

AFRICAN UNION

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UNION AFRICAINE

UNIÃO AFRICANA

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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
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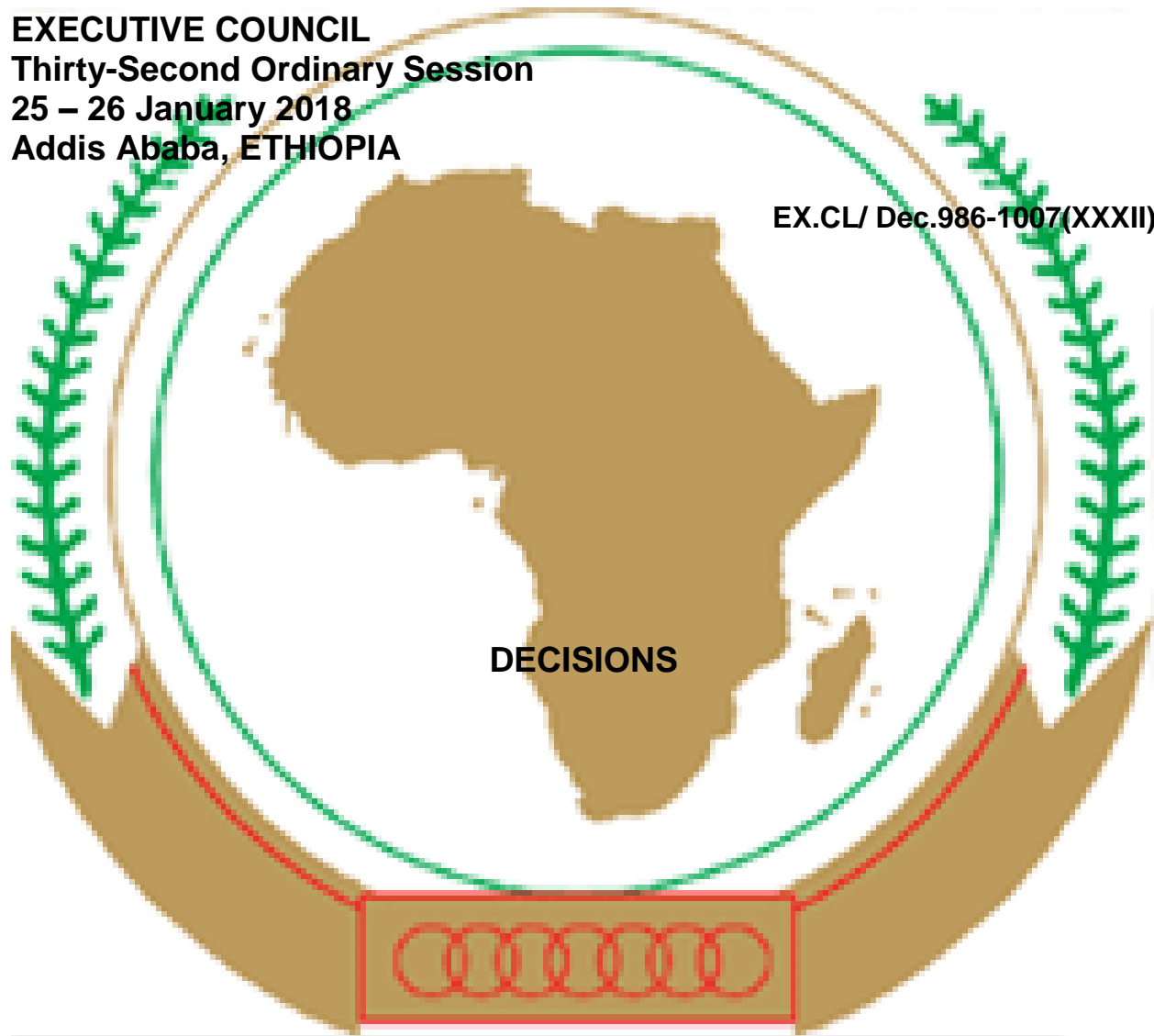


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DECISION ON THE REPORTS OF THE PRC SUB-COMMITTEES

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Reports of the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) Sub-Committees;

I. SUB-COMMITTEE ON MULTILATERAL COOPERATION

2. **DECIDES** as follows:

a) On African Union Strategic Partnerships

3. **REAFFIRMS** its Decision, EX.CL/Dec.942(XXX), Paragraph A2, which called for the strengthening of the institutional capacity of the Commission (Partnerships Management and Coordination Division) and **REQUESTS** the Commission to build internal systems and capacity for partnerships management by upgrading the Partnership Division under the Bureau of the Chairperson to a Directorate, which treats in a holistic manner functions of partnerships management, coordination and resource mobilization; fulfils the ability to analyse and negotiate partnership scopes; develops the vision for Africa's role in the world; and enhances Africa's voice and representation;

4. **REITERATES** Executive Council Decisions; (**EX.CL/Dec.942(XXX)**), of January 2017, (**EX.CL/Dec.899(XXVIII)**) of January 2016 and (**EX.CL/Dec.877(XXVII)**) of June 2015, referring to the right of all Member States without distinction to participate in all meetings, activities and events organized within the context of partnerships of which the AU is part, which should be implemented in line with the relevant Assembly decisions;

b) On the Future of the ACP Group and the Post-2020 Cotonou Agreement

5. **REQUESTS** the PRC, in close collaboration with the Commission and the Group of Ambassadors in Brussels, to accelerate the work of the Task Force and to finalize the African Common Position on the future of the ACP Group and the Post-2020 Cotonou Agreement by May 2018 and to submit it for consideration by an Extraordinary Session of the Executive Council ;
6. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to expedite the operationalization of the Joint Task Force, and prepare a draft African Common Position on the Post-2020 Cotonou Agreement, with a view to completing the task by March 2018;
7. **DECIDES** to convene an Extraordinary Session of Executive Council on 19 March 2018 to consider and adopt the African Common Position before the 107th

Session of the ACP Council of Ministers planned to be held in Lomé, Togo, in May 2018, to finalize a consensus-based ACP Position;

8. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to identify and avail all necessary resources to successfully accomplish the work of the Task Force without further delay; and **ENCOURAGES** African Member States of the ACP to attend the meeting at Ministerial Level;

c) On AU – EU Partnership

9. **EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** to the People and Government of Cote D'Ivoire for the successful hosting of the 5th AU-EU Summit, and calls on the Commission to put in place mechanisms for implementation of the Summit outcomes;
10. **CONGRATULATES** both sides of the partnership for the successful negotiation of cooperation plans under the AU-EU Summit, which stand to mobilize significant investments for Africa's development and make tangible progress towards Agenda 2063's Flagship Projects;
11. **REQUESTS** the PRC, in close collaboration with the Commission, to negotiate and agree with the EU on the Projects and programmes within the AU-EU Joint Priority areas of cooperation that both sides agree to implement and to report on the outcome of this engagement to the June/July 2018 AU Summit;
12. **RECOMMENDS** to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government to endorse the Declaration of the 5th AU– EU Summit held from 29 to 30 November in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire;

d) On African Union-Arab Partnership

13. **RECALLS** its Decision EX.CL/Dec.942 (XXX) of the 30th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council, 25 - 27 January 2017, Addis Ababa, which directed the Commission, in accordance with the principles and decisions of the AU, and in collaboration with the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States, to coordinate and follow up on the timely implementation of the Resolutions of the 4th African Union-Arab Summit, especially Resolution 7, which called for the convening of an Extraordinary Session of the Joint Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, within a period of six (6) months from the date of this Resolution to adopt the joint African Union-Arab Action Plan;
14. **REQUESTS** the Commission to expedite the organization of an Extraordinary Session of the Joint Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs in advance of the AU June/July 2018 Summit;
15. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to engage with the League of Arab States (LAS) to ensure that the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordination

Committee of the African Union-Arab Partnership is held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

e) On Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD)

16. **EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** to the People and Government of Mozambique for the successful hosting of the TICAD Ministerial Meeting in August 2017;

17. **REQUESTS** the Commission to follow up on implementation of cooperation programmes with the Government of Japan and to present a follow-up Report to the Sub-Committee on Multilateral Cooperation and the PRC;

f) On African Union - South America

18. **RECALLS** its Decision EX.CL/Dec.942(XXX) adopted at its 30th Ordinary Session held on 25 - 27 January 2017 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, requesting the Commission in collaboration with the PRC to engage in consultations with the South American side with a view to proposing new dates for the African Union-South America Summit, and **REQUESTS** the PRC, in collaboration with the Commission, to finalize consultations in that regard and report on the outcome to the June/July 2018 AU Summit.

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

19. **TAKES NOTE** of the announcement by China and South Africa to hold the FOCAC at Heads of State and Government level in September 2018;

20. **REAFFIRMS** Decision EX.CL/Dec.942(XXX) of January 2017, which instructed the PRC, in collaboration with the Commission, to design mechanisms for the full involvement of the African Union in the effective management of FOCAC; and **ENCOURAGES** African countries, in collaboration with the Commission, to work closely with the Government of China for deepening cooperation within FOCAC.

h) On African Union – Turkey Partnership

21. **APPROVES** the holding of the African Union – Turkey Ministerial Review Conference in Istanbul, Turkey, on 11 – 12 February 2018;

22. **REQUESTS** the PRC, in close collaboration with the Commission and Turkey, to start the preparatory processes for the African Union-Turkey Ministerial Review Conference to be held in Istanbul, Turkey;

II. SUB-COMMITTEE ON STRUCTURES

a) On the Organizational Structure of the African Institute for Remittances (AIR)

23. **APPROVES** the proposed structure of the African Institute for Remittances (AIR);
24. **RECOMMENDS** that adequate financial resources be provided to AIR;
25. **URGES** the Commission to ensure that recruitment is conducted in accordance with the Staff Regulations and Rules and as per the agreed implementation, over a period of three years.

b) On the Organizational Structure of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC)

26. **RECOGNIZES** the important role of the Africa CDC to strengthen health systems in Member States and respond to social, economic and security threats as a result of disease outbreaks and other public health concerns;
27. **COMMENDS** the significant progress made thus far in setting up the Africa CDC and its five Regional Collaborating Centres and in response interventions in seven Member States in 2017 to address disease outbreaks including Ebola, Meningitis, Lassa fever, Malaria, Monkey Pox Virus, Cholera, and Plague;
28. **APPROVES** the proposed structure of the Africa CDC, as it is closely benchmarked to similar public health institutions in the world;
29. **URGES** the Commission to ensure recruitment is conducted in accordance with the Staff Regulations and Rules over the agreed period of three years.

c) On the amendment of the Organizational Structure of the African Union Inter-African Bureau of Animal Resources (AU IBAR)

30. **TAKES NOTE** of the importance to update the structure of the AU IBAR to fit current needs;
31. **APPROVES** the creation of one GSA5 position, an upgrade of a position from P2 to P3 and three reclassifications:
 - i) Creation of new Human Resources assistant GSA5 position;
 - ii) Change and upgrade Finance and Administration Officer position P2 to Senior Finance Officer P3;
 - iii) French to English translator position P3 to be changed to Senior Knowledge Management Officer at the same P3;

- iv) Economist P2 position to be changed to Fisheries and Aquaculture Officer at the same grade;
 - v) Data Management and Communication Officer position P2 to be changed to Communication Officer at the same grade.
32. **URGES** the Commission to ensure that recruitment is conducted in accordance to the Staff Regulations and Rules.

d) **On the Organizational Structure of the Secretariat of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC)**

33. **APPROVES** the proposed structure of the Secretariat of ECOSOCC;
34. **URGES** the Commission to ensure that recruitment is conducted in accordance with the Staff Regulations and Rules over a period of five years.

III. SUB-COMMITTEE ON AUDIT MATTERS

35. **REQUESTS** the Commission to resubmit the report of the Sub-Committee on Audit Matters for further consideration;
36. **APPROVES** the audited financial statements of the Union for the year ended 31st December 2016;
37. **REQUESTS** the Commission to publish the 2016 Audited Consolidated Financial Statements of the Union on the AU website.

IV. SUB-COMMITTEE ON GENERAL SUPERVISION AND COORDINATION ON BUDGETARY, FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

a) **On the Supplementary Budget for the 2017 Financial Year**

38. **APPROVES** a Supplementary Budget amounting to **US\$ 60,929,714** of which **US\$3,179,562** is for Operating expenses and **US\$ 57,750,152** for Programmes, including **US\$ 4,790,000** for the payment of backlog of death and disability compensations for AMISOM Troops Contributing Countries (TCCs);
39. **APPROVES** that the Supplementary budget be financed as follows:
- i) Operating budget of **US\$3,093,878** from Member States and **US\$85,684** from Partners;
 - ii) Programme budget of **US\$ 12,532,009** from Member States and the balance of **US\$45,218,143** from Partners.

40. **URGES** the Commission to harmonize all allowances across all AU Organs and bring them to the Sub-Committee for endorsement;
41. **REQUESTS** the Commission to consolidate all the outstanding liabilities of the Union and present them for consideration to the Sub-Committee;
42. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to present the AU's Budget Performance and Implementation Reports;
43. **ENDORSES** holding of meetings between the Bureau of the Sub-Committee on General Supervision and Coordination on Administrative, Budgetary and Financial Matters, and the African Union Partners Group.
- b) **On the Supplementary Budget for the 2018 Financial year**
44. **APPROVES** a Supplementary Budget of **US\$7,580,091** for Programmes;
45. **ALSO APPROVES** that the Supplementary Budget be financed as follows:
- i) The amount of **US\$4,263,091** from Member States and the balance of **US\$3,317,000** from Partners.



**DECISION ON THE REPORTS OF THE
SPECIALISED TECHNICAL COMMITTEES (STCs)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the reports of the Specialised Technical Committees (STCs) and adopts the recommendations contained in the reports;
 - A. **STC ON AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, WATER AND ENVIRONMENT**
2. **REQUESTS** the Commission for a study on the establishment of a Fund for Responding to Emerging Pests in Africa in accordance with relevant AU regulations;
3. **ALSO REQUESTS** the PRC to establish a Sub-Committee on environmental issues.
 - B. **STC ON MIGRATION, REFUGEES AND INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS (IDPs)**
 - a) **On the Draft Protocol to the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community Relating to Free Movement of Persons, Right of Residence and right of establishment:**
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to:
 - i) convene a meeting of Member States Immigration Chiefs to develop guidelines and specifications for the design, production, issuance and use of the African Passport as launched by Heads of State and Government in July 2016 in Kigali, Rwanda;
 - ii) submit to the PRC, through its relevant Sub-Committees, a proposal to reinforce the human resources capacity of the Commission to facilitate the realisation of the Implementation Roadmap, highlighting structural, financial and legal implications in accordance with AU rules and regulations;
 - iii) regularly provide a report on the status of implementation of the Protocol and its Implementation Plan.
 - b) **On Migration Policy Framework 2018-2030**
5. **ADOPTS** the revised Migration Policy Framework for Africa (MPFA) - 2018-2030 and the Plan of Action (2018-2030) annexed to the Migration Policy Framework;

6. **ENCOURAGES** Member States to align their policies to the Migration Policy Framework in order to facilitate proper migration management and governance;
7. **REAFFIRMS** Decision **EX.CL/Dec.314 (IX)** on the creation of the African Centre for the Study on Migration and **REQUESTS** the Commission, in collaboration with the Government of the Republic of Mali, to expedite the process towards the establishment of the Centre by submitting to the relevant AU Policy Organs, the structural, financial and legal implications of the establishment of the Centre;
8. **REQUESTS** the Commission to conduct a mid-term assessment in 2024 and end term evaluation in 2030 of the Implementation of the Migration Policy Framework;
 - c) **On the AU Horn of Africa Initiative (AU-HoAI) on Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants**
9. **COMMENDS** the Member States of the Initiative for the progress made and **ENCOURAGES** them to continue dialogue and collaborate in tackling organized criminal groups;
10. **URGES** that the Initiative be sustained and replicated to other trafficking and smuggling routes across the continent and also extend the operational mechanisms for the Initiative to other Regions including the G5 Sahel countries;
11. **REQUESTS** the Commission to expedite the establishment of the Regional Operational Centre in Khartoum (ROCK) and the Training Centre in Cairo for Law Enforcement and to facilitate the participation of other AU Member States, not part of the AU-HoAI, and RECs upon their request;
12. **ALSO REQUESTS** the PRC to allocate adequate resources for the implementation of the AU-HoAI activities;
13. **RECOMMENDS** that the Progress Report be transmitted to the Assembly.
 - d) **On the Draft Common African Position (CAP) on the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration**
14. **ADOPTS** the Draft Common African Position as amended and **TRANSMITS** to Assembly for adoption, and subsequently to the African Groups in New York, Geneva and Brussels for use during multilateral negotiations;
15. **URGES** Member States to speak in one voice during the negotiations of the Global Compact on Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration while taking due consideration of the Common African Position;
16. **ENCOURAGES** Member States to be guided by the CAP in the negotiations of bilateral labour migration agreements;

C. STC ON EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

17. **ADOPTS** the common pedagogical contents developed on the basis of the General History of Africa and **REQUESTS** Member States to integrate them into their national curricula;
18. **TAKES NOTE** of the progress that the African Union High Level Panel on Emerging Technologies (APET) has made since its inception and its analysis of the first three emerging technologies on Gene Drive for control and elimination of malaria; Drones in the horizon: transforming Africa's agriculture; and Micro-grid: empowering communities and enabling transformation in Africa;
19. **REQUESTS** the African Union and Member States to harness these emerging technologies for development initiatives;
20. **ENDORSES** the proposal to operationalize the Africa Virtual and e-University as the open, distance and e-learning arm of the Pan African University;
21. **CALLS UPON** Member States to support the Pan-African Synchrotron initiative;
22. **TAKES NOTE** of the Skills Initiative for Africa as a continental programme for improving perspectives of young people in Africa through increased employment and income opportunities;
23. **ENDORSES** the Skills Initiative for Africa and the creation of World Skills Africa as programmes geared towards addressing skills shortages, mismatches and enhancing employment prospects for youth in Africa;
24. **URGES** Member States to contribute to the Continental Plan of Action for implementation of the Decade on Technical, Professional, Entrepreneurial Training and Youth Employment, and also develop National Implementation Plans in line with Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.652 (XXIX) of July 2017.

D. STC ON PUBLIC SERVICE, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND DECENTRALIZATION (STC 8)

25. **COMMENDS** the Commission and the Republic of Congo for the leadership in the progress made on the implementation of activities of STC 8 and the level of its operationalization from 2015 to 2016;
26. **TAKES NOTE** of the prevailing challenges in Public Service, Local Government, Decentralization and Urban Development;

27. **REQUESTS** the Commission to submit the proposed structure to the competent PRC Sub-Committees, taking into account the relevant structural, financial and legal implications as well as the reform process of the Union.

E. STC ON FINANCE, MONETARY AFFAIRS, ECONOMIC PLANNING AND INTEGRATION

28. **COMMENDS** the work of the Commission supported by United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the African Development Bank (AfDB) in developing Agenda 2063 Financing, Domestic Resource Mobilization (DRM) and Partnership Strategy;

29. **APPROVES** the primary focus of Agenda 2063 financing and resource mobilization strategy on Domestic Resource Mobilization and **SUPPORTS** that Agenda 2063 financing and DRM strategy should be addressed across three interrelated dimensions:

- i) Expanding and Mobilizing domestically-generated financial resources - namely through:
 - a) Optimized fiscal/public revenue collection and utilization,
 - b) Enhanced financial inclusion and domestic savings mobilization, and
 - c) Relevant innovations in DRM.
- ii) Intermediating and Leveraging the savings/resources mobilized for the financing of Agenda 2063 projects through relevant intermediation vehicles; and
- iii) Access to finance facilitation measures, namely through project development, project de-risking vehicles and guarantee/risk-sharing facilities.

30. **CALLS UPON** the Commission and the AfDB, in close collaboration with UNECA and NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) to prepare an “Agenda 2063 Financing and DRM Roadmap and Guide” based on the “Adopted Agenda 2063 Financing, DRM and Partnership Strategy” for widespread dissemination to Member States in close collaboration with Regional Economic Communities (RECs);

31. **URGES** the Commission, NPCA and AfDB, in close collaboration with UNECA, to create a Joint AUC-AfDB-UNECA Resource Mobilization Platform whose functions will include, among others, the implementation of the recommendations of Agenda 2063 financing and DRM Strategy;

a) On Agenda 2063 First Ten Year Implementation Plan Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

32. APPROVES Agenda 2063 First Ten Year Implementation Plan (FTYIP) Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework and Indicator Handbook by Member States as the basis for reporting on their obligations.

33. REQUESTS the Commission to:

- i) roll out and domesticate the M&E Framework in all Regional Economic Communities, Member States and AU Organs to enable effective monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of Agenda 2063 FTYIP;
- ii) continue with the design of the templates and formats for the M&E in a collaborative manner with RECs, Member States and Partners.

34. REQUESTS National Statistics Offices, in collaboration with National Planning Ministries and Agencies, to compile and manage statistical data based on the FTYIP Monitoring and Evaluation Framework in addition to their on-going initiatives;

35. CALLS UPON Member States to provide the resources required by National Statistical Offices to carry out the work entailed by the execution of the FTYIP;

b) On the Pan African Investment Code

36. REQUESTS the Commission to submit the draft revised Pan African Investment Code (PAIC) to the STC on Trade, Industry and Minerals, as well as the relevant STCs, for consideration and refer to the STC on Legal and Justice Affairs for further consideration prior to their submission to the Executive Council.

c) On the Implementation of the Strategy for the Harmonisation of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA)

37. COMMENDS the progress made since the inception of the SHaSA in rallying along countries to give priority to statistical development, especially in the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses, Civil Registration and Vital Statistics, and Economics Statistics, among others;

38. WELCOMES the efforts by the Commission and AfDB, in collaboration with the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF), UNECA, the RECs and Member States to develop a draft of Second Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA II);

39. **ADOPTS** SHaSA II as the Continental Strategy for the Development of Statistics in Africa for the next 10 years; and its action plan, financing plan and resources mobilisation strategy;
40. **REQUESTS** AfDB with the support of the Commission, UNECA and ACBF to lead the preparation of resource mobilisation strategy in support of SHaSA II; and mobilize the sustainable financial resources for the effective implementation of SHaSA II;
41. **REQUESTS:**
- i) Member States to allocate 0.15% of their National budgets to finance statistics;
 - ii) the Commission to coordinate with UNECA, AfDB and other relevant stakeholders on the implementation of SHaSA II, and report regularly to the Assembly on progress made.
- d) **On the African Inclusive Markets Excellence Centre (AIMEC)**
42. **TAKES NOTE** of:
- i) the validation workshop on the Business Plan of the African Inclusive Markets Excellence Centre (AIMEC) that took place in Nairobi, from 21 to 23 November 2016;
 - ii) the final report and Business Plan on the establishment of AIMEC, considering that such a Centre would make an immense contribution to the realization of Agenda 2063;
 - iii) the proposals from the Governments of Benin, Egypt, Tunisia and Zambia to host AIMEC and **INVITES** other interested Member States to submit their proposal to host;
43. **ADOPTS** the establishment of AIMEC and **REQUESTS** the Commission to submit the relevant structural, financial and legal implications, in line with the AU rules and procedures;
44. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to ensure that the selection of the Member State to host AIMEC be carried out in conformity with the relevant criteria.

F. STC ON COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES (ICT)

45. **ENDORSES** the Draft Declaration on Internet Governance that contributes to exemplify and uphold the basic tenets of an open, accessible, resilient, interoperable Internet which led to its remarkable success today as well as form the foundation for any future engagements of all stakeholders in national, regional and international Internet-related policy making efforts;
46. **REQUESTS** the Commission to undertake the following, among others:
- i) implement the Cyber Security as a flagship project of the African Union Agenda 2063;
 - ii) form an Africa Cyber Security Collaboration and Coordination Committee (ACS3C) to advise the Commission and policymakers on Cyber strategies; develop guidelines on Personal Data Protection; organize a yearly AU Conference on Cybersecurity in collaboration with Industry and Academia and establish a continental Cyber Security awareness month;
 - iii) speed up the establishment of the Dot Africa Foundation to support:
 - a) Capacity building in Internet sector;
 - b) Member States Country Codes Top Level Domain (ccTLD) registries;
 - c) The African Registrars Business development;
 - d) The creation of African content and Pan-African content;
 - e) Pan-African ICT/ Internet projects.
 - iv) allocate adequate resources for communicating the strategic framework Agenda 2063 by capacitating the Directorate of Information and Communication and the yearly organization of the African Internet Governance Forum;
 - v) work in collaboration with the Government of Tunisia and Partners to implement the Digital African Strategic Centre project;
 - vi) organize in collaboration with Pan-African Postal Union (PAPU), meetings to discuss Universal Postal Union (UPU) Reform and UPU key content issues and invite the Africa Support Committee, so as to save on costs;
 - vii) submit the legal, structural and financial implications of the proposed Cyber Security flagship project to the relevant policy organs;

G. STC ON JUSTICE AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

a) ON THE DRAFT LEGAL INSTRUMENTS

47. TAKES NOTE of the following Draft Legal Instruments:

- a) Draft Statute of the Trust Fund for victims of Hissène Habré crimes;
- b) Draft Amendments to Articles 10 and 14 of the Statutes of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC) of the African Union;
- c) Draft Statute of the African Institute for Remittances;
- d) Draft Institutional and Regulatory Texts of the Yamoussoukro Decision;
- e) Draft Protocol to the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community relating to Free Movement of Persons, Rights of Residence and Right of Establishment and its Draft Implementation Roadmap;
- f) Draft African Union Model Law for the implementation of the African Union Convention for the Protection of and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons in Africa;
- g) Draft Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Persons with Disability in Africa;
- h) Draft Statute of the African Space Agency.

48. DECIDES to recommend the Draft Legal Instruments and the Draft Amendments to the Assembly for consideration and adoption;

b) ON THE DRAFT RULES OF PROCEDURE OF SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL COMMITTEES AND OF THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION

49. APPROVES the following Rules of Procedure:

- a) Rules of Procedure of the Specialized Technical Committee on Gender and Women's Empowerment;
- b) Rules of Procedure of the Specialized Technical Committee on Trade, Industry and Minerals;
- c) Rules of Procedure of the Specialized Technical Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment;

- d) Rules of Procedure of the Specialized Technical Committee on Transport, Infrastructure, Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructures, Energy and Tourism;
- e) Amendment to Rule 37 of the Rules of Procedure of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC) of the African Union.



**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE 4TH CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN
MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR CIVIL REGISTRATION
Doc. EX.CL/1074(XXXII)**

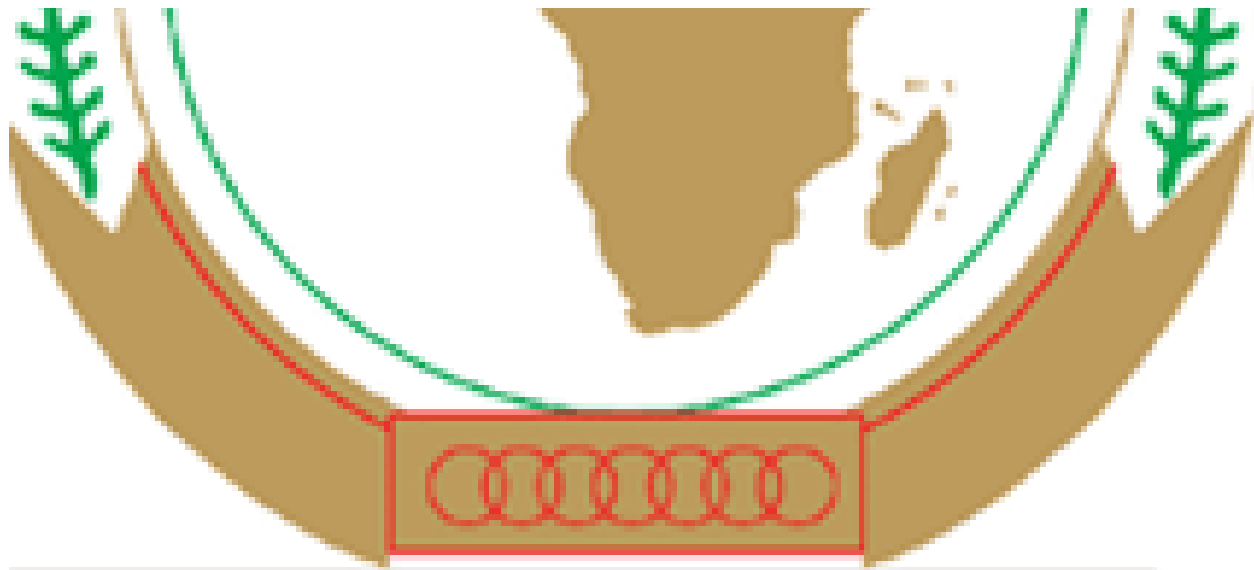
The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** and **ADOPTS** the Declaration of the Fourth Conference of Ministers Responsible for Civil Registration, held in Nouakchott, Mauritania, from 7 to 8 December 2017;
2. **RECOGNIZES** that the implementation of Agenda 2063 and Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development will require comprehensive, accurate and timely statistics generated from Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) systems and particular attention needs to be given to demographic dividend and population movement;
3. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the progress and achievements made by Member States in the implementation of the resolutions and declaration of the past three conferences, particularly in conducting their comprehensive assessments as a basis for developing action plans for improvement of their CRVS systems;
4. **REQUESTS** Member States to include refugees, internally displaced persons and persons at risk of statelessness in civil registration and vital statistics systems and factor them into improvement strategies and scaling-up plans;
5. **APPROVES** the recommendations set out in the Ministerial Declaration of the Fourth Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Civil Registration;
6. **MANDATES** the Commission, in collaboration with the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, and partners, including the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and the African Development Bank, to make necessary arrangements for the organization of a Workshop under the title: "*African Union Building Capacity Workshop on CRVS*" in 2018, in Nouakchott, Mauritania;
7. **RECOMMENDS** that August 10 be declared as the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Day and **CALLS UPON** Member States to commemorate this Day.

**DECISION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PREVIOUS
DECISIONS OF THE POLICY ORGANS
Doc. EX.CL/1049(XXXII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the analytical report of the Commission on the implementation of previous decisions and **ENDORSES** the recommendations therein contained;
2. **COMMENDS** the Commission on the improvement made in the implementation of Policy Organs' decisions;
3. **REQUESTS** the Commission to include a detailed analysis on causes of the low implementation of decisions and the responsibilities of the Commission and Member States;
4. **RECOMMENDS** that the Commission, in close collaboration with the PRC, identify innovative methods to evaluate and follow up on the implementation of decisions;
5. **RECOMMENDS** that legal, financial and structural implication be systematically reflected in each decision to be adopted by the policy organs.



DECISION ON HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN AFRICA
Doc. EX.CL/1051(XXXII)

The Executive Council,

1. **NOTES WITH CONCERN** the growing number of Refugees, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and irregular Migrants in Africa and the complexity of humanitarian crises driven mostly by conflicts, natural disasters and climate change with devastating effects to millions of people across the continent;
2. **FURTHER EXPRESSES DEEP CONCERN** on the dire humanitarian situation of African migrants in Libya trying to cross the Mediterranean Sea to Europe;
3. **WELCOMES** the establishment of a Tri-partite Task Force by the African Union together with the European Union and the United Nations represented by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) that is undertaking voluntary humanitarian evacuation of migrants from Libya;
4. **COMMENDS** Member States who are working tirelessly to ensure the safe and dignified return and reintegration of their nationals from Libya;
5. **ALSO COMMENDS** the Government of Libya for the measures taken, including in collaboration with the Commission, to resolve the situation of migrants;
6. **URGES** countries of origin of migrants to control their borders to stem the flow of irregular migration;
7. **REAFFIRMS** its previous decisions on the adoption and implementation of key AU humanitarian instruments particularly the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention) and **CALLS ON** Member States that have not done so to sign, ratify and implement the Kampala Convention;
8. **URGES** Member States and the Commission to work in collaboration with UNHCR in implementing the New York Declaration on Large Scale Movement of Refugees, particularly with regard to implementing the Comprehensive Refugee Response Framework and contribute to the development of the Global Compact for Refugees;
9. **TAKES NOTE** of the cessation clause for Rwandan refugees, which came into effect in January 2018 and **CALLS ON** all Member States to work with the UNHCR and the Government of Rwanda to ensure its implementation¹;

¹ Reservation entered by the Democratic Republic of Congo

10. **CALLS UPON** the international community to support robust peace initiatives by the AU and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) aimed at addressing root causes of humanitarian crises that have resulted in protracted displacements;
11. **STRESSES** the need for continued efforts on the humanitarian situation in the continent in close collaboration with Member States and the relevant stakeholders in order to tackle the root causes of the situation of refugees and migrants within the framework of political solutions of the real factors generating such situations;
12. **REQUESTS** the Commission to facilitate the convening of an Extraordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government on forced displacement and humanitarian crisis in Africa to address the root causes and accelerate the implementation of the Common African Position on Humanitarian Effectiveness, including the operationalization of the African Humanitarian Agency.



**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON THE HOSTING OF
THE SECRETARIAT OF THE AFRICAN COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS
ON THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE OF THE CHILD (ACERWC)
Doc. EX.CL/1052(XXXII)**

The Executive Council,

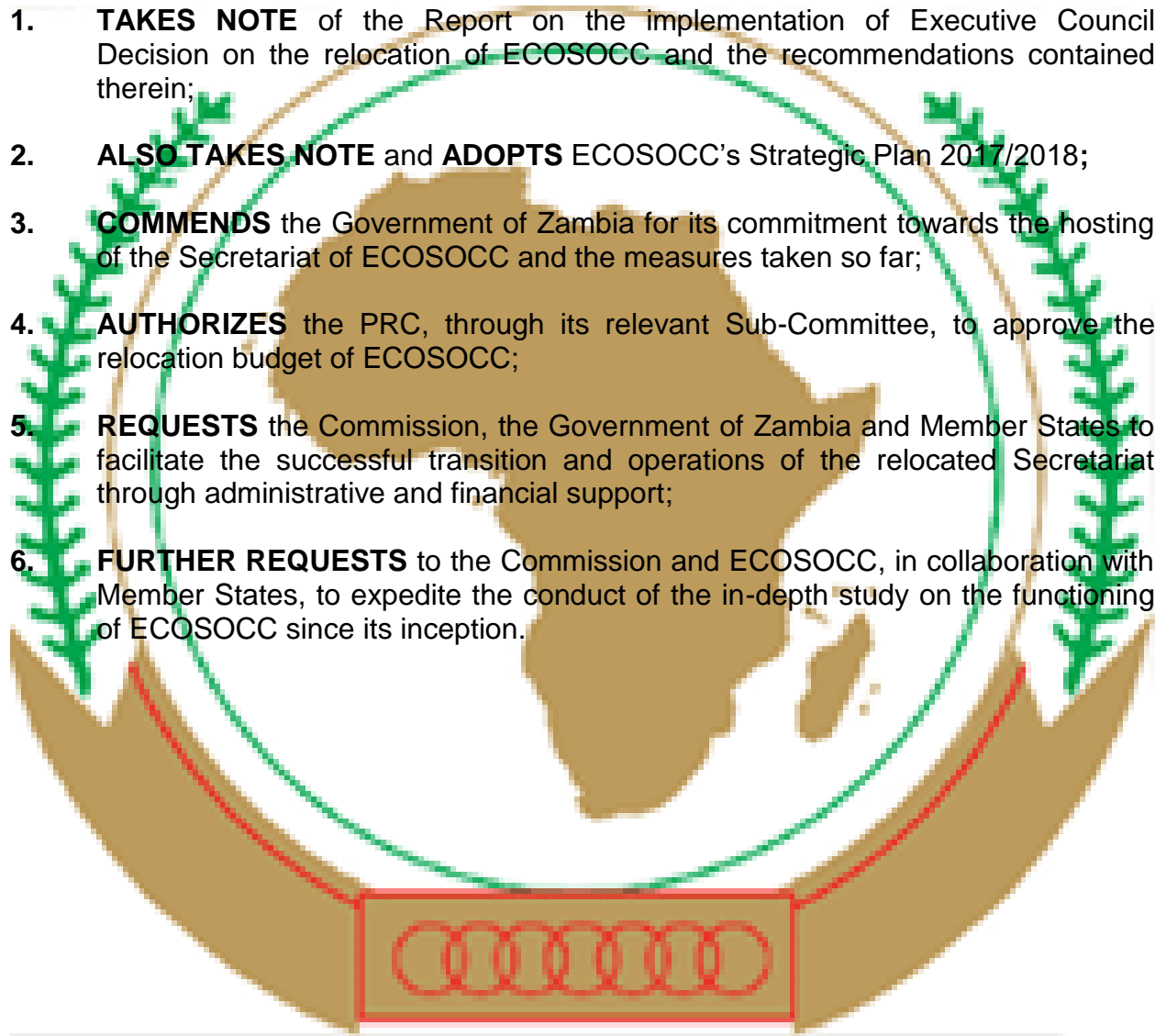
1. **RECALLS** its Decision, **EX.CL/Dec.947(XXX)** of January 2017, regarding relocation of the Secretariat of the ACERWC;
2. **TAKES NOTE** of the report of the Commission and the ongoing consultations between the Kingdom of Lesotho and the Republic of The Sudan, with a view to reaching consensus on the hosting of the Secretariat of the ACERWC;
3. **ENCOURAGES** the Kingdom of Lesotho and the Republic of The Sudan to continue consultations until a consensus is reached, and **REQUESTS** the Commission to facilitate such consultations;
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to report to the Ordinary Session of the Executive Council scheduled in June/July 2018.



**DECISION ON THE REPORT ON THE OFFER OF THE REPUBLIC OF
ZAMBIA TO HOST THE SECRETARIAT OF THE ECONOMIC
SOCIAL AND CULTURAL COUNCIL (ECOSOCC) AND THE
ADOPTION OF ITS STRATEGIC PLAN 2017/2018**
Doc. EX.CL/1054(XXXII)

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report on the implementation of Executive Council Decision on the relocation of ECOSOCC and the recommendations contained therein;
2. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** and **ADOPTS** ECOSOCC's Strategic Plan 2017/2018;
3. **COMMENDS** the Government of Zambia for its commitment towards the hosting of the Secretariat of ECOSOCC and the measures taken so far;
4. **AUTHORIZES** the PRC, through its relevant Sub-Committee, to approve the relocation budget of ECOSOCC;
5. **REQUESTS** the Commission, the Government of Zambia and Member States to facilitate the successful transition and operations of the relocated Secretariat through administrative and financial support;
6. **FURTHER REQUESTS** to the Commission and ECOSOCC, in collaboration with Member States, to expedite the conduct of the in-depth study on the functioning of ECOSOCC since its inception.



**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION
ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HIGH COUNCIL OF
LOCAL AUTHORITIES (AU-HCLA)
Doc. EX.CL/1056(XXXII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the report of the Commission on the representation of the Local Authorities within the African Governance Architecture;
2. **COMMENDS** the Government of Senegal for its decision to host the Secretariat and to fund the AU-HCLA from January 2019 to December 2020;
3. **WELCOMES** the offer of the Republic of Senegal to host the AU-HCLA and **RECOMMENDS** its approval by the Assembly;
4. **NOTES** the significance and potential contribution of the African Charter on the Values and Principles of Decentralization, Local Governance and Local Development and AU-HCLA to the vision of the African Union and the implementation of the AU Agenda 2063;
5. **REQUESTS** the Commission to submit the proposed structure to the relevant PRC Sub-Committees, taking into account the structural, legal and financial implications, as well as the process of AU reforms, and to report to the Policy Organs in the 2018 June/July Summit.



**DECISION ON THE 2017 ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE AFRICAN
COURT ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS
Doc. EX.CL/1057(XXXII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the 2017 Activity Report of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (the Court) for the period 1 January – 31 December 2017, and the recommendations therein;
2. **DIRECTS** the Court to finalize the study on the establishment of a Trust Fund for the Court for consideration by AU Policy Organs in June/July 2018 Summit, with the aim of ensuring judicial impartiality, independence and integrity, and taking into account the on-going reforms within the Union, in particular, the initiative for self-financing by Member States of the Union's activities;
3. **REITERATES** its decision calling on the Chairperson of the Commission to take all necessary measures to operationalise the Legal Aid Fund in 2017, and **ENCOURAGES** all Member States of the Union to make generous voluntary contributions to the Fund to ensure its sustainability and success;
4. **Recalling** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.578(XXV) adopted in Johannesburg in June 2015 and Declaration Assembly / AU/ Decl.1 (XXVII) Rev.1 adopted in Kigali in July 2016, **DECIDES** that starting from 2019, 100% of the operations and programmes budget of the Court will be funded from Member States' contributions, and **ENCOURAGES** Member States to support programmes of the Court aimed at the promotion of its activities;
5. **NOTES** that, almost two decades after its adoption, only thirty (30) Member States of the African Union have ratified the Protocol and only eight (8) of the 30 State Parties, have deposited the Declaration required under Article 34 (6) thereof, allowing individuals and NGOs to bring cases to the Court;
6. **CONGRATULATES** the thirty (30) Member States that have ratified the Protocol, namely: Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, The Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, The Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Libya, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia and Uganda;
7. **FURTHER CONGRATULATES** the eight (8) State Parties that have deposited the Declaration under Article 34(6) of the Protocol, namely: Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Malawi, Mali, Tanzania and Tunisia;
8. **INVITES** those Member States that have not already done so, to accede to the Protocol and deposit the Declaration required under Article 34 (6) of the Protocol;

9. **WELCOMES** the steps taken by Burkina Faso to comply with the judgments of the Court and **ENCOURAGES** all Member States and other relevant stakeholders to emulate the example of Burkina Faso;
10. **EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION** to the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania for the facilities it has placed at the disposal of the Court, and for the architectural designs for the construction of the permanent premises of the Court submitted to the Commission, and **URGES** the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, the PRC and the Commission, in collaboration with the Court to meet urgently to discuss the finalization of the architectural designs to ensure the expeditious construction of the premises;
11. **DECIDES** to establish a Joint Task Force composed of representatives of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, the PRC, the Commission and the Court with mandate to mobilise resources towards the construction of the permanent premises of the Court;
12. **Noting** the emphasis by Member States for the Court to be guided by its mandate and its Protocol, **DIRECTS** the Court to develop and submit a policy on dealing with Partners in documented, transparent, accountable and verifiable ways that Member States are confident do not interfere with the Court's independence and impartiality, for consideration and approval by the Policy Organs by the June/July 2018 Summit;
13. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to conduct a human resources and management audit in order to ensure that the Court has the required capacity to execute its mandate and to address any human resource challenges that may be faced by the Court and report to the Policy Organs by the June/July 2018 Summit;
14. **REQUESTS** the Court, in collaboration with the PRC and the Commission, to report at the next Ordinary Session of the Executive Council in June/July 2018, on the implementation of this Decision.

**DECISION ON THE AFRICAN COMMISSION ON
HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS
Doc. EX.CL/1058(XXXII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Forty-Third Activity Report of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) and **AUTHORISES** its publication taking into consideration concerns raised by Member States;
2. **EXPRESSES** its appreciation for the efforts deployed by the ACHPR during the reporting period to promote and protect human rights on the continent;
3. **FURTHER EXPRESSES** concern on the non-implementation of Decision EX.CL/Dec.887(XXVII) of June 2015 on the withdrawal of the observer status from the Coalition of African Lesbians (CAL) and **REQUESTS** the ACHPR to comply with the Decision;
4. **URGENTLY REQUESTS** the convening of a joint Retreat between the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) and the ACHPR, to resolve various concerns expressed about the relationship between the ACHPR and the Policy Organs and Member States, and find modalities for enhanced coordination and collaboration with Policy Organs and Member States; to improve their dialogue and resolve outstanding issues and **RECOMMENDS** the appropriate measures to this end in respect of the full authority of the Organs;
5. **URGES** State Parties to submit their Periodic Reports in compliance with Article 62 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (African Charter) and Article 26 of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (the Maputo Protocol);
6. **REITERATES ITS CALL** to State Parties to sign and ratify the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Older Persons in Africa, thereby ensuring its entry into force;
7. **ENCOURAGES** the Kingdom of Morocco to sign and ratify the African Charter in addition to other relevant regional human rights instruments;
8. **FURTHER ENCOURAGES** the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco and the ACHPR to engage in dialogue towards facilitating the conduct of the fact-finding mission to the territory referred to by the African Union as the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic and the United Nations as Western Sahara, as mandated by Decision EX.CL/Dec.689(XX);
9. **ENCOURAGES** State Parties to comply with requests for Provisional Measures, as well as Decisions and recommendations of the ACHPR as set out in the

Communications to which they are parties, and **URGES** State Parties to inform the ACHPR of the measures taken to implement its Decisions in line with Rule 112 of the ACHPR's Rules of Procedure;

10. **URGENTLY CALLS ON** the Commission to expedite recruitment for Legal Officers who work in Arabic and Portuguese and Legal Officers for Protection, in addition to the various unfilled positions at the ACHPR Secretariat in accordance with its organogram;
11. **APPROVES** the commencement of the process of reviewing the structure of the Secretariat of the ACHPR to better align its composition and organogram with the mandate entrusted to it and the expansion in its work over the years;
12. **NOTES** ACHPR's decision to increase the number of days for its Ordinary Sessions from fifteen (15) to twenty-one (21) days, and for its Extraordinary Sessions from ten (10) to fifteen (15) days, in order to dedicate sufficient time to its work;
13. **COMMENDS** the Host Government for its commitment to constructing permanent Headquarters equipped with the requisite facilities for the ACHPR, and **URGES** expeditious finalization of the process, including through reporting to the Executive Council on the progress being made;
14. **EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION** to the Republic of The Gambia for the excellent facilitation accorded to the ACHPR during its commemorative activities to mark the 30th Anniversary of the establishment of the ACHPR and the 61st Ordinary Session, held in Banjul, The Gambia in November 2017; and
15. **WELCOMES** the offer by the Islamic Republic of Mauritania to host the 62nd Ordinary Session, and **CALLS ON** Member States, particularly those that have not yet done so, to consider hosting one of the Sessions of the ACHPR.

**DECISION ON THE CONCEPT NOTE FOR PROJECT 2018
AND THE DRAFT AFRICAN UNION ADVISORY BOARD
ON CORRUPTION STRATEGIC PLAN
Doc. EX.CL/1059(XXXII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Ninth Report of the African Union Advisory Board on Corruption (AUABC) and the recommendations contained therein;
2. **RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.14(XXIX) Rev.1 declaring 2018 the “African Anti-Corruption Year” (Project 2018) under the theme “Winning the Fight against Corruption: A Sustainable Path to Africa’s Transformation”;
3. **TAKES NOTE** of the consultations that the AUABC engaged in with different stakeholders on Project 2018 and the Draft AUABC Strategic Plan through a consultative workshop convened from 15 to 17 November 2017 in Arusha, Tanzania;
4. **APPROVES** the recommendations and outcomes of the Consultative Workshop on the Concept Note for Project 2018 and AUABC’s Strategic Plan and **REQUESTS** that it be operationalized from 2018 onward;
5. **ALSO REQUESTS** AUABC to engage the Office of the Legal Counsel on the processes required for the change of name of the Board to “Advisory Board on Anti-Corruption”;
6. **FURTHER REQUESTS** AUABC to submit a report to the Executive Council on the implementation of the Audit Report at the June/July 2018 Summit.

**DECISION ON THE ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE AFRICAN RISK CAPACITY
SPECIALIZED AGENCY OF THE AFRICAN UNION
Doc. EX.CL/1060(XXIX)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Activity Report of the African Risk Capacity Specialized Agency of the African Union (ARC Agency), together with the recommendations contained therein;
2. **ENCOURAGES** African Union Member States to reaffirm their commitment to the original vision that led to the establishment of ARC as an African owned solution; support and commitment should be demonstrated by countries signing or ratifying the Treaty and actively participating in the ARC risk pool;
3. **REQUESTS** the Commission to integrate the work of ARC into the activities of the Commission;
4. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to engage with ARC to develop concrete mechanisms and instruments of collaboration to raise awareness and galvanize political support among Member States;
5. **URGES** ARC Member States to work to capitalize ARC Ltd to increase African ownership over this ground-breaking and critical African institution;
6. **ENCOURAGES** Member States, relevant Specialized Technical Committees and Organs of the African Union to extend necessary support to and work with ARC to achieve its mandate of improving response to natural disasters on the continent, and to involve ARC in discussions, events and decisions relating to natural disaster risk, climate change and innovative finance;
7. **STRONGLY ADVOCATES** that donors and International Financial Institutions such as the World Bank and African Development Bank, Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa, the Islamic Development Bank and the European Union actively support premium financing for African Governments to sustainably participate in the ARC risk pool;
8. **ENCOURAGES** donor partners to support the establishment of the ARC replica programme to drive even further coordination between the positive efforts being made by African Governments and the work of the humanitarian community on the continent;
9. **REQUESTS** ARC to submit a progress report on the implementation of this decision at the January 2019 Summit and activity reports at each subsequent January Summits.

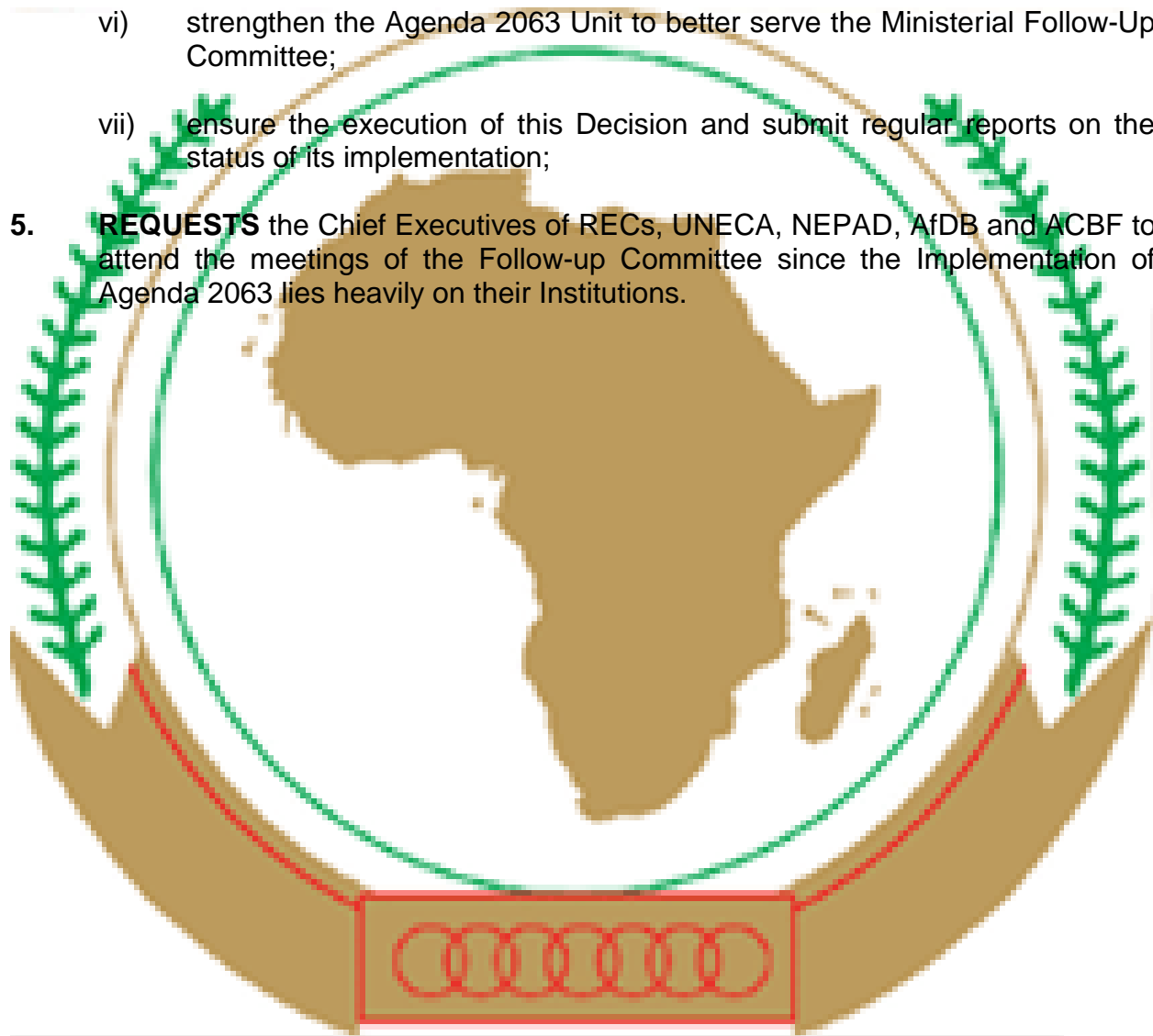
**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE MINISTERIAL
FOLLOW-UP COMMITTEE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AGENDA 2063
Doc. EX.CL/1065(XXXII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Meeting of the Ministerial Follow-Up Committee on the Implementation of Agenda 2063 and **ENDORSES** the recommendations contained therein;
2. **CALLS UPON** the Ministerial Follow-Up Committee on Agenda 2063 to:
 - i) revive its initial vigour, including by convening twice a year within the framework of the Commission's calendar of meetings funded from the AU budget;
 - ii) be assisted by a group of Member States' Ambassadors corresponding to the members of the Ministerial Follow-Up Committee which is hereby formally institutionalized as Ambassadorial Committee on Agenda 2063.
3. **REQUESTS** Member States to:
 - i) enhance the domestication of Agenda 2063 in their National Plans alongside with the Agenda 2030 for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
 - ii) ensure that AU Strategic Partnerships are based on the principles of equality and mutual respect, and respect of AU decisions on the legitimate right of all Member States to participate in all Partnership meetings, in accordance with the Assembly decisions;
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to:
 - i) categorize the Flagship Projects into short, medium and long term in order to prioritize them according to the funding capacity available on the continent. The Private Sector should also be adequately involved;
 - ii) explore the possibility of signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and other Partners to facilitate the implementation of Agenda 2063 and Agenda 2030 in Member States;
 - iii) ensure that the Progress Report on the Implementation of Agenda 2063 is in line with the Terms of Reference (ToRs) of the Ministerial Follow-Up Committee presenting key issues on challenges and potential areas for quick wins;

- iv) work with all Departments in charge of Flagship Projects, which must also attend the meetings of the Ministerial Follow-Up Committee to provide adequate explanation when needed;
- v) work with RECs to present progress reports to the AU Summits on the implementation of Agenda 2063;
- vi) strengthen the Agenda 2063 Unit to better serve the Ministerial Follow-Up Committee;
- vii) ensure the execution of this Decision and submit regular reports on the status of its implementation;

5. **REQUESTS** the Chief Executives of RECs, UNECA, NEPAD, AfDB and ACBF to attend the meetings of the Follow-up Committee since the Implementation of Agenda 2063 lies heavily on their Institutions.



**DECISION ON THE REVIEW OF THE COMPOSITION OF
THE MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE ON AGENDA 2063**

The Executive Council,

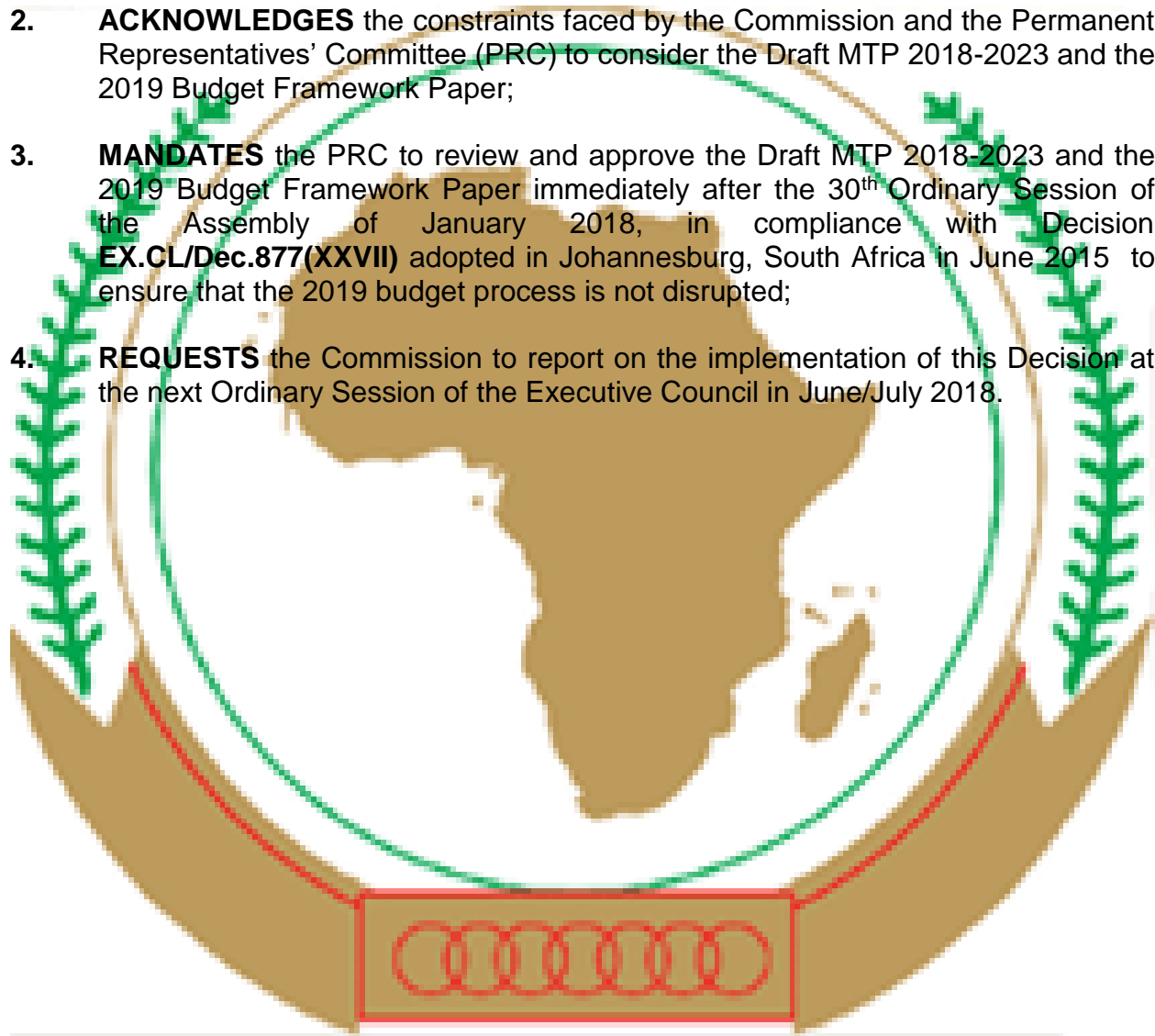
1. **RECALLS** Decision EX.CL/Dec.807(XXIV) establishing the Ministerial Committee on Agenda 2063 with a two-year tenure following which the membership would be reviewed taking into account the spirit of rotation and regional balance;
2. **ALSO RECALLS** Decision EX.CL/Dec. 908(XXVIII) stating that, following the expiry of the first two-year tenure of the Ministerial Follow-Up Committee, endorsed the membership of the 2nd Ministerial Follow-Up Committee on Agenda 2063, which expires January 2018;
3. **WELCOMES** the consultations of the Deans of Ambassadors of the five AU's Geographical Regions and **ENDORSES** the new five (5) rotating regional representatives to be members of the 3rd Ministerial Committee on Agenda 2063, as follows: Chad (Central), South Sudan (Eastern), Libya (Northern), Botswana (Southern) and Cote d'Ivoire (Western).The other Members of the Committee shall remain as per decision **EX.CL/Dec. 908(XXVIII) Rev.1.**



**DECISION ON THE MEDIUM TERM PLAN 2018-2023
AND 2019 BUDGET FRAMEWORK PAPER**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Draft Medium Term Plan (MTP) 2018-2023 and the 2019 Budget Framework Paper circulated to all Member States;
2. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the constraints faced by the Commission and the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) to consider the Draft MTP 2018-2023 and the 2019 Budget Framework Paper;
3. **MANDATES** the PRC to review and approve the Draft MTP 2018-2023 and the 2019 Budget Framework Paper immediately after the 30th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of January 2018, in compliance with Decision **EX.CL/Dec.877(XXVII)** adopted in Johannesburg, South Africa in June 2015 to ensure that the 2019 budget process is not disrupted;
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to report on the implementation of this Decision at the next Ordinary Session of the Executive Council in June/July 2018.



**DECISION ON THE SCALE OF ASSESSMENT
AND CONTRIBUTIONS**
Doc. EX.CL/1064(XXXII)

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Ministerial Committee on the Scale of Assessment and Contributions, **ENDORSES** the recommendations contained therein and **REQUESTS** the Commission to implement them;
2. **COMMENDS** Member States that were up to date with the payment of their contributions, and **ENCOURAGES** other Member States to pay their contributions in full and on time;
3. **ALSO COMMENDS** development partners for their contributions and **URGES** them to pay their contributions on time to enable the African Union to implement its projects and programmes;
4. **REQUESTS** Member States with accumulated arrears to fulfil their financial obligations immediately in order to avoid sanctions, in conformity with the regulations;
5. Pursuant to the relevant provisions of Article 35 (1), (2) (a) of the Rules of Procedure of the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government, and that of the AU Financial Rules and Regulations, **APPROVES** that the sanctions stipulated for failure to pay be imposed on:
 - i) Central African Republic;
 - ii) Guinea Bissau;
 - iii) South Sudan;
6. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** of the fact that The Comoros has paid 50% of its arrears and its commitment to clear the remaining arrears by February 2018;
7. **WELCOMES** the strong gesture of commitment demonstrated by Libya in paying its 2017 contributions and The Sudan for paying its arrears in full and **ENCOURAGES** the two Member States to continue their efforts and settle their remaining balances dues;
8. **REQUESTS** the Commission to put in place, in collaboration with the Ministerial Committee, a mechanism for consultation and interaction with Member States that have difficulties in paying their contributions with a view to understanding the problems and undertaking missions to the Member States concerned so as to reach an agreement that will enable them to fulfil their financial obligations vis-à-vis the African Union;

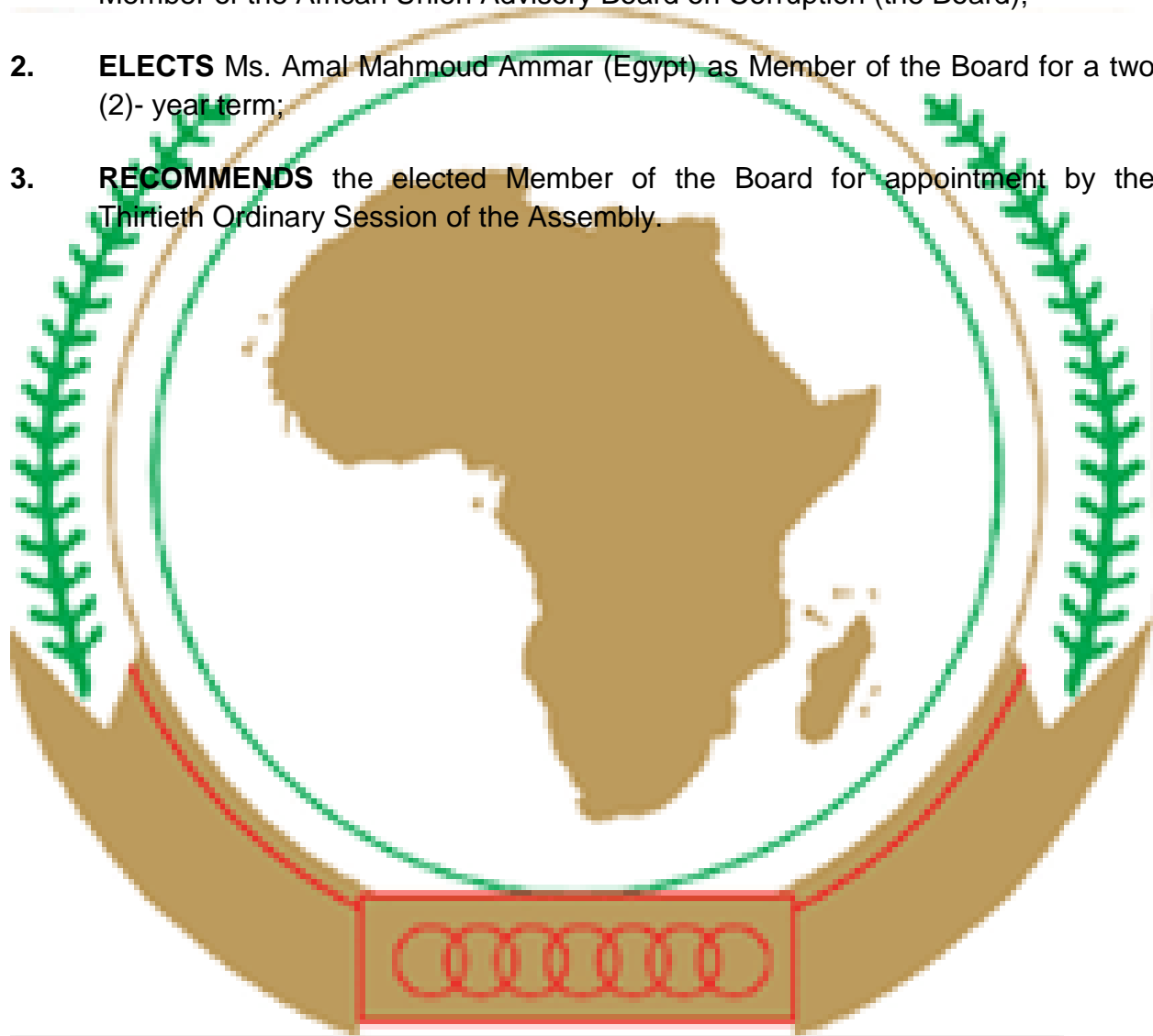
9. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to fast-track the hiring of an expert/consultant to prepare a proposal on the scale of assessment applicable to the budget exercise 2019-2021 for the African Union, on the basis of the principles of capacity to pay, solidarity and equitable burden-sharing to avoid risk concentration;
10. **URGES** the Ministerial Committee on the Scale of Assessment and Contributions to further review the proposals related to the sanction regime by considering a simplified mechanism aligned with the principles of the future scale of assessment;
11. **REQUESTS** the Ministerial Committee on the Scale of Assessment and Contributions to report back at the next Executive Council Session in June/July 2018.



**DECISION ON THE ELECTION OF ONE (1) MEMBER OF THE
AFRICAN UNION ADVISORY BOARD ON CORRUPTION
Doc. EX.CL/1069(XXXII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Commission on the Election of One (1) Member of the African Union Advisory Board on Corruption (the Board);
2. **ELECTS** Ms. Amal Mahmoud Ammar (Egypt) as Member of the Board for a two (2)- year term;
3. **RECOMMENDS** the elected Member of the Board for appointment by the Thirtieth Ordinary Session of the Assembly.



**DECISION ON THE ELECTION OF TEN (10) MEMBERS OF
THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
Doc. EX.CL/1070(XXXII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Commission on the Election of Ten (10) Members of the Peace and Security Council;

2. **ELECTS** the following Members for a term of two (2) years:

Central : Equatorial Guinea
Gabon

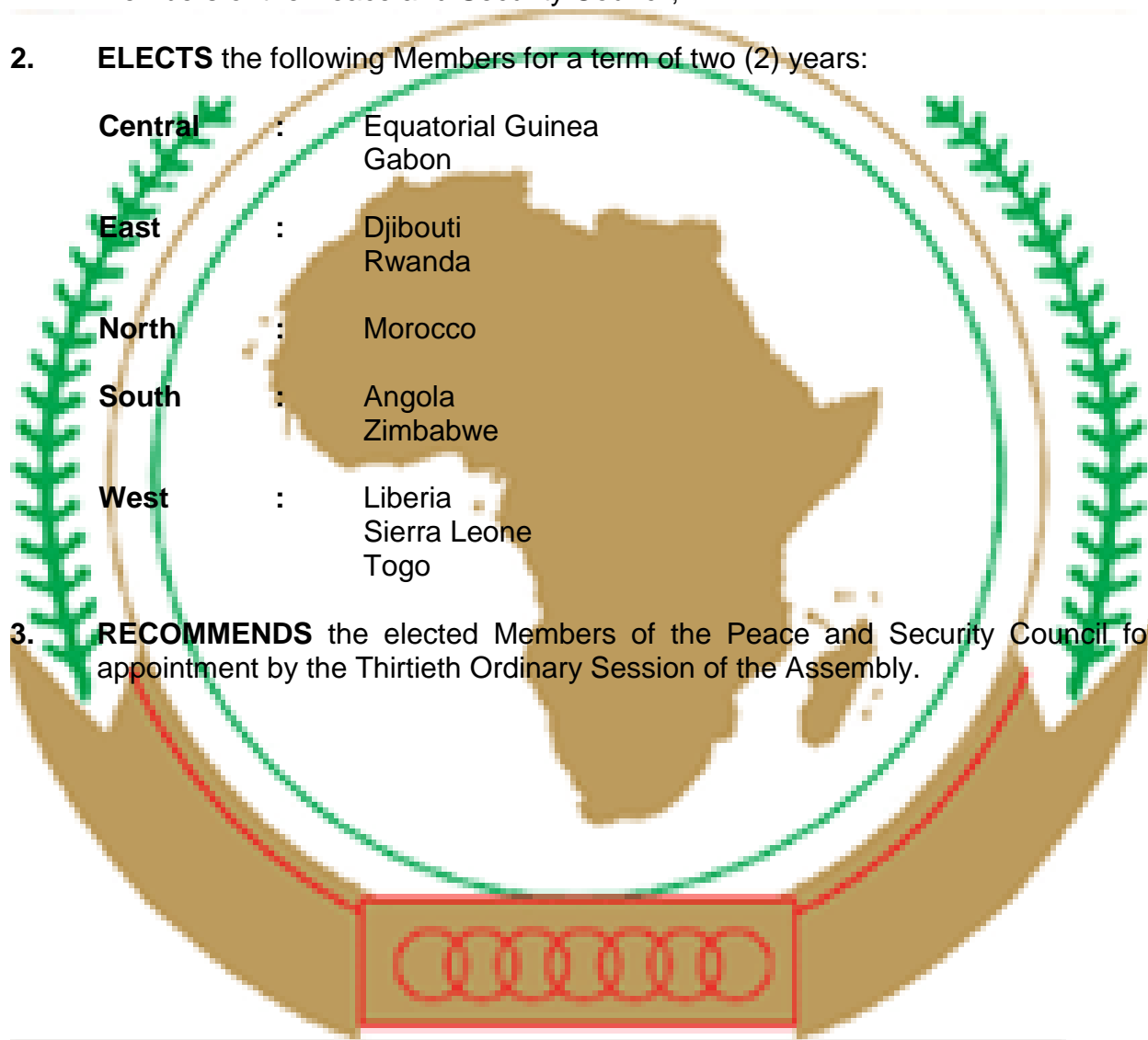
East : Djibouti
Rwanda

North : Morocco

South : Angola
Zimbabwe

West : Liberia
Sierra Leone
Togo

3. **RECOMMENDS** the elected Members of the Peace and Security Council for appointment by the Thirtieth Ordinary Session of the Assembly.



**DECISION ON ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT
OF THE PAN AFRICAN UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
Doc. EX.CL/1071(XXXII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Commission on the Election of the President and Vice-President of the Pan African University (PAU) Council;
2. **ELECTS** Mr. NZINZI Pierre Dominique (Gabon) as President of the PAU Council for a three (3)-year term;
3. **RECOMMENDS** the elected Member for appointment by the Thirtieth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union;
4. **FURTHER RECOMMENDS** that the Vice-President of the PAU Council be elected at the Thirty-Third Ordinary Session of the Executive Council scheduled for June/July 2018.



**DECISION ON AFRICAN CANDIDATURES
WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM
Doc. EX.CL/1066(XXXII)**

The Executive Council,

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

2. **ENDORSES:**

(i) **for Membership of the Committee of Experts of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities**, during elections scheduled for June 2018, at the 11th Conference of State Parties, the candidatures of:

- **Mrs Gertrude Oforiwa Fefoame**, of the Republic of Ghana;
- **Dr. Heba Hagrass, MP**, of the Arab Republic of Egypt;

(ii) **for Membership of the United Nations Human Rights Committee on the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights**, for the period 2019-2022, during elections scheduled for 14 June 2018 in New York at the 36th Meeting of State Parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the candidature of:

- a) **Professor Yadh Ben Achour** of the Republic of Tunisia;

(iii) **for Membership of the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women**, for the period 2019-2022 during elections scheduled for June 2018 in New York, the candidature of:

- a) **Ambassador Naela Gabr** of the Arab Republic of Egypt;

(iv) **for Membership of United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child**, for the period 2019-2022, during elections scheduled for June 2018 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, the candidature of:

- a) **Ambassador Gehad Mady** of the Arab Republic of Egypt;

(v) **for Membership of the International Law Commission (ILC)** for the period 2022-2026, during elections scheduled for November 2018, the candidature of:

- a) **Mr Louis Savadogo**, of Burkina Faso;

- (vi) **For the post of President of the Fourth Committee of the United Nations General Assembly, the candidature of H.E. Lewis Brown of the Republic of Liberia;**
- (vii) **For the post of President of the Sixth Committee of the United Nations General Assembly, the candidature of H.E. Necton D. Mhura of the Republic of Malawi;**
- (viii) **For the post of Chairman of the United Nations International Civil Service Commission** for the period 2019-2022, during elections scheduled for the 73rd Ordinary Session of the United Nations General Assembly in November 2018, in New York, the candidatures of:

- a) **Mr Larbi Djacta, of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria;**
 b) **Ambassador El Hassane Zahid, of the Kingdom of Morocco.**

- (ix) **For the post of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) for the term 2019-2023, at the elections to be held by ECOSOC during the Coordination and Management Meetings in April 2018 in New York, the candidature of:**

- a) **The Republic of South Africa**

3. ALSO TAKES NOTE of and DECIDES to endorse the following candidatures:

- (i) **For Membership of the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), for the period 2018-2020, during elections scheduled for September 2018 in Vienna, at the IAEA General Conference, the candidature of:**

- a) **The Arab Republic of Egypt**

- (ii) **For Membership of the Board of the International Telecommunication Union Council, for the period 2019-2022, during elections scheduled to hold at the Plenipotentiary Conference in November 2018, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, the candidatures of:**

- a) **the Arab Republic of Egypt;**
 b) **the Republic of Kenya;**
 c) **the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria;**
 d) **the Republic of South Africa;**
 e) **Burkina Faso;**
 f) **the Togolese Republic.**

NB: The Committee decided to endorse these candidatures in addition to that of **the Federal Republic of Nigeria** endorsed in July 2017, and leave the other five (5) positions to be held by Africa in the Council open.

(iii) **For Membership of the Radio Regulations Board of the International Telecommunication Union**, during elections scheduled to hold at the Plenipotentiary Conference in November 2018, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, the candidatures of:

- a) **the Arab Republic of Egypt (Dr Elsayed Azzoz);**
- b) **the Republic of South Africa.**

(iv) **as Non-Permanent Member of the United Nations Security Council**, for the period 2019-2020, during elections scheduled for June 2018, at the 72nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly the candidature of:

- a) **the Republic of South Africa.**

(v) **for the post of Vice-President of the 73rd Session of the United Nations General Assembly**, the candidatures of:

- a) **the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria;**
- b) **Burkina Faso;**
- c) **the Democratic Republic of Congo;**
- d) **the Republic of The Gambia;**
- e) **the Republic of Namibia;**
- f) **the Republic of The Sudan.**

(vi) **for Membership of the United Nations Economic and Social Council for the period 2019-2021**, during elections scheduled at the 73rd Session of the United Nations General Assembly, the candidatures of:

- a) **the Republic of Angola;**
- b) **the Arab Republic of Egypt;**
- c) **the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia;**
- d) **the Republic of Kenya ;**
- e) **the Republic of Mali.**

(vii) **For the post of Assistant Secretary General for Social, Cultural and Humanitarian Affairs of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation**, the candidature of **the Arab Republic of Egypt**.

4. FURTHER TAKES NOTE OF AND DECIDES:

- (i) to refer ***the candidature of the Republic of Kenya as Non-Permanent Member of the United Nations Security Council***, for the period 2021-2022 for consideration by the region;
- (ii) to refer ***to the June 2018 Session, the candidature of Dr. Maurice Kengne Kamga of the Republic of Cameroon for the post of Judge at the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS)***, during elections to be held at the 30th Meeting of State Parties in June 2020;
- (iii) with regard to the post of ***Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau***, during elections scheduled for 29 October to 26 November 2018 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, at the Plenipotentiary Conference, that the Committee recommends that the Executive Council:
- a) ***refer to the Revised Rules of Procedure of the Ministerial Committee on African Candidatures within the International System***, namely Article 14, as the best way of deciding between the two candidates. Moreover, since both candidates are equally competent, as required in **Paragraph a**, and enjoy good international reputation as stated under **Paragraph b**, the only remaining criteria is that of equitable geographical representation, as stipulated under **Paragraph c** to decide between the two candidates;
 - b) the decision endorsing the African candidate to this post should be taken at the January 2018 Summit, in order to avoid continued tension, and above all to give the candidate endorsed time to campaign. This should be done regardless of whether the Executive Council decides to refer to the Revised Rules of Procedure as recommended above or resort to a political solution;
 - c) request the two delegations to hold consultations and reach a decision before the Executive Council session, failing which, reference will be made to the criteria defined and the Rules of Procedure to decide between the two candidates.
- (iv) with regard to **the situation of Ghana**:
- a) takes note of the explanation provided by the Republic of Ghana, which expressed regret and presented mitigating circumstances for the submission of a candidate, which was not endorsed by the African Union, and the apology to the African Union and the Kingdom of Lesotho with an undertaking that such incidents would not occur again;

- b) not to impose sanctions on Ghana in view of the apology and to issue a stern warning to Ghana to respect the Decisions and mechanisms established on African Candidatures within the International System;
- (v) With regard to the post of **Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau**:
- a) to call upon the Republic of Zimbabwe and the Federal Republic of Nigeria to continue consultations and to report on the outcome to the June/July 2018 Summit;
5. **FURTHER DECIDES**, taking into consideration the need to ensure effective follow-up on the candidatures endorsed, to reinforce follow-up mechanisms for decisions of the Executive Council on African candidatures within the international system and the adaptation of the Rules of Procedure of the Ministerial Committee on African Candidatures within the International System, to request:
- (i) the Commission to take all the necessary steps to ensure substantial and multifaceted support for the election of the candidates endorsed, and speed up the establishment Sub-Committees on Candidatures within the African Groups that do not yet have one;
 - (ii) the PRC Sub-Committee on Budget to allocate an appropriate budget for the activities of the Ministerial Committee on African Candidatures within the International System responsible for the implementation of decisions on candidatures, the establishment of which had been decided upon by the Executive Council;
 - (iii) the Office of the Legal Counsel, in consultation with the Department of Political Affairs, the African Groups, and the PRC to work on a draft revision of the Rules of Procedure of the Ministerial Committee on African Candidatures within the International System to be presented to the next Session of the Executive Council in June/July 2018. The draft shall take into account the specific features of certain candidatures, as well as the establishment of a mechanism for follow-up on endorsed candidatures and decisions taken by Summits of the African Union, to ensure compliance with these decisions, and the effectiveness of votes in favour of African candidatures, and ensuring that Africa constantly speaks with a single voice as regards elections within the international system.

**DECISION ON THE ANNUAL REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES
OF THE AFRICAN UNION AND ITS ORGANS
Doc. EX.CL/1061(XXXII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Annual Report on the Activities of the African Union and its Organs for the period January -December 2017, and the observations and comments made by Member States;
2. **COMMENDS** the Chairperson of the Commission for the comprehensiveness of the Annual Report, which provides a global picture of the state of the Union, as well as the quality of his Introductory Note, which highlights key issues warranting the urgent attention of the Policy Organs;
3. **EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** to the former Commission, in particular, to the former Chairperson, Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, for the leadership and dedication in pursuit of the goals and objectives of the Union, culminating into the adoption of Agenda 2063;
4. **WELCOMES** the appointment of former Algerian Foreign Minister and former AU Commissioner for Peace and Security, Amb. Ramtane Lamamra, as the AU High Representative for Silencing the Guns who, in close collaboration with all concerned stakeholders, will galvanize support towards ending violence and sustaining peace on the continent, and **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to submit a progress report on the steps taken by the High Representative, in consultation with the Peace and Security Council and all concerned stakeholders within the African Union, as well as Member States, to the June/July 2018 Summit;
5. **CALLS UPON** all Member States to accelerate the signing and ratification of the relevant AU Human Rights instruments to enhance the respect and protection of human and peoples' rights on the continent, and **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission, in collaboration with AU human rights institutions, to redouble his efforts to that end;
6. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission, in collaboration with the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), to take the necessary steps to convert the existing Liaison Offices of the AU to the RECs, which currently focus exclusively on peace and security, into Permanent Delegations of the AU to the RECs covering the whole agenda of the AU and to report on the steps taken to the June/July 2018 Summit;

A. ILLICIT FINANCIAL FLOWS

7. **RECALLS** Assembly Special Declaration of January 2015 on the Report of the High-Level Panel on the Illicit Financial Flows (IFFs), chaired by Former President Thabo Mbeki of South Africa, **STRESSES** the urgency for speedy response from Member States to the Action Plan Matrix developed by the High-Level Panel to guide and record periodically the achievements of African countries to curtail IFFs, and **LOOKS FORWARD** to the submission, at the June/July 2018 Summit, by the High-Level Panel, through the Commission, of the Annual Report on the implementation of the Special Declaration;

B. ON PROMOTING THE CULTURE OF READING

8. **NOTES WITH CONCERN** that a generation of young Africans is growing up with limited knowledge of great African writers and **RECOGNISES** the importance of literature and reading as a resource of inestimable value to young people, as they seek to educate and empower themselves;
9. **REQUESTS** the Commission and Member States to develop programmes to promote a culture of reading among children, youth and adults, as well as the promotion of African writers and African content in education curricula, in line with the Continent Education Strategy for Africa, adopted by the Assembly in January 2016;
10. **RECOMMENDS** to the Assembly the establishment of African Writers' Prizes and an African Reading Week;

C. ENSURING SAFE FOODS FOR AFRICA

11. **RECOGNISES** the role of food safety, nutrition and food security in promoting human health and sustainable growth, and **URGES** all Member States to engage with relevant stakeholders and Partners to advance the agenda of food safety on the continent, and **EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** to the Commission for the steps taken to promote food safety, as outlined in the Introductory Note of the Chairperson of the Commission;
12. **SUPPORTS** the request by the Commission to host, in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Health Organisation (WHO), planned International Food Safety Conference in 2019, to further garner political support for the establishment of a continental food safety structure;

D. ON THE PROTECTION OF AFRICA'S WILDLIFE AND WILD LANDS

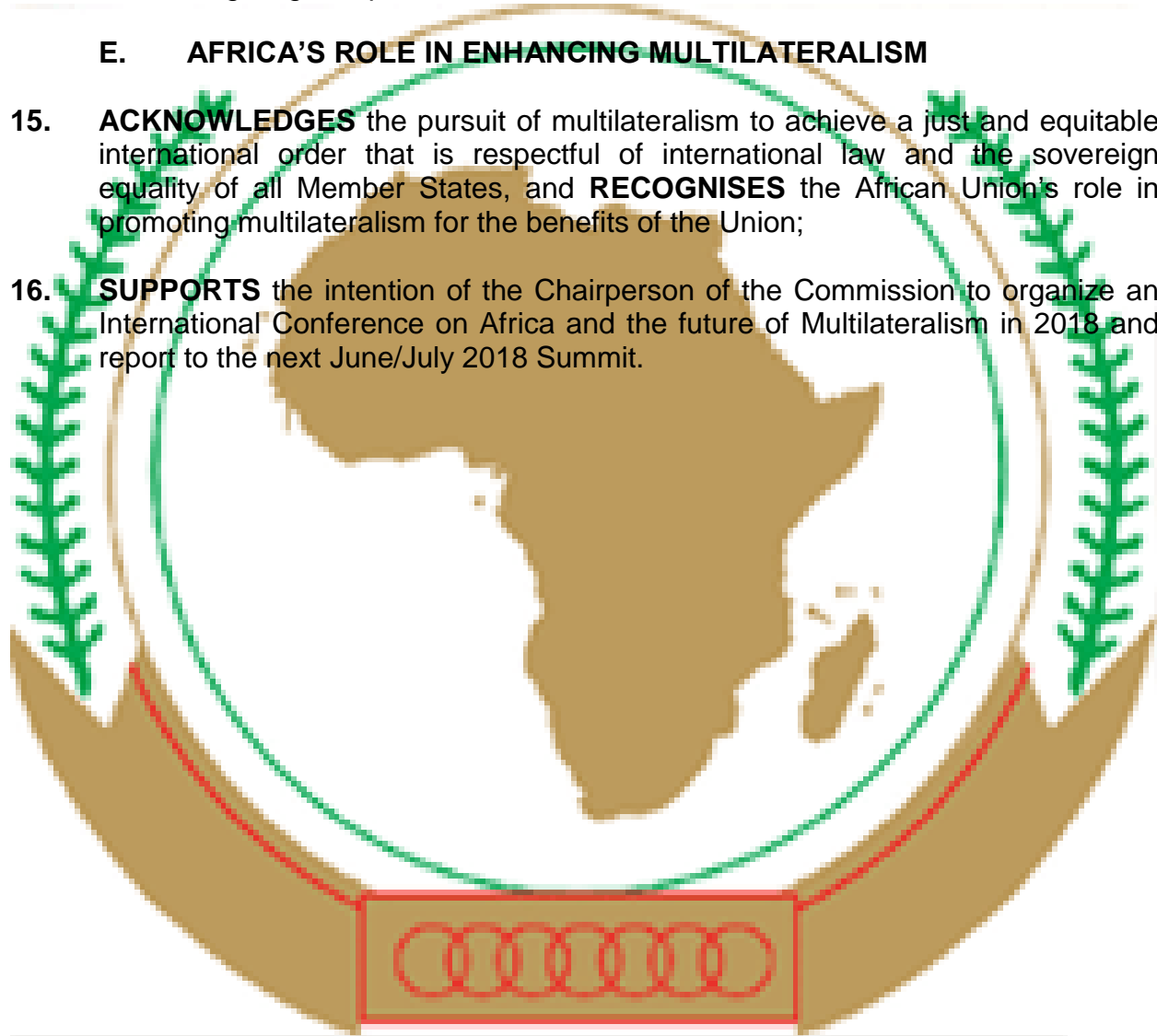
13. **RECALLS** decision EX.CL/Dec.879 (XXVII) adopted in June 2015, in Johannesburg, South Africa, through which it endorsed the African Strategy on

Combating Illegal Exploitation and Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora and called upon Member States and AU partners to support and facilitate its implementation, and **REITERATES** its concern with the significant losses in Africa's unique wildlife and wild lands heritage;

14. **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to continue and intensify the efforts already initiated towards the implementation of the African Strategy on Combating Illegal Exploitation and Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora;

E. AFRICA'S ROLE IN ENHANCING MULTILATERALISM

15. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the pursuit of multilateralism to achieve a just and equitable international order that is respectful of international law and the sovereign equality of all Member States, and **RECOGNISES** the African Union's role in promoting multilateralism for the benefits of the Union;
16. **SUPPORTS** the intention of the Chairperson of the Commission to organize an International Conference on Africa and the future of Multilateralism in 2018 and report to the next June/July 2018 Summit.



**DECISION ON THE DRAFT RULES OF PROCEDURE OF SPECIALIZED
TECHNICAL COMMITTEES AND OF THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL
AND CULTURAL COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report and recommendations of the Third Ordinary Session of the Specialized Technical Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 6 to 11 November 2017;
2. **APPROVES** the following:
 - i) Rules of Procedure of the Specialized Technical Committee on Gender and Women's Empowerment;
 - ii) Rules of Procedure of the Specialized Technical Committee on Trade, Industry and Minerals;
 - iii) Rules of Procedure of the Specialized Technical Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment;
 - iv) Rules of Procedure of the Specialized Technical Committee on Transport, Infrastructure, Transcontinental and Interregional Infrastructures, Energy and Tourism;
 - v) Amendment to Rule 37 of the Rules of Procedure of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC) of the African Union.

