment.

3. **TAKES NOTE** with concern of the low level of budget execution by the Commission during the period under review and **REQUESTS** the latter in collaboration with Member States and partners to take the necessary measures with a view to enhancing the budget execution rate;

4. **APPEALS** to all Member States to meet their obligations and clear their arrears as well as their assessed contributions for 2015;

5. **REQUESTS** the Commission to:

- i) Ensure that Member States pay their contributions;
- ii) Pursue dialogue with Partners with a view to bringing them to release their pledged funds for 2015;
- iii) Ensure, in collaboration with the PRC, that there is effective communication to enhance information sharing on the financial situation of the Union.

6. **ALSO REQUESTS** the PRC to consider a top up amount during the 2016 supplementary budget for the Administrative Tribunal;

7. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to report on the implementation of this decision in January 2017;

B. ON PROGRAMMES AND CONFERENCES

8. **REQUESTS** the Commission to highlight the budgetary assumptions on how the programmes and activities around the 2017 theme of the African Union would impact on the budget;

9. **RECALLS** the need for Member States to increase their contributions to the programme budget as well as the peace operations budget;

10. **REQUESTS** the Commission to:

- i) Ensure that the Budget Framework Paper (BFP) takes into account the priorities identified in Agenda 2063;

- ii) Factor in the operationalization of the African Standby Force (ASF) and its budget implications into the BFP.

C. ON STRUCTURAL REFORMS

11. **RECALLS** its previous Decision EX.CL/Dec. 877(XXVII) adopted by its 27th Ordinary Session held in Johannesburg, South Africa in June 2015, requesting the PRC, through its relevant Sub-Committee and the Commission to intensify their efforts towards the development of a new structure based on the requirements of the AU Agenda 2063 Framework and its First Ten-Year Implementation Plan guided by the principles of subsidiarity and complementarity at national, regional (Regional Economic Communities (RECs)) and continental levels;

12. **REQUESTS** the Commission to:

- i) Finalize, in collaboration with the PRC, all the proposals with a view to submitting a final report to the next ordinary session of the Executive Council scheduled for July 2016;
- ii) Present a status report to the PRC on a regular basis and draw up timelines on the implementation plan;
- iii) Strictly apply the provisions of the existing African Union Staff Regulations and Rules regarding compulsory retirement of both regular and separation of short term staff as well as implement an effective succession planning system;
- iv) Reduce its dependence on partners' funds in the management of key and sensitive posts in the proposed structure;
- v) Present a detailed report on the financial implication of the proposed structure;
- vi) Design and submit the macro structure for Peace Keeping Liaison Offices under the structure of the Department of Peace and Security;
- vii) Implement the measures to improve operational efficiency and effectiveness that do not entail structural reform;

viii) Carry out, with the support of the Consultants, a comprehensive exercise with respect to the other Organs, the Commission Representational, Technical, Regional and Peace Keeping Liaison Offices in the next phase of the exercise by June 2016.

13. **APPROVES** the principle used in the design of the macro structures of the Commission and methodology adopted in the assessment of the current

Commission structure which aims at bringing process and cost efficiencies as well as alignment with the Agenda 2063;

14. **ENDORSES** the proposed structures of the Commission for which alignment had been agreed upon and **REQUESTS** the Commission to ensure that the financial implications of the proposed structure is not more than the already anticipated cost of United States Dollars (USD) 1.5 million to Member States;

D. ON AUDIT MATTERS

15. **REQUESTS** the Commission to continue to follow-up on the implementation of the recommendations of the Office of Internal Audit (OIA) as well as those of the Board of External Auditors and report on audit matters periodically;

16. **DECIDES** as follows:

- i) Identify and establish the responsibility of those implicated in audit reports ;
- ii) All concerned Departments/Directorates/Offices of the Commission will henceforth attend meetings where audit matters are being considered with a view to ensure implementation of recommendations;
- iii) The Commission should ensure that it carries out most of its activities hence scale up the execution rate of available funds in the first half of the year, in order to achieve a satisfactory implementation rate by the end of each financial year;
- iv) The Commission should propose realistic project implementation plans based on the available funds and human resources capacity and the OIA should carry out an audit of human resources and staff performance;
- v) In preparing reports on budget performance, the Commission should include detailed information on the funds received showing the breakdown of the monies received;
- vi) Over-expenditure of budget allocation without authorization, will be addressed in line with the existing rules and in particular the Financial Regulations and Rules;
- vii) The Commission should set deadlines for internal and external audits, and take necessary measures to ensure that those deadlines are met;
- viii) The OIA should undertake an audit of the reserve funds of the Union and present the report during the first quarter of 2016 to the Executive Council in July 2016, through the PRC;

- ix) The OIA should submit a report to the PRC, through its relevant Sub-Committee every three (3) months to enable it to follow-up on implementation.

E. ON MULTILATERAL COOPERATION – Doc. EX.CL/928(XXVIII)v

a) On the Evaluation of the Africa's Strategic Partnerships

17. REQUESTS the PRC in collaboration with the Commission to:

- i) Comply with and implement paragraph 10 Decision EX.CL/Dec.877(XXVII) adopted by its 25th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Johannesburg, South Africa in June 2015 reaffirming the right of all Member States without distinction to participate in all meetings, activities and events organised within the context of partnerships of which the AU is part;
- ii) Continue its evaluation of Strategic Partnerships and to submit its recommendations in the envisaged overall evaluation report during the July 2016 Summit;
- iii) Engage the Partners and other relevant stakeholders, with a view to identifying areas of competencies of the Strategic Partners.
- iv) Align the African Union Program Budget, jointly funded by Strategic Partners, with the priority areas identified in the First Ten Year Implementation Plan of Agenda 2063.

- 18. DECIDES** that the PRC will take the lead in representing Africa before the Partners, while soliciting the views of the Africa Groups accredited to the Partners concerned;

b) On Rescheduling of Partnerships Summits

- 19. ENCOURAGES** Partners or designated host countries to ensure that other Partnership Summits' meetings (Senior Officials and Ministerial Meetings) are held at the same venue and immediately precede respective Partnership Summits;

- 20. APPROVES** a five (5) year cycle and to organize two (2) partnership meetings per year as from 2017 for all Strategic Partnerships and **REQUESTS** the Commission to adopt its gradual implementation taking into consideration the need to reschedule previously adopted Partnership meetings accordingly, including at the Summit level, and in consultation with the respective Partners and host countries;

c) *On Involvement of the PRC at meetings with Partners*

21. REQUESTS the Commission to:

- i) Ensure that financial provisions are earmarked to cover the cost of participation of the representatives of the PRC, through the Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation in all partnership meetings abroad, while ensuring that such meetings are held at the Headquarters of the African Union whenever possible;
- ii) Review the Banjul Formula on the participation from Africa's side.

d) *On Africa-Arab Partnership*

22. REQUESTS the Commission in collaboration with the League of Arab States to commence preparations for the 4th Africa-Arab Summit scheduled for Equatorial Guinea in November 2016, as per the agreed roadmap;

e) *On Africa-India Partnership*

23. REQUESTS the Commission in collaboration with the PRC to follow up on the implementation of the Declaration and Framework for Strategic Partnership adopted by the 3rd Africa-India Summit held in Delhi, India from 26 to 30 October 2015;

f) *On Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD)*

24. COMMENDS the Islamic Republic of The Gambia and Kenya for the agreement reached to hold the TICAD VI Summit in Nairobi, Kenya;

25. ENDORSES:

- i) The agreement to hold TICAD VI Summit in Nairobi, Kenya, on 27 and 28 August 2016;
- ii) The proposal by the Co-organizers, the Government of Japan, the United Nations Office of the Special Advisor on Africa (OSAA) the Commission, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank to combine the holding of the Second TICAD V Ministerial Follow-Up and the TICAD VI Ministerial Preparatory Meetings.

26. APPROVES the offer by:

- i) The Islamic Republic of The Gambia to host the combined Ministerial Meeting and **REQUESTS** the Commission, in close collaboration with the

host and Co-Organizers of TICAD, to propose a suitable date for the said Ministerial meeting, and to engage in active preparations;

- ii) Djibouti to host the Senior Officials Meeting for the combined Ministerial Meeting on 14 and 15 March 2016.

g) *Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC)*

- 27. REQUESTS** the Commission in collaboration with the PRC to follow up on the implementation of the outcomes of the Johannesburg Summit Plan of Action (2016-2018) of FOCAC of December 2015 and to develop a follow-up mechanism in that regard.

h) *On Africa-Korea Forum*

- 28. REQUESTS** the Commission to:

- i) Propose in close collaboration with Ethiopia and Korea, for consideration by the PRC, a new suitable date for the holding of the 4th Africa-Korea Forum in 2016;
- ii) In collaboration with the PRC, together with Korea, to take the necessary steps to ensure effective preparation for the 4th Africa-Korea Forum and to speed up the process of consideration of the draft working documents to be communicated to Member States.

i) *On Africa-South America Cooperation Forum (ASA)*

- 29. TAKES NOTE** of the request by Ecuador to postpone the 4th Africa-South America Summit scheduled for Quito, Ecuador, from 5 to 7 May 2016;

- 30. REQUESTS** the Commission, together with the South American side and the PRC to consult with a view to proposing suitable new dates for the holding of the 4th ASA Summit in 2017 and to ensure that the working documents are finalized in a timely manner;

j) *On Africa-EU Partnership*

- 31. REQUESTS** the Commission in collaboration with the PRC to:

- i) Agree, with the European Union side, on a date for the Joint Africa-EU Forum (JAF);
- ii) Take the necessary steps to ensure effective preparation of the JAF and speed up the process of consideration of the draft working documents.

k) Africa-Turkey Partnership

32. REQUESTS the Commission in collaboration with the PRC to engage in consultations with Turkey regarding a more suitable date for the 2nd Senior Officials Meeting.

l) On the Recruitment of staff for the Partnership Management and Coordination Division (PMCD)

33. REQUESTS the Commission to fast-track the recruitment of staff to fill the approved and vacant positions within PMCD, to enable the latter undertake its numerous activities and deliver on its challenging mandate, and report back to the next session of the Executive Council in July 2016;

F. ON REFUGEES, RETURNEES AND INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS IN AFRICA – Doc. EX.CL/928(XXVIII)vi

34. RECALLS Decision EX.CL/Dec.567(XVII) adopted by the 27th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Johannesburg, South Africa in June 2015 to increase the assessed contribution of Member States for assistance towards alleviating humanitarian situation from two percent (2%) four percent (4%), and **REQUESTS** the appropriate policy organ to implement this decision, in view of the increasing complexity of humanitarian situations on the continent;

35. REQUESTS as follows:

- i) Member States to assist the PRC to organize and carry out assessment missions led by the Commission to countries affected by dire humanitarian crisis by relaying information on requests to carry out assessment missions to respective capitals in good time;
- ii) The regional Deans to nominate heads of delegations in time to ensure that assessment missions are carried out as scheduled;
- iii) The Commission to ensure that appropriate follow up action on assessment missions is undertaken by engaging national stakeholders, civil society organisations and international partners.

36. URGES Member States to speak with one voice at the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) scheduled for Istanbul, Turkey, on 23 and 24 May 2016 and **CALLS UPON** Member States and the Commission to implement the recommendations contained in the Common African Position (CAP);

37. REQUESTS the Commission to report on the implementation of this decision to the ordinary session of the Executive Council scheduled for January 2017;

G. ON CONTRIBUTIONS

38. **WELCOMES** the following:

- i) The efforts by Member States to pay up their contributions and **URGES** those Member States that have not yet done so to honour fully their obligations;
- ii) The support of development partners to the Union and **CALLS ON** them to honour their commitments.

39. **DECIDES** to grant temporary exemption from sanctions to the State of Libya until the beginning of the 2017 financial year, taking into account the difficulties it has been facing for the last few years;

40. **REQUESTS** the Commission to hold discussions with Member States that are in arrears with a view to coming up with an agreed payment plan/schedule;

41. **CALLS UPON** Member States that are in arrears of over two (2) years to settle the arrears promptly, to avoid sanctions being applied on them in accordance with the existing rules;

42. **ALSO CALLS UPON** the United States of America to lift the long-standing unilateral economic sanctions imposed on The Sudan, to allow the latter to honour its commitments to the African Union and other International Organizations;

43. **REQUESTS** the Commission to explore means of opening an account within Africa dedicated to and aimed at facilitating timely payment of contributions by Member States;

44. **APPROVES** the setting up of a Sub-Committee of the PRC to oversee the implementation of the sanction regime and to study the issues relating to the banks and the currency used by the organization in light of the new challenges faced in the global arena;

45. **WELCOMES** the efforts by the Ad-hoc Ministerial Committee on the Scale of Assessment which met on the margins of the 28th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council in January 2016 and finalized consultations with and reached final conclusion on the proposed new scale assessment of the Republic of Angola;

46. **DECIDES** as follows:

- i) Maintain sanctions on the **Central African Republic** for non-payment of its assessed contributions and accumulated arrears since the 2011 financial year;

- ii) Impose sanctions on the **Republic of Sao Tome and Principe** for non-payment of its arrears of contribution for the last two (2) financial years;
- iii) Maintain the temporary exemption granted to the **Republic of Madagascar** as long as it continues to honour its obligations in line with the agreed plan.

H. ON ECONOMIC AND TRADE MATTERS

47. REQUESTS the Commission to:

- i) Conduct a continent-wide study to investigate the causes of shortcomings in the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) process and make the most of the experiences of countries that have recorded better economic and commercial performance in this process;
- ii) Remain engaged with the United States of America (USA) to ensure that there is no erosion of preferences available to Member States under AGOA.

48. URGES Member States to:

- i) Set up their national AGOA response strategies to take better advantage of the economic and commercial potential of AGOA;
- ii) Define a common African position and respect the commitments that will be made in this context to ensure that Africa speaks with one voice on this matter during negotiations of trade agreements;
- iii) Speed up the implementation of the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) process by allocating the necessary funds for the indigenization of the negotiation process to allow the Commission to train more national experts and those within the Permanent Missions of Member States in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

49. CALLS ON Member States to sign and ratify expeditiously, the Protocols establishing the Pan-African financial institutions, namely, the African Central Bank (ACB), the African Investment Bank (AIB) and the African Monetary Fund (AMF), with a view to providing the continent with adequate resources for the implementation of the Continental Development Agenda;

50. URGES Member States to:

- i) Forward, with negotiating regions their signed Economic Partnerships Agreement (EPAs) to the Commission and **REQUESTS** the latter, in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

(UNECA), to analyse them and ensure that they are compatible with Africa's development as framed in Agenda 2063;

- ii) Designate their Chief and alternate Negotiators as well as focal points within their respective Permanent Missions in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in preparation for the negotiations on CFTA.

51. REQUESTS the Commission to:

- i) Collaborate with China within the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) and the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed with China for industrialization;
- ii) Organize a Ministerial Roundtable on current economic, financial, agricultural and humanitarian challenges facing the continent with a view to building long-term resilience;
- iii) Fast-track, in collaboration with Member States, the implementation of flagship programmes of Agenda 2063 such as the Grand Inga Dam Project to unleash the economic potential of the continent.

52. URGES Member States to provide available strategic information to the Commission regarding their Mineral Resources to ensure full continental beneficiation and shared prosperity through the African Minerals Development Centre (AMDC);

53. REQUESTS the Commission to report on the implementation of this decision to the July 2017 ordinary session of the Executive Council.

I. ON THE NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT (NEPAD)

54. RECOMMENDS to the Assembly to:

- i) **Request** the Commission to expedite the finalization of the integration of NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency (NPCA) into the African Union (AU) structures and processes, particularly in light of the envisaged restructuring exercise, with a view to avoiding programmes overlap and duplication;
- ii) **Also Request** the Commission, in collaboration with NPCA, to propose well defined criteria for eligibility of all Member States for NEPAD projects;
- iii) **Declare** the vacancy of the position of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of NPCA and request the NPCA Secretariat in collaboration with the Commission to circulate the Terms of Reference of the position to all Member States;

- iv) **Decide** that NEPAD programmes and projects be extended to the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic and Somalia;
- v) **Also Decide** that the harmonization of medical products should take into account the draft AU model law on regulation of medical products;
- vi) **Request** NPCA to provide clear completion time lines for the infrastructure development projects with respect to the sixteen (16) Mega projects as well as the new projects in the pipeline on the continent.

J. ON THE SPECIAL EMERGENCY FUND FOR DROUGHT AND FAMINE IN AFRICA

55. REQUESTS the PRC in collaboration with the Commission to:

- i) Ensure harmonization between the objectives and mandate of its sub-Committees including with those relating to refugees due to the similarity of issues dealt with and in the interest of synergy, thereby avoiding duplication of efforts; and make necessary arrangements for the participation of the Members of SEAF in the humanitarian assessment missions of the Commission;
- ii) Sensitize Member States, on the status of the Fund and the need to replenish it without delay in order to combat the dire humanitarian situation on the continent;
- iii) Draw a timetable for convening a pledging Conference aimed at mobilizing additional resources to ensure sustainability of the Fund and to enable address among others, the effects of the El Niño phenomenon;
- iv) Take necessary measures, with the competent organs, to harmonize all offers made at different fora (COP21 and G8) in order to maximize the use of possible funds released;
- v) Continue to raise awareness in 2016 on the effects of climate change in Africa, particularly on the impact of El Niño in East Africa, Southern Africa and other regions of the continent.

56. CALLS UPON Member States to pull their risks together in the area of climate change by joining the African Risk Capacity (ARC);

57. REQUESTS the Commission to:

- i) Present, the final draft of the document to implement the Executive Council's decision on expanding the mandate of the Fund and to organize, in 2016, a special session of PRC on this issue;

- ii) Find ways and means to expand the donor base of the Fund to include the private sector, and individuals including from the Diaspora as well as non-traditional donors;
- iii) Harmonize the joint working arrangement between the PRC Sub-Committee on SEAF and the PRC Sub-Committee on Refugees, Returnees and IDPs.

58. **CALLS ON** all Member States and partners to assist the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic, which has been affected by floods in 2015;

59. **REQUESTS** the Commission to report on the implementation of this decision at its ordinary session scheduled for January 2017.

K. ON THE HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENTS

60. **REGRETS** the problem encountered by the Permanent Representative of the State of Eritrea and his spouse at the Bole International Airport on 14 May 2014;

61. **APPRECIATES** that the Host Government was magnanimous to state that it did all that was necessary to ensure that the Permanent Representative of the State of Eritrea and his spouse were accorded the full privileges and immunities on their arrival at the Bole airport and that it regrets any irregularity or incident that may have occurred on their arrival that does not amount to the full enjoyment of privileges and immunities;

62. **URGES** the Host Government to accord to the Permanent Mission of the State of Eritrea, its Head and diplomatic staff the same privileges and immunities it accords to diplomats from other AU Member States as well as abide by its hosting obligations;

63. **INVITES** the Host Government, in consultation with the Commission, to develop better guidelines on receiving diplomats and ensure expedient immigration processing;

64. **REQUESTS** the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) to follow up with its proposal to have the Host Government and the PRC meet in a Special Session after the Summit to discuss and address broad issues of concern;

65. **URGES** the Host Government to:

- i) Liaise with its relevant departments to ensure that immunities and privileges are fully accorded to AU Staff and Diplomats of Member States at the airport;
- ii) Synchronize the exercise of the duty free privilege in Ethiopia in accordance with the Headquarters Agreement in transactions where United States Dollars (US\$) is the required mode of payment;

- iii) Review the rules governing the purchase of tickets and duty free items in Addis Ababa in Dollars while Diplomats and staff members of the Commission are legally restricted from withdrawing dollars and making the necessary payment locally;
- iv) Expedite the implementation of the Quick Wins including effective money transfer;
- v) Work out, in collaboration with the Commission, a timetable for the drafting and finalization of the relevant guidelines to facilitate the implementation of the Host Agreement;
- vi) Inform the Commission before putting in effect changes in rules that may affect the rights and privileges of staff members of the Commission, and the Permanent Representatives and their personnel accredited to the African Union as provided for in the Headquarters Agreement;
- vii) Borrow a leaf from other countries which host International Organisations with respect to the modalities those countries use to implement diplomatic privileges and immunities.

66. REQUESTS the Commission to develop guidelines on the issuance of visas to individuals in the employment of the Commission, not fully covered in the African Union Staff Regulations and Rules and submit same to the Host Government for consideration;

67. ALSO REQUESTS the Commission to report on the implementation of this decision in January 2017.

DECISION ON THE SPECIALISED TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Reports of the Specialized Technical Committees (STCs) and **APPROVES** the recommendations contained therein;

A. On Specialized Technical Committee on Communication and Information Communication Technologies (STC-CICT-1) – Doc. EX.CL/932(XXVIII)

2. **WELCOMES** the successful holding of the First Ordinary Session of the Ministers of Communication and Information Communication Technologies for achieving important outcome for the development of the Communication and ICT sectors in Africa;

3. **ENDORSES** the following:

- i) The 2015 Addis Ababa Declaration and updated African Union (AU) Plans and projects of the Communication sub-sector adopted by the sector Ministers in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;
- ii) The AU Communication and advocacy Strategy 2014-2017 and AU Branding Campaign;
- iii) The Communication strategy for Agenda 2063;
- iv) The African media development initiatives (Pan African Media Observatory, Pan African Media Network and Pan African Media Portal);
- v) The Safety and Protection of African Journalists and Pan African Platform on Access to Information (APAI).

4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to:

- i) Set up the structures of governance in charge of the management of the PAeN as per the Sustainable Action Plan's OPTION 1 after its hand over to the African Party in collaboration with the STC-CICT Bureau;
- ii) Accelerate the signing and ratification by Member States of the African Union Convention on Cyber-Security and Personal Data Protection;
- iii) Submit Ad-hoc reports on: (a) the addressing and postcode systems to other pertinent STCs namely to the Committee on Finance, Economic Planning and Integration and/or to the Committee on Public Services, Local Government, Urban Development and Decentralization for further support and, (b) the electrification and connectivity of Post offices to the Committee

on Finance, Economic Planning and Integration, and to the Committee on Transport, Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructures, Energy and Tourism;

- iv) Participate in the Regional Internet Governance Forum (IGF) in collaboration with UNECA and the RECs.

5. **APPEALS** to the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the European Union (EU), the World Bank and other development partners to support the implementation of the African Union Plans and projects of the communication and ICT sub-sectors;

B. On The Specialized Technical Committee on Education Science and Technology (STC-EST)– Doc. EX.CL/934(XXVIII)

6. **RECOMMENDS** for adoption by the Assembly:

- i) The Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA 16-25);
- ii) The Africa Space Policy and the Africa Space Strategy;
- iii) The Institution of 1 March as African School Feeding day.



**DECISION ON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE E-CONFERENCING
SYSTEM WITHIN THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the introduction of the e-conferencing system within the Commission;
2. **CONGRATULATES** the Commission on the launch of this home-grown electronic document management system which will greatly facilitate the work of the African Union by providing easy access to AU documents including full texts of all OAU/AU Decisions, Declarations and Resolutions since 1963;
3. **REQUESTS** the Commission in collaboration with all Member States to make maximum use of the e-conferencing system and **DECIDES** that henceforth, all Summit Meetings to be held at the AU Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia become paper-smart except where the need arises;
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to comply with this decision and report to the ordinary session of the Executive Council scheduled for January 2017.



**DECISION ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE AFRICAN COMMISSION
ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS (ACHPR)
Doc. EX.CL/938(XXVIII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Thirty-Ninth (39th) Activity Report of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR);
2. **AUTHORIZES** the publication of the Thirty-Ninth (39th) Activity Report of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR);
3. **WELCOMES** the positive developments undertaken by Member States to improve the human rights situation in their respective countries;
4. **URGES** Member States in which challenges have been identified to take the necessary measures to promote and protect human rights;
5. **ENCOURAGES** Member States to sign, ratify, domesticate and implement all regional and international human rights instruments;
6. **URGES** Member States to take the necessary measures to strengthen regional and international cooperation towards putting an end to terrorism in Africa;
7. **REQUESTS** the ACHPR to review the criteria for granting observer status to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) as well as representation before the ACHPR by non-African individuals and groups and to report, through the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC), to the next ordinary Session scheduled for July 2016;
8. **CALLS ON** Member States to take action to address in their respective countries, the areas of concern that are highlighted in the Activity Report of the ACHPR;
9. **COMMENDS** Member States that have submitted their Periodic Reports in accordance with Article 62 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and Article 26 of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (2003 Maputo Protocol) and **URGES** the other Member States to do so;
10. **APPEALS** to the Government of Burundi to authorise and facilitate the fact-finding mission on the human rights situation in Burundi, in accordance with the relevant African Union Peace and Security Council decisions;
11. **URGES** Member States to engage with the ACHPR and other AU human rights promotion and protection Organs towards organising, in their respective

countries, activities to mark the celebration of 2016 which has been declared “*African Year of Human Rights with Particular Focus on the Rights of Women*”;

12. **REQUESTS** the Commission to expedite the on-going recruitment for various positions at the ACHPR Secretariat and to consider recruiting for the remaining positions to enable the ACHPR to effectively carry out its mandate;
13. **TAKES NOTE** of the establishment of an Inter-ministerial Committee on the Construction of the ACHPR Headquarters and **CALLS ON** the Government of the Islamic Republic of The Gambia to expedite the process;
14. **REQUESTS** ACHPR to build the capacity and strengthen local human rights organisations;
15. **COMMENDS** the Islamic Republic of The Gambia for hosting the 57th Ordinary Session of the ACHPR, and **TAKES NOTE** of the offer by the Republic of Niger to host a future Session and **CALLS ON** Member States, in particular those that have not yet done so, to host one of the Sessions of the ACHPR;
16. **REQUESTS** the ACHPR to report on the implementation of this decision at the ordinary session of the Executive Council scheduled for January 2017.



**DECISION ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE AFRICAN COURT
ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS (AfCHPR)
Doc. EX.CL/939(XXVIII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Activity Report of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (AfCHPR) for the period 1 January to 31 December 2015, and the recommendations contained therein;
2. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** of the reservation entered into by the State of Libya, in relation to paragraphs 19, 20 and 66 of the Activity Report of AfCHPR;
3. **RECALLS** its Decision EX.CL/Dec.842(XXV) adopted by the 25th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Johannesburg, South Africa in June 2015 declaring 2016 as the "*African Year of Human Rights with Focus on the Rights of Women*", and **NOTES** that 2016 coincides with the Tenth Anniversary of the operationalization of AfCHPR;
4. **REQUESTS** AfCHPR, in collaboration with the AU Commission and the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC), to make arrangements to ensure the successful celebration of these two auspicious occasions;
5. **CONGRATULATES** Member States that have ratified the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the establishment of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights and **CALLS ON** those that have not yet done so, to expedite the process;
6. **URGES** Member States to continue to contribute to AfCHPR and comply with its Decisions;
7. **REQUESTS** AfCHPR to:
 - i) Present, in collaboration with the AU Commission and the PRC, at the July 2016 ordinary session of the Assembly, through the Executive Council, a Declaration on the Commemoration of the 10th Anniversary of the operationalization of AfCHPR;
 - ii) Finalize, in close collaboration with the PRC and the AU Commission, the Study on the establishment of a Trust Fund specifying in particular, the sources of funds, sustainability, the benefits, and its impact on Member States assessed contributions.
8. **REQUESTS** AfCHPR to submit a report on the implementation of this decision to the ordinary session of the Executive Council in January 2017.

**DECISION ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL
AND CULTURAL COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION
(ECOSOCC)
Doc. EX.CL/940(XXVIII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the Activities of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC) and the recommendations contained therein;
2. **REITERATES** its requests to ECOSOCC, in close consultation with the Commission, other AU Organs and Member States to pursue actively the setting up of a harmonized mechanism and clear criteria for the granting of AU consultative and observer status to Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in Africa in the implementation of Decision EX.CL/890 (XXVII) on the Report of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council of the African Union (ECOSOCC) adopted by the 27th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Johannesburg, South Africa in June 2015;
3. **REQUESTS** ECOSOCC to:
 - i) Remain fully engaged and collaborate with CSOs of Member States;
 - ii) Continue popularizing Agenda 2063 and its First Ten Year Implementation Plan;
 - iii) Speed up the process of fully constituting its General Assembly so that every Member State is represented.
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission in collaboration with Member States to provide effective political and material support to assist ECOSOCC deliver on its mandate;
5. **REQUESTS** ECOSOCC to report on the implementation of this decision at the ordinary session of the Executive Council scheduled for January 2017.

**DECISION ON THE CHALLENGES OF RATIFICATION/ACCESSION
IMPLEMENTATION OF OAU/AU TREATIES
Doc. EX.CL/950(XXVIII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **ADOPTS** the Progress Report of the Ministerial Committee on the Challenges of Ratification/Accession and Implementation of OAU/AU Treaties and the recommendations contained therein;
2. **WELCOMES** the following:
 - i) Efforts made by Members of the Ministerial Committee and the Commission in assisting some Member States on the establishment of the National Sectorial Committee on challenges of ratification/accession to enable better coordination with the relevant Ministries involved in the issue of ratification of/accession to, and implementation of OAU/AU Treaties at national Level;
 - ii) Efforts by Member States towards signature, ratification of /accession to OAU/AU Treaties during the period from January to December 2015.
3. **APPEALS** to Member States who have not yet done so to establish National Sectorial Committees, which will serve as national focal points to communicate information to the Ministerial Committee, through the Commission, on efforts made and challenges faced by each Member State in relation to the ratification of/accession to OAU/AU Treaties, as well as implementation;
4. **INVITES** Member States, through their respective Sectorial National Committees, to bring on board civil society organizations and the media to assist in the advocacy strategy to popularize African legal instruments domestically;
5. **REITERATES** its appeal to Member States to:
 - i) Prioritize and accelerate the signing and ratification of/accession to OAU/AU Treaties that promote African shared values which are the basis for Africa's integration and necessary for the implementation of Agenda 2063, which pose no apparent contradiction with domestic legislation already in place ;
 - ii) Ensure that they comply with the decisions of the Policy Organs and initiate the process of ratification of new treaties within a period of one (1) year after its adoption in accordance with Executive Council Decision EX.CL/Dec.459 (XVI) on the Status of Signature and Ratification of OAU/AU/ Treaties and the Harmonization of Ratification Procedures adopted by the 14th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in January 2009.
6. **REQUESTS** the Ministerial Committee in collaboration with the Commission to:

- i) Prepare a detailed program of action to be presented together with the recommendations adopted in this report including providing statistics and patterns on ratification of and accession to existing legal instruments as well as a draft time frame of sensitization missions scheduled to Member States;
- ii) Convene a brainstorming session on the challenges of ratification for all National Sectorial Committees of Member States at regional level;
- iii) Identify mechanisms for monitoring implementation of OAU/AU Treaties to facilitate compliance by Member States;
- iv) Ensure the review and alignment of legal instruments of the African Union to avoid duplication of issues;
- v) Ensure that the Ministerial Committee meets in ordinary sessions once a year on the margins of the ordinary session of the Executive Council in June/July instead of January as provided for in Rule 5 of the Rules of Procedure of the AU Ministerial Committee on the Challenges of Ratification/Accession and Implementation of the OAU/AU Treaties. The Ministerial Committee shall hold its sessions at the same venue as the ordinary sessions of the Executive Council and present its report to the Executive Council thereon.



**DECISION ON THE ELECTIONS
OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION IN JULY 2016
EX.CL/951(XXVIII)**

The Executive Council,

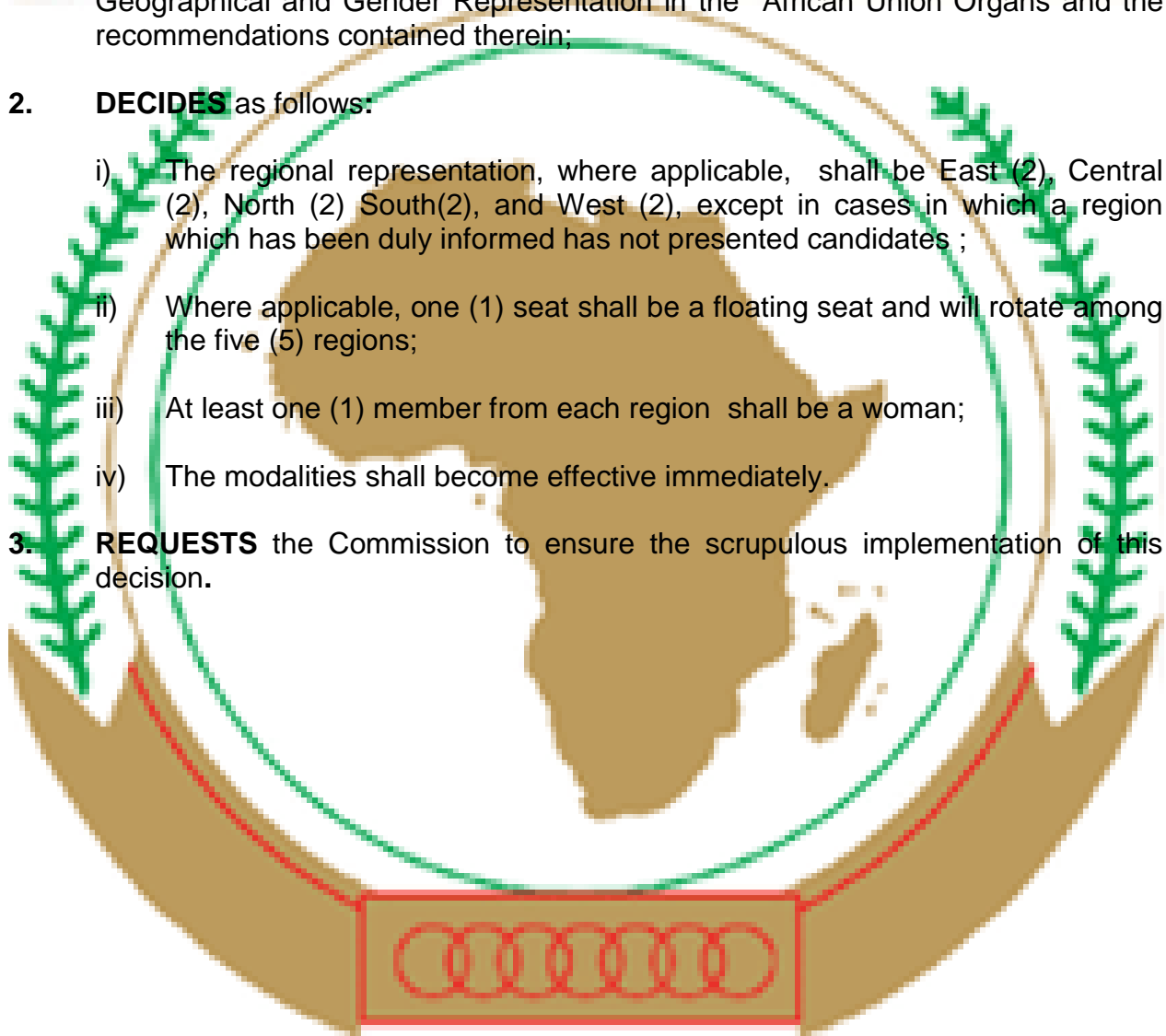
1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Ministerial Panel for the Election of Members of the Commission scheduled for Kigali, Rwanda in July 2016;
2. **ADOPTS** the Modalities for the Election of Members of the Commission in July 2016 as recommended by the Ministerial Panel;
3. **REQUESTS** both the Member States and the Ministerial Panel to adhere to the timeframe of the election process as set out in the Modalities for Election of Members of the Commission in July 2016;
4. **APPROVES** a budget of United States Dollars Ninety-nine Thousand Three Hundred and Forty Nine dollars (US\$99,349) for the work of the Ministerial Panel and related activities and **DECIDES** that the budget be included in the 2016 Revised Budget.



**DECISION ON THE MODALITIES ON IMPLEMENTATION OF CRITERIA FOR
EQUITABLE GEOGRAPHICAL AND GENDER REPRESENTATION
IN THE AFRICAN UNION ORGANS
Doc. EX.CL/953(XXVIII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the Implementation of the Criteria for Equitable Geographical and Gender Representation in the African Union Organs and the recommendations contained therein;
2. **DECIDES** as follows:
 - i) The regional representation, where applicable, shall be East (2), Central (2), North (2) South(2), and West (2), except in cases in which a region which has been duly informed has not presented candidates ;
 - ii) Where applicable, one (1) seat shall be a floating seat and will rotate among the five (5) regions;
 - iii) At least one (1) member from each region shall be a woman;
 - iv) The modalities shall become effective immediately.
3. **REQUESTS** the Commission to ensure the scrupulous implementation of this decision.



DECISION ON THE MEKELE RETREAT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
Doc. EX.CL/947(XXVIII)

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the outcomes of the Retreat of the Executive Council held in Mekele, Ethiopia on 24 and 25 January 2016;

a) *The Africa We Have, The Africa We Want*

2. **UNDERScores** the paradox that Africa is rich, yet Africans are poor remains the burning issue that the current African leaders and people must resolve, as we implement Agenda 2063, as acknowledged by the Bahir Dar retreat;

3. **REQUESTS** the Commission to:

i) Ensure with the NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency (NPCA), and in collaboration with the United Nations Economic for Africa (UNECA), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and Member States that the First Ten Year Implementation Plan of Agenda 2063 integrates the centrality of African unity, ownership and, resolve to advance and defend continental aspirations and priorities;

ii) Organise another retreat before the next ordinary session of the Executive Council scheduled for July 2016, to allow for in-depth discussions on the paradox of rich Africa, poor Africans as well as on changing mind-sets and other relevant issues.

b) ON DOMESTICATION OF AGENDA 2063 AND ITS FIRST TEN-YEAR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

4. **TAKES NOTE** of the progress made in the domestication of Agenda 2063 and its First Ten Year Implementation Plan (FTYIP);

5. **UNDERScores** the importance of participation of African people, in all their sectoral and other formations, for implementation of the continental mission, and **REQUESTS** Member States, the Commission and NPCA, the Pan African Parliament, the Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC) and other AU Organs and institutions as well as the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), to continue popularizing the Agenda 2063 aspirations, priorities and flagship programmes;

6. **URGES** Member States that have not yet started domestication, to do so and **REQUESTS** the Commission to continue to provide support on the same, and report on the conclusions of domestication to the ordinary session of the Executive Council scheduled for July 2016;

7. **REQUESTS** the Commission and all other AU Organs, RECs and continental institutions to align their Strategic and Master Plans to the FTYIP and ensure

maximum coordination in its implementation, in the spirit of complementarity and subsidiarity;

8. **ENCOURAGES** Member states and RECs to strengthen national and regional planning systems to drive implementation by establishing national focal points, and for government wide mainstreaming, and domestic resource mobilisation and allocation;
9. **RECOGNISES** the convergence between Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the work done by the Commission to embed the seventeen (17) SDGs in the FTYIP, and in its results and monitoring and evaluation framework;
10. **TAKES NOTE** of the following:
 - i) Progress in the development of the Monitoring, Evaluation and Framework for Agenda 2063, and **WELCOMES** the measurement framework by the African Statisticians-Generals on the Strategy for Harmonization of Statistics in Africa, for the FTYIP;
 - ii) The report by the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) on '*The Assessment of Internal and External Risks associated with the implementation of the AU's Agenda 2063*' and the mitigation strategies proposed therein.
11. **REQUESTS** the Commission to gather reports from Member states and to present a progress report to the 2nd Bahir Dar Ministerial Follow-up Committee on Agenda 2063 to be held before the next ordinary session of the Executive Council scheduled for July 2016.
 - c) **ON AGENDA 2063 FLAGSHIP PROJECTS**
12. **TAKES NOTE** of the progress report of the Commission on the flagship projects, and **REQUESTS** the Commission to fast-track development of the proposals to catalyse implementation of Agenda 2063 and facilitate integration.
 - d) **ON CAPACITIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF AGENDA 2063**
13. **TAKES NOTE WITH APPRECIATION** of the comprehensive report on Capacities for Implementation of Agenda 2063 by the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) commissioned by the Commission;
14. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the role of ACBF in strengthening African capacities, through its programmes with AU Organs including the Commission, the RECs and Member States and **PLEDGES** the support of Member States to ensure that ACBF is strengthened, and **CALLS ON** continental and international partners to continue to provide financial support to ACBF in pursuance of its mandate;

15. **CALLS ON** Member States to urgently develop a continental initiative on Critical Technical Skills, and to prioritise investments in the development of skills, especially in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) areas, essential for implementing Agenda 2063, including vocational skills and trade technicians, as well as the design and management of large-scale projects.

e) ON FREE MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE AND THE AFRICAN PASSPORT

16. **WELCOMES** the report of the Commission on this issue, including the lessons from countries such as Rwanda, Seychelles, Mauritius, the Islamic Republic of The Gambia and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the East African Community (EAC) and the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) on free movement of people, and the process outlined towards the adoption of a Protocol on Free Movement of People by January 2018;

17. **REAFFIRMS** its commitment to free movement of people and goods, and of Africans having free access to all AU Member States, as amongst the enduring project of Pan Africanism and African integration, and that its benefits include facilitating tourism, intra-African investments and trade, people to people integration and cooperation, and the circulation and utilization of skills in the continent;

18. **URGES** all Member States to adopt:

- i) Necessary measures to ensure the issuance of Visas on arrival for citizens of AU Member States with the option to stay in a Member State for up to thirty (30) days. **NOTING**, however, the concerns raised with regards to security and the threat of terrorism and international crime, **ACKNOWLEDGES** the need to develop parameters to deal with those concerns, and **ENCOURAGES** all Member States to continue to work with security and intelligence agencies on this and other related matters with a view to availing the facility of issuance of Visas on arrival for citizens of Member States as soon as practically possible;
- ii) The process outlined towards the adoption of a Protocol on Free Movement of People by January 2018, which should come into immediate effect in Member States.

19. **REQUESTS** the Commission to present the ordinary African passport to Heads of State and Government at the next ordinary session of the Assembly scheduled for July 2016 and the passports for other categories such as Foreign Ministers, Heads and staff of AU organs, and Members of the PRC.

f) ON TOURISM AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

20. **REQUESTS** the Commission, to ensure the following, to achieve the goal of making Africa the preferred tourist destination, of both African and global tourists, and building a strong Brand Africa:

- i) Allocation of adequate resources to tourism activities in the Commission budget and mobilise support of all stakeholders in the continent, including international partners like the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO);
- ii) The elaboration of a continental Tourism policy and strategy as a priority activity, and mainstreaming of tourism in Agenda 2063 and other AU programmes, and to advocate for greater investment in tourism;
- iii) Convene the Ministers responsible for Tourism before the end of 2016 or beginning of 2017 within the framework of the relevant STCs, to review progress and provide guidance.

21. UNDERLINES as follows:

- i) Wildlife, through ecotourism, is and can be, a source of revenue if properly and sustainably managed;
- ii) The importance of conservation as it benefits local communities, including women.

22. DECIDES that poaching, illicit trade in wildlife products and bio-piracy should be vigorously combatted and **CALLS FOR** a review of the total ban for acceptable social and economic gains.

g) ON THE COMPARATIVE STUDY ON THE AFRICAN UNION WORKING METHODS AND STREAMLINING BUSINESS OF SUMMITS

23. TAKES NOTE of the Report on the Comparative Study on the Working Methods of the African Union (AU) and the Streamlining of the AU Summits and **ENDORSES** the recommendations contained therein;

24. URGES Member States to:

- i) Expedite the ratification of the revised Protocol on the Pan-African Parliament (PAP) adopted in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea in June 2014 in order for its speedy entry into force and **REQUESTS** the Commission to distribute the Malabo Protocol to Member States after the Retreat;
- ii) Implement in collaboration with the Commission, the Assembly decisions on the working methods of the AU.

25. REQUESTS the Commission to establish an internal Technical Committee to study the recommendations contained in the study and facilitate implementation of Decision 582 (XXV) adopted by the 25th Ordinary Session of the Assembly in Johannesburg, South Africa in June 2015 and report to the next ordinary session of the Executive Council through the Ministerial Follow-Up Committee on the Implementation of Agenda 2063.

h) ON THE RENEWAL OF THE MANDATE OF THE BAHIR DAR MINISTERIAL FOLLOW-UP COMMITTEE ON AGENDA 2063

- 26. RECALLS** the decision of the Executive Council endorsed by the Assembly on the 1st Bahir Dar Ministerial Follow-up Committee, composed of Cameroon (Central), Rwanda (East), Algeria (North), Angola (South) and Ghana (West), , the outgoing and incoming Chairpersons of the Executive Council, namely Zimbabwe and Chad as well as the AU Commission Chairperson, the Chairpersons and Executive Secretaries of the 8 RECs¹, the CEO of the NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency, the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the President of the AfDB, that the membership be renewed every two (2) years to allow for rotation and regional balance;
- 27. ENDORSES** the Mekele Retreat recommendation for membership of the 2nd Bahir Dar Ministerial Follow-up Committee as follows: the five (5) rotating regional representatives are Cameroon (Central), Rwanda (East), Algeria (North), Namibia (South) and Burkina Faso (West). The other Members of the Committee shall remain as listed in the above paragraph 26.



1

No	REC	CURRENT CHAIR	Until
1	IGAD	Ethiopia	
2	ECCAS	Gabon	May 2016
3	EAC	Tanzania	January 2016
4	COMESA	Ethiopia	March 2016
5	ECOWAS	Senegal	May 2016
6	SADC	Botswana	August 2016
7	CEN-SAD	Chad	Until 2016
8	UMA	Libya	

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

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Commission on the Election of Fifteen (15) Members of the Peace of Security Council of the African Union;
2. **ELECTS** the following five (5) Members of the Peace and Security Council for a three-year term as of 1st April 2016:

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

3. **ALSO ELECTS** the following ten (10) Members of the Peace and Security Council for a two-year term as of 1st April 2016:

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

4. **RECOMMENDS** the elected Members for appointment by the 26th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union in January 2016.

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

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Commission on election of one (1) member of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC);

2. **ELECTS** the following member of the ACERWC for a **five (5)-year term**:

Name	Country
Mr. Mohamed Ould Ahmedou dit H'Meyada	Mauritania

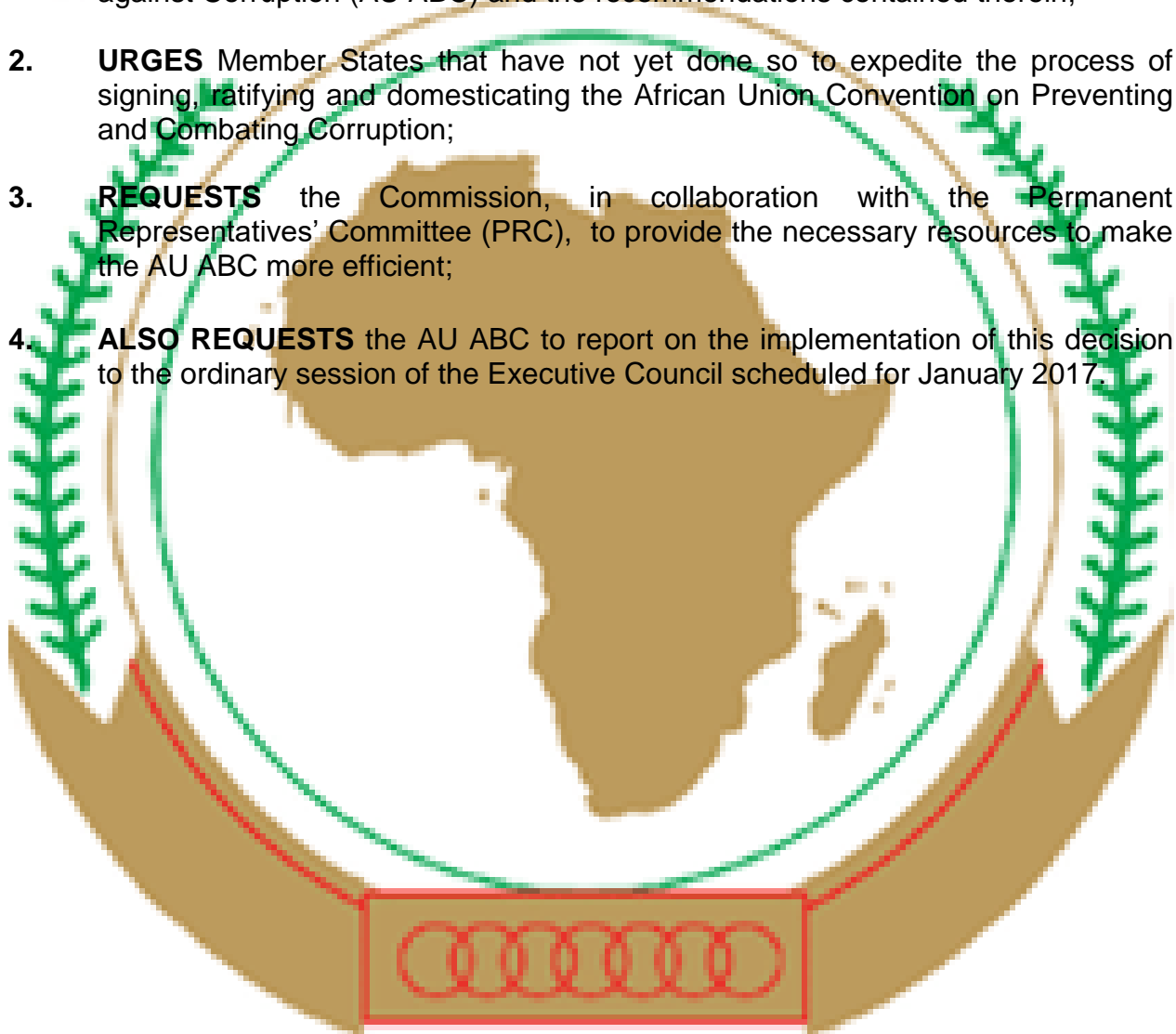
3. **RECOMMENDS** the elected member of the ACERWC to the 26th Ordinary Session of the Assembly for appointment in January 2016.



**DECISION ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE AFRICAN UNION ADVISORY
BOARD ON THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION
Doc. EX.CL/943(XXVIII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the African Union Advisory Board on the Fight against Corruption (AU ABC) and the recommendations contained therein;
2. **URGES** Member States that have not yet done so to expedite the process of signing, ratifying and domesticating the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption;
3. **REQUESTS** the Commission, in collaboration with the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC), to provide the necessary resources to make the AU ABC more efficient;
4. **ALSO REQUESTS** the AU ABC to report on the implementation of this decision to the ordinary session of the Executive Council scheduled for January 2017.



**DECISION ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION
FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2015
Doc. EX.CL/931(XXVIII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Chairperson for the period January to December 2015 and **ENDORSES** the recommendations contained therein;
2. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the following:
 - i) The achievements by the Commission in collaboration with the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC), to improve upon the operations, efficiency and effectiveness of the Commission;
 - ii) The effective operationalization of the Specialized Technical Committees (STCs).
3. **REQUESTS** the Commission to expedite the following:
 - i) The conduct of a comprehensive study on the status of implementation of previous Decisions of the Executive Council and the Assembly and to report thereon at the ordinary session of the Executive Council scheduled for January 2017;
 - ii) The operationalization, in collaboration with the relevant stakeholders, of the African Centre for Disease Control (CDC);
 - iii) Implementation of the 2050 Africa's Integrated Maritime Strategy (AIMS) in collaboration with the Member States;
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to report on the implementation of this decision to the ordinary session of the Executive Council scheduled for January 2017.

**DECISION ON THE SCALE OF ASSESSMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF
ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF FINANCING THE AFRICAN UNION
Doc. EX.CL/948(XXVIII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Ad-Hoc Ministerial Committee on the review of the scale of assessment;
2. **RECALLS** Assembly Decisions ref. Assembly/AU/Dec.561(XXIV) and Assembly/AU/Dec.578(XXV);
3. **RECOMMENDS** to the Assembly to review its previous decision that Angola be assessed at twelve percent (12%) to eight percent (8%) and that the short fall of the four percent (4%) be equitably shared by Member States falling in Tiers 2 and 3;
4. **ALSO RECOMMENDS** that the attached table of scale of assessment forms part of the decision on the new scale of assessment;
5. **REQUESTS** the PRC to ensure the following:
 - i) That its Sub-Committee on Administrative, Budgetary and Financial Matters is strengthened, reformed and renamed as the Sub-Committee on General Supervision and Coordination on Budgetary, Financial and Administrative Matters;
 - ii) Enlarge the mandate of the said Sub-Committee to henceforth, also perform a general coordinating and supervisory role in collaboration with the other relevant Sub-Committees;
 - iii) That the Sub-Committee is used as the platform for Member States to effectively interact and exchange with the Commission, on a quarterly basis;
 - iv) It receives, through the said Sub-Committee, quarterly reports from the Commission on the Operational and Program budget's performance, execution and absorption. These reports will serve as a basis for deliberations for the next disbursement of funds;
 - v) It receives, through the said Sub-Committee relevant information from the Commission on the status of contributions by Member States and Partners;
 - vi) It reports and makes appropriate recommendations thereon to the Policy Organs.
6. **ALSO REQUESTS** the PRC to establish a PRC Sub-Committee on Budgetary Matters which will:

- i) Be specifically responsible for the Technical evaluation of the AU draft budget;
- ii) Monitor, on a quarterly basis, the efficient utilization of financial resources and budget implementation;
- iii) Reinforce the technical evaluation of the draft budget and in this regard urges Member States to enlist the assistance of experts from their Ministries of Finance, to participate in the deliberations of the said Sub-Committee;
- iv) The Membership of this Sub-Committee shall be a Committee of the Whole.

7. DECIDES to restructure the Ad-hoc Ministerial Committee on the Scale of Assessment as follows:

- i) Becomes a Standing Ministerial Committee on the Scale of Assessment;
- ii) For the purposes of streamlining and enforcing the collection of contributions, the Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee on the Scale of Assessment shall take over the mandate of the PRC Sub-Committee on Contributions which shall henceforth be abolished;
- iii) The Ad Hoc Ministerial Committee on the Scale of Assessment shall therefore, be reformed and renamed as the Ministerial -Committee on the Scale of Assessment and Contributions.

8. FURTHER DECIDES that upon implementation of the alternative sources of funding of the Union, and to ensure accountability and transparency, the Board of External Auditors, shall:

- i) Submit its reports simultaneously to the Chairperson of the Commission and that of the PRC through the Chairperson of the PRC Sub-Committee on General Supervision and Coordination on Budgetary, Finance and Administrative matters;
- ii) Submit an interim report to the PRC before the June/July ordinary session of the Executive Council every year;
- iii) Submit its reports directly to the Sub-Committee on General Supervision and Coordination on Budgetary, Financial and Administrative Matters every six (6) months;
- iv) Be re-constituted and henceforth be composed of five (5) nominated members (one per region) plus the members of the first tier.

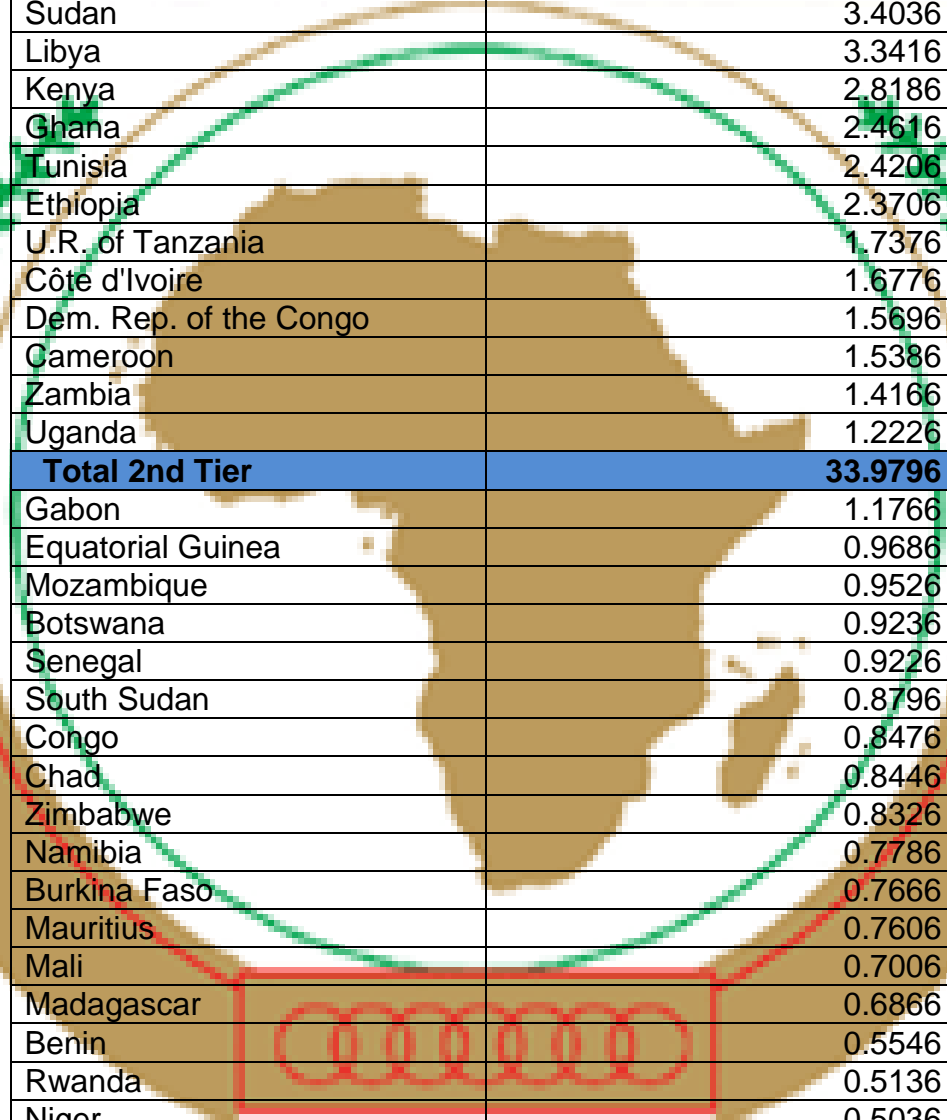
9. **DECIDES** that the Ministerial Committee on the Scale of Assessment and Contributions shall remain seized of the matter of scale of assessment with a view to:

- i) Revising and aligning the mandates of other relevant Sub-Committees of the PRC and existing mechanisms;
- ii) Clarifying the interaction between all the relevant Sub-Committees and existing mechanisms affected by the proposed re-structuring pursuant to Assembly Decisions Assembly/AU/Dec.561(XXIV) and Assembly/AU/Dec. 578(XXV) adopted by the 24th Ordinary Session held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and 25th Ordinary Session held in Johannesburg, South Africa in January and June 2015 respectively.

10. **REQUESTS** the following:

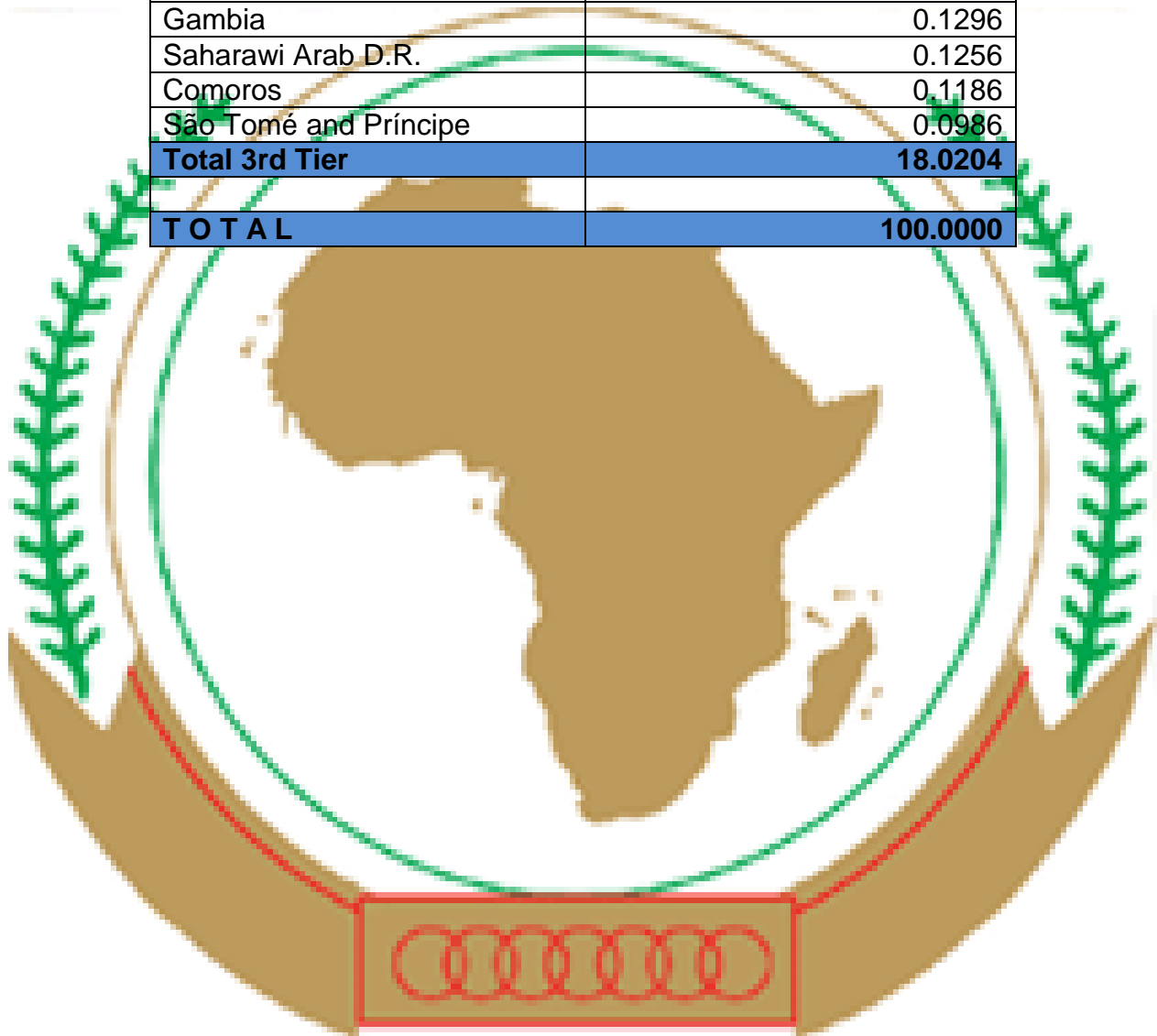
- i) The Commission, particularly the Office of Legal Counsel, to provide all the necessary support to ensure the implementation of the above decision;
- ii) The Commission to assist the Permanent Representatives of the Ministerial Committee on Scale of Assessment and Contributions in the review of the Terms of Reference of the relevant Sub-Committees and mechanisms affected by the proposed re-structuring;
- iii) The Ministerial Committee on the Scale of Assessment and Contributions to report on the implementation of this decision to the next ordinary session of the Executive Council scheduled for July 2016.





Member States	Scale of Assessment %
Nigeria	12.000
South Africa	12.000
Egypt	12.000
Algeria	12.000
Total 1st Tier	48.000
Angola	8.0000
Sudan	3.4036
Libya	3.3416
Kenya	2.8186
Ghana	2.4616
Tunisia	2.4206
Ethiopia	2.3706
U.R. of Tanzania	1.7376
Côte d'Ivoire	1.6776
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	1.5696
Cameroon	1.5386
Zambia	1.4166
Uganda	1.2226
Total 2nd Tier	33.9796
Gabon	1.1766
Equatorial Guinea	0.9686
Mozambique	0.9526
Botswana	0.9236
Senegal	0.9226
South Sudan	0.8796
Congo	0.8476
Chad	0.8446
Zimbabwe	0.8326
Namibia	0.7786
Burkina Faso	0.7666
Mauritius	0.7606
Mali	0.7006
Madagascar	0.6866
Benin	0.5546
Rwanda	0.5136
Niger	0.5036
Guinea	0.4356
Sierra Leone	0.3606
Togo	0.3286
Mauritania	0.3196
Malawi	0.2986
Swaziland	0.2976
Eritrea	0.2776
Burundi	0.2366

Lesotho	0.2106
Liberia	0.1926
Cape Verde	0.1876
Central African Republic	0.1686
Djibouti	0.1646
Seychelles	0.1606
Somalia	0.1576
Guinea-Bissau	0.1366
Gambia	0.1296
Saharawi Arab D.R.	0.1256
Comoros	0.1186
São Tomé and Príncipe	0.0986
Total 3rd Tier	18.0204
TOTAL	100.0000



**DECISION ON AFRICAN CANDIDATURES FOR POSTS
WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM
Doc. EX.CL/949(XXIV)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Ministerial Committee on African Candidatures for Posts within the International System;

2. **APPROVES** the following:

- i) Election to the post of Member of the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ECOSOC), during elections scheduled for April 2016 in New York, the candidature of *the Honourable Marc France Eddy Balancy*, Judge of the Supreme Court, of *the Republic of Mauritius*;
- ii) Election to the post of Secretary General of the International Seabed Authority, during the elections scheduled for July 2016 in Kingston, Jamaica, the candidature of *Mr. Nii Allotey Odunton* of *the Republic of Ghana*;
- iii) Election to the post of President of the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), during elections scheduled for November 2016, the candidature of *Dr. Olumuyima Benard Aliu*, of *the Federal Republic of Nigeria*;
- iv) ²Election to the post of Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) during elections scheduled for May 2017 on the occasion of the 70th Session of the World Health Assembly, the candidature of *H.E. Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus* of *the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia*;
- v) Election as Judge of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea during elections scheduled for June 2017 in New York, the candidature of *Mr. Boualem Bouguetala* of *the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria*;
- vi) Election to the post of Member of the United Nations International Law Commission (ILC), during elections scheduled for November 2016 on the occasion of the Seventy-First Session of the United Nations General Assembly, the candidature of:

- Dr. Yacouba CISSE, of *the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire*;
- Prof. Chris Maina, of *the United Republic of Tanzania*;
- Mr Dire David Tladi of *the Republic of South Africa*;

² Reservation entered by the Republic of Senegal

- Honourable Amos Wako *of the Republic of Kenya*;
 - Ambassador Hussein Hassouna *of the Arab Republic of Egypt*.
- vii) Re-election as Member of the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) at elections scheduled for 2017, the candidature of *Ms Jilary Amesika Gbedemah from the Republic of Ghana*;
- viii) Re-election to the post of Director General of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) at elections scheduled for October 2016, the candidature of Ambassador Bishar Hussein *of the Republic of Kenya*;
- ix) Election to the post of Secretary General of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization, at elections scheduled for August 2016, *the candidature of Prof. Kennedy Godfrey Gastorn, from the United Republic of Tanzania*.

3. ALSO TAKES NOTE and DECIDES to approve the following candidatures for:

- i) Election to the post of Non-Permanent Member of the United Nations Security Council for the period 2017-2018, *the candidature of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia*;
- ii) Election to the post of Member of the United Nations Human Rights Council for the period 2017-2019, *the candidature of:*
- *the Republic of Tunisia*;
 - *the Arab Republic of Egypt*.
- iii) Election to the post of Member of the United Nations Economic and Social Council for the period 2017-2020, during elections scheduled in April 2016:
- *the candidature of the Republic of Cameroon (under Central Africa)*;
 - *the candidature of the Republic of Chad (under Central Africa)*;
 - *the candidature of the Kingdom of Swaziland (under Southern Africa)*.

NB: The Permanent Representatives' Committee should facilitate consultations between Togo, Mali and Benin for the nomination of a representative from West Africa within the Council.

- iv) **Election** to the post of Member of the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Category 3, at elections scheduled for October 2016 during the 39th ICAO Assembly, the candidature of the Republic of Kenya;
- v) Election to the post of Member of the Council of the Universal Postal Union and the Pan-African Council of Administration for the period 2016-2020, at

elections scheduled for mid-June 2016 in Switzerland, the candidature of the Republic of Uganda.

4. **ALSO DECIDES** to defer consideration of the of the candidature of *Mr Ali Ayad Kurer* of the State of Libya for the post of Member of the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit for the period 2018-2023, during elections scheduled for November 2016 in New York, until the July 2016 Session;
5. **FURTHER DECIDES** on the establishment of a Sub-committee within the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC), responsible for following-up on candidatures approved by the Executive Council and **REQUESTS** the PRC to make provisions for the necessary financial resources for the implementation of this decision and the smooth functioning of the Ministerial Committee on African Candidatures within the International System;
6. **REQUESTS** the Commission in collaboration with the PRC through its relevant Sub-Committee to report on the implementation of this decision, where applicable, to the next ordinary session of the Executive Council scheduled for July 2016.



**DECISION ON THE POST OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)**

The Executive Council,

1. TAKES NOTE of the following:

- i) The vacancy for the position of Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP);
- ii) In accordance with the United Nations General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII), the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme shall be elected by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on the nomination of the Secretary-General for a term of four (4) years;
- iii) It is the turn of the African Region to produce the Head of UNEP.

2. WELCOMES and **SUPPORTS** the three (3) candidatures expressed by Africa (in an alphabetical order) as follows:

- i) Dr. Ahmed Djaghlaf (Algeria);
- ii) Amb. Kamau Macharia (Kenya);
- iii) Mr. Ibrahim Thiaw (Islamic Republic of Mauritania).

3. CALLS UPON the African Group at the United Nations, in New York, USA, to engage the UN Secretary General on the three African (3) candidatures;

4. REQUESTS the Commission to report on the implementation of this decision to the next ordinary session of the Executive Council in July 2016.

