

AFRICAN UNION

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ASSEMBLY OF THE UNION
Thirty- Eighth Ordinary Session
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Assembly/AU/Dec. 903- 941(XXXVIII)

Assembly/AU/Decl.1- 6(XXXVIII)

Assembly/AU/Res.1- 2(XXXVIII)

Assembly/AU/Motion(XXXVIII)

DECISIONS, DECLARATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

DECISION
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ROADMAP OF THE THEME OF THE YEAR
2025: "JUSTICE FOR AFRICANS AND PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT THROUGH
REPARATIONS." – DOC. EX.CL/1569(XLVI)

The Assembly,

1. **RECALLS** decision Assembly/AU/Dec.884(XXXVII) of February 2024 that designated the Theme of the Year for 2025 as “Justice for Africans and People of African Descent Through Reparations”;
2. **FURTHER RECALLS** decision EX.CL/ Dec.1267(XLV) of July 2024 on the adoption of the Concept Note and Roadmap for the *Theme of the Year 2025*, which emphasized the implementation of decision Assembly/AU/Dec.884(XXXVII); **REITERATES** that it is a critical step towards the pursuit of justice and healing for Africans and People of African Descent and towards calling for accountability for the heinous crimes committed against Africans and the global African diaspora during the periods of the transatlantic slave trade, colonization, and apartheid, genocide and neo-colonialism including deportation, mass massacres, arbitrary detentions, the use of torture, the plundering of natural resources, and nuclear testing, which led to human and environmental disasters during the colonial era;
3. **WELCOMES** the Commission’s Progress Report on the Implementation of decision Assembly/AU/Dec. 884(XXXVII) and decision Ex.CL/Dec.1267(XLV), including the Roadmap [Rev 1]; **ADOPTS** the Commission’s progress report; and **CALLS ON** Member States to make the necessary funds available for the effective implementation of the activities specified therein;
4. **REQUESTS** Member States to implement the Theme of the Year 2025 in their respective countries; and once again **CALLS ON** Member States to allocate available adequate resources for the implementation of the theme of the year at the national level;
5. **APPROVES** the proposal of **H.E.M. Abdelmadjid TEBBOUNE**, President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, for the institution of an African Day to pay tribute to African martyrs and victims of the transatlantic slave trade, colonization and apartheid; and **REQUESTS** the Commission to initiate consultations with Member States to set this date;
6. **WELCOMES** the offer of Algeria to host an International Conference on the Crimes of Colonialism, in coordination with the Commission;

7. **REQUESTS** the Commission, in close collaboration with AU Member States, relevant AU Organs and institutions and the RECs; Pan-African civil society organisations, as well as African academia, religious bodies, relevant NGOs; critical stakeholders in the African Diaspora, including CARICOM; relevant UN bodies and other significant global stakeholders, to coordinate the implementation of the Theme of the Year 2025; and to monitor its progress and submit a progress report to the 7th Mid-Year Coordination Meeting scheduled to be held in June/July 2025, as well as the 39th Ordinary Session of the Assembly to be held in February 2026.

DECISION ON THE AFRICA MALARIA PROGRESS REPORT
Doc. EX.CL/1571(XLVI)A

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the “2024 Africa Malaria Progress Report” submitted by H.E. Umaro Sissoco Embaló, President of Guinea-Bissau and Chair of the African Leaders Malaria Alliance;
2. **RECALLS** the African Union’s Catalytic Framework to End AIDS, TB and Eliminate Malaria in Africa by 2030 and past decisions and declarations calling on Member States to take decisive action to achieve these objectives. **COMMENDS** the African Union for the new Roadmap to accelerate efforts to end malaria, AIDS and TB in Africa by 2030;
3. **COMMENDS** the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Republic of Cabo Verde for Malaria Free certification by the World Health Organisation;
4. **EXPRESSES CONCERN** that malaria remains a leading cause of illness and death, especially amongst the most vulnerable populations, and a barrier to achieving the Africa Health Strategy (2016-2030) and the social and economic development priorities outlined in “Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want”;
5. **FURTHER EXPRESSES CONCERN** about the growing threat of biological resistance, resource gaps, humanitarian emergencies and climate change to maintaining the progress that has been made against malaria;
6. **RECOGNISES** that ending malaria requires urgent, integrated and innovative solutions that engage the whole of government and whole of society;
7. **FURTHER RECOGNISES** the role of The Global Fund in financing essential life-saving malaria interventions and the importance of its successful replenishment this year;
8. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the importance of the ALMA Scorecard for Accountability and Action, regional and national scorecards and other evidence-informed tools in identifying bottlenecks and advancing accountability and action in the fight against malaria;
9. **CALLS UPON** Member States, Regional Economic Communities and Development Partners to make a big push to accelerate progress against malaria, including the following key actions; building off of the catalytic framework mid-term review and AU Roadmap to address the biggest diseases on the continent, develop costed country acceleration plans and track progress to get back on track to malaria elimination;

- a. sustain the domestic resource mobilisation agenda through the establishment of End Malaria Councils and Funds;
 - b. accelerate Integrated Health Financing including the World Bank IDA USD \$5 billion ask and key global health mechanisms to provide additional resources to help scale up malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases interventions and accelerate progress against malaria;
 - c. strengthen the use of malaria scorecard tools to drive multisectoral advocacy, action and accountability;
 - d. further integrate malaria into the broader health and development nexus, including expanding community health workforce, integrating climate change, and gender transformative responses and interventions that assure access to efficacious, low-cost essential services;
 - e. Invest in Prevention, digital technology and new tools that includes tailored deployment of next-generation malaria commodities, access to affordable medicines including enhancing local production and regulatory harmonisation and investments in research and innovation.
10. **FURTHER CALLS UPON** the global community to fully replenish The Global Fund to end AIDS, TB and Malaria.

**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE LEADER FOR DOMESTIC HEALTH
FINANCING**

Doc. EX.CL/1571(XLVI)B

The Assembly,

1. **RECALLS** Declaration Assembly/AU/Decl.4(XXXII) on the “*Addis Ababa Commitment toward Shared Responsibility and Global Solidarity for Increased Health Financing Declaration*” that appointing His Excellency, President Paul Kagame Leader for Domestic Financing for Health;
2. **TAKES NOTE** of the progress made in the implementation of the Africa Leadership Meeting (ALM) Investing in Health progress report and the recommendations contained therein;
3. **COMMENDS** H.E. President Paul Kagame, AU Leader on Domestic Financing for Health for his exemplary leadership that has been a source of strategic guidance and momentum for advancing Africa's domestic health financing agenda;
4. **FURTHER COMMENDS** the Commission, AUDA-NEPAD, Regional Economic Communities, the Office of the AU Leader for Domestic Financing and partners for the joint efforts in the implementation of the Africa Leadership Meeting-Investing in Health and **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the progress made thus far;
5. **TAKES NOTE** of AUDA-NEPAD's progress achieved in operationalizing Regional Health Financing Hubs (RHFHs) across the East African Community, Southern African Development Community, and West African Health Organisation; and **CALLS UPON** remaining RECs to expedite the operationalization of RHFHs to ensure no Member State is left behind in achieving sustainable and equitable health systems;
6. **COMMENDS** the efforts of Member States, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), AUDA-NEPAD, and Development Partners for enhancing domestic health financing through the National Health Financing Dialogues, which have been successfully conducted in nine (9) Member States including Malawi, Zambia, Mozambique, Kenya, Mauritius, Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe; and **ENCOURAGES** Member States to integrate the outcomes of Regional Health Financing Hubs into national strategies to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and sustainable health outcomes;
7. **RECALLS** Assembly/AU/20(XXXII) Declaration on The Progress Report of AIDS Watch Africa (AWA): Outcome of The Leadership In Health Financing Funds High-Level Meeting called for increased financing to strengthen health systems and achieve universal health coverage (UHC).

8. **REQUESTS** Member States to report to the Commission on progress, lessons, and best practices in achieving universal health coverage in alignment with Africa Health Strategic Objective 1: By 2030, to achieve universal health coverage by fulfilling existing global and continental commitments that strengthen health systems and improve social determinants of health in Africa.
9. **REQUESTS** AUDA-NEPAD to strengthen regional Health Financing Hubs (RHFH) for knowledge exchange and scaling best practices on domestic health financing reform.
10. **RECALLS** declaration Assembly/AU/Decl.4(XXXII), which underscores fostering public-private sector cooperation to strengthen sustainable health financing systems; **COMMENDS** H.E. President William Ruto for the launch of the AUDA-NEPAD Programme for Investment and Financing in Africa's Health Sector (PIFAH), and **ENCOURAGES** Member States implementing the Africa Leadership Meeting (ALM) commitments to leverage this mechanism for developing and implementing priority health investment projects to Transform Africa's Health Economy.
11. **WELCOMES** the adoption of the Terms of Reference for the AU Task Force on Health Financing by the 5th Ordinary Session of the Specialised Technical Committee on Health, Population, Nutrition and Drug Control, concluded on the 9th of August 2024 and **CALLS UPON** Member States and RECs to support the establishment and operationalisation of the taskforce.

**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE AIDS WATCH AFRICA (AWA)
Doc. EX.CL/1571(XLVI)B**

The Assembly,

1. TAKES NOTE of

- (i) The AIDS Watch Africa (AWA) 2023 Report and the recommendations contained therein;
- (ii) The progress in the implementation of the Africa Leadership Meeting (ALM) Investing in Health Progress Report and the recommendations contained therein;
- (iii) The Concept note on the Extra Ordinary Summit and the outline of the Roadmap on: “Sustaining the AIDS (Tuberculosis and Malaria) response, ensuring systems strengthening and health security for the development of Africa”;
- (iv) The 2022 Tuberculosis (TB) scorecard and the 2023 United Nations General Assembly High Level Declaration (HLM) on TB.

2. COMMENDS the Commission, AUDA-NEPAD, the Office of the Leader for Domestic Financing for Health, H.E. Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda, East African Community (EAC), the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the Global Fund and supporting partners for the national health financing dialogues and **ENCOURAGES** other Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to launch the national health financing dialogues in alignment with the Africa Leadership Meeting (ALM) on Investing in Health Declaration;

3. RECALLS decision Assembly/AU/Dec.649(XXIX) that committed “to sustain the gains made in the fight against Malaria and monitor antimalarial drug resistance and insecticide resistance”, **RECOGNIZES** the importance and the registered successes of vector control in the elimination of malaria and other vector borne diseases in and around the African continent; **APPRECIATES** the comprehensiveness of the World Health Organization’s (WHO) Global Vector Control Response strategy 2017-2030, which emphasizes on the realignment of vector control programs, increasing technical capacity, enhancing monitoring and surveillance systems, and mobilizing communities and private sector as key drivers to strengthen vector control;

4. REQUESTS the Commission, Africa Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and AUDA-NEPAD in collaboration with the AU recognized RECs and WHO to continue supporting the Member States to strengthen regulatory and safety surveillance systems for existing and emerging vector control products, tools and technologies, and work closely with other concerned ministries and stakeholders in the continent;

5. **ENDORSES** the draft Declaration on ‘Sustaining the AIDS, (TB and Malaria) Response, Ensuring Systems Strengthening and Health Security in Africa’; **REQUESTS** the Commission, AUDA-NEPAD, Africa CDC; Member States, RECs, and partners to support its implementation;
6. **ENDORSES** the Terms of references (TORs) for the permanent AWA Experts Committee, the Terms of references (TORs) for the AWA Chair, and the terms of reference for the Community Health Champion in Africa and **REQUESTS** the Commission, AUDA-NEPAD and Africa CDC to support their implementation including but not limited to aligned action plans;
7. **ALSO ENDORSES** the Africa Plan Towards the Elimination of Vertical Transmission of New HIV, Syphilis and Hepatitis B Virus Infections among Children by 2030 and keeping their mothers alive and **REQUESTS** the Commission through AIDS Watch Africa, Africa CDC, AUDA-NEPAD to coordinate and oversee the plan implementation with the support of RECS and partners;
8. **CALLS UPON** AWA Consultative Experts Committee to review and adopt the draft fully costed Roadmap on “Sustaining the AIDS (TB and Malaria) Response, Ensuring Systems Strengthening and Health Security in Africa”;

**DECISION ON THE PROGRESS REPORT ON THE ESTABLISHMENT AND
OPERATIONALIZATION OF THE AFRICAN MEDICINES AGENCY (AMA) -
EX.CL/1571(XLVI)C**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Progress Report of the Commission on the operationalization of the African Medicines Agency (AMA) and the recommendations contained therein;
2. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** of the challenges related to the feedback from Member States, RECs and Regional Health Organizations (RHOs) encountered by the Commission in the establishment of the AMA Governing Board;
3. **CALLS UPON** the Northern Africa Region and the Economic Community of Central Africa States (ECCAS) to finalize the consultations and communicate their respective nominees to the Commission for consideration in the AMA Governing Board composition;
4. **WELCOMES** the signing and ratification of the AMA Headquarters Agreement between the Commission and the Government of Rwanda, the adoption of the Job description of the AMA Director General by the Conference of State Parties to the AMA Treaty;
5. **FURTHER WELCOMES**, the appointment of the AMA Governing board during the 3rd Extraordinary Session of the Conference of the State Parties, April 22, 2024. The current Members of the Board represent the Central, Southern, Eastern, and Western regions in addition to West Africa Health Organization (WAHO), Community of Sahel–Saharan States (CEN-SAD), and African Union Commission;
6. **COMMENDS** the Commission for launching the AMA Headquarters on 1 November 2024 in Kigali, the establishment of the interim Secretariat, the ongoing recruitment of the AMA Director General started in September 2024 and **REQUESTS** that this process complies with the statutes establishing AMA. **FURTHER COMMENDS** the Government of Rwanda for its commitment and leadership in the implementation of the AMA Host Agreement;
7. **CONGRATULATES** the twenty-eight (28) Member States that have ratified the AMA Treaty and **URGES** the remaining Member States to ratify and accede to the AMA;
8. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the funding challenges that AMA is facing and **REQUESTS** the State Parties to mobilize domestic resources and fund the AMA needs including but not limited to the salary of the upcoming DG and critical positions

required in the initial take-off phase of AMA operationalization this, in line of African Union scale of assessment in the interim period;

9. **REITERATES** that the AMA is a treaty based specialized agency of the African Union where membership is subject to ratification of the Treaty for the Establishment of AMA.

DECISION
ON THE EXTRAORDINARY SUMMIT ON ENDING AIDS BY 2030 AND
ADDRESSING PREVENTABLE MATERNAL DEATHS, COMMUNICABLE AND
NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES ENDEMIC AFRICAN UNION (AU)
ROADMAP TO 2030 & BEYOND: SUSTAINING THE AIDS RESPONSE,
ENSURING SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING AND HEALTH SECURITY FOR THE
DEVELOPMENT OF AFRICA - EX.CL/1571(XLVI)D

The Assembly,

1. **RECALLS** decision Assembly/Dec.852(XXXVI) on the Roadmap to 2030 for Sustaining the AIDS Response, Ensuring Systems strengthening and Health Security for the development and holding an extraordinary Session on ending AIDS and **TAKES NOTE** that the Commission was unable to convene the Extraordinary Session of the Assembly by July 2024 and **FURTHER TAKES NOTE** that the amount of One Million Seven Hundred Thousand United States Dollars (**US\$1,700,000**) for hosting the Extraordinary Session committed by USAID is now on hold following the recent change of US government.
2. **DECIDES** that the Extraordinary Session initially scheduled for 2024 be held in 2025.
3. **ADOPTS** the fully costed Roadmap to 2030 & Beyond: “Sustaining the AIDS Response, Ensuring Systems strengthening and Health Security for the development of Africa” as an overarching policy framework for the Continent, and the concept note for the Extraordinary Session of the Assembly on Ending AIDS by 2030, and Addressing Preventable Maternal Deaths, Communicable, and Non-Communicable Diseases Endemic to the Continent, and Strengthening Health Systems by 2030.

**DECISION ON OPERATIONALIZATION OF THE AFRICAN HUMANITARIAN
AGENCY
Doc. EX.CL/1572(XLVI)B**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of Decision EX.CL/Dec.1269(XLV) adopted in July 2024, in Accra, Ghana on the Report of the AU Independent Technical Team on Hosting the African Humanitarian Agency (AfHA);
2. **DECIDES** that the AfHA will be hosted in the Republic of Uganda and requests the Government of Uganda and the Commission to put in place all necessary measures, including the host agreement, to ensure that the Agency is operationalized as soon as possible.
3. **REQUESTS** all Member States, humanitarian and development partners, and private sector stakeholders to provide complete support to the full operationalization of the AfHA towards achieving its mandate;
4. **ENCOURAGES** Member States, Humanitarian and Development Partners to honour their pledges made during the 2022 Malabo Humanitarian Extraordinary Summit.

DECISION
ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OUTCOMES OF THE 15TH EXTRAORDINARY
HUMANITARIAN SUMMIT AND PLEDGING CONFERENCE
Doc. EX.CL/1572(XLVI)C

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the report on implementation of the outcomes of the 15th Extraordinary Humanitarian Summit and Pledging Conference, held on 27th May 2022, in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, and commends the Commission for the work done so far.
2. **REQUESTS** the Commission to continue implementing the 10 Years Malabo Plan of Action and to engage with Member States and partners to fulfil their pledges.
3. **COMMENDS** countries that have already paid up their pledges and **CALLS** on Member States and Partners that have not yet honoured their pledges to do so at their earliest convenience.

**DECISION ON
THE PROGRESS REPORT ON THE AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AREA
(AfCFTA), BY H.E. MAHAMADOU ISSOUFOU, FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF NIGER AND LEADER ON AfCFTA– Doc. Assembly/AU/9 (XXXVIII)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** with appreciation, the Report of H.E. Mr. Issoufou Mahamadou, the Champion of the AfCFTA and former President of the Republic of Niger, and **ADOPTS** the recommendations therein.
2. **RECALLS** Decisions Assembly/AU/Dec.854(XXXVI) and Assembly/AU/Dec.902(XXXVII) adopting the Protocols on Investment, Intellectual Property Rights, Competition Policy, Digital Trade and Women and Youth in Trade and **CALLS UPON** State Parties required to do so by their legal systems to ratify the protocols and all State Parties domesticate the Protocols to enable their full implementation.
3. **COMMENDS** development partners, the Republic of South Korea, EU-TAF, China, Turkiye and the World Bank for their continued support to the AfCFTA Secretariat.
4. **COMMENDS** and **APPRECIATES** the strong support provided by Afreximbank, AfDB and BADEA. **TAKES NOTE** of the ongoing valuable collaboration between the AfCFTA Secretariat and these important development finance institutions.
5. **URGES** Afreximbank and the AfCFTA Secretariat to accelerate the operationalisation of the AfCFTA Adjustment Fund and to expeditiously commence disbursements under the Fund.
6. **FURTHER URGES** Afreximbank and the AfDB to make available facilities and financial support to AfCFTA Trading Companies.
7. **DIRECTS** the Council of Ministers to conclude negotiations of the Annexes and Regulations on the Protocols on Intellectual Property Rights, and Competition Policy by October 2025 and recommend them for adoption by our 39th Ordinary Session in 2026.
8. **DIRECTS** the Council of Ministers to ensure that women and youth in trade are accorded commercially meaningful market access preferences under the AfCFTA trading regime and conclude negotiations on Ministerial Regulation on Preferential Market Access for Women and Youth, by the end of 2025.
9. **DIRECTS** the Council of Ministers to conclude negotiations on the Annex on Rules and Procedures for the Prevention, Management, and Resolution of Disputes to the Protocol on Investment and to submit the finalised Annex to the Assembly in February 2026.

10. **ADOPTS** the Schedules of Specific Commitments of the Republic of Botswana and the Union of Comoros and **COMMENDS** Ethiopia for submitting their initial offers in the five (5) priority sectors.
11. **URGES** State Parties to:
- (i) Submit their schedules of specific commitments in the five priority sectors by October 2025, taking into account the need to conclude negotiations in the five priority sectors and commence negotiations on the remaining services sectors;
 - (ii) Expeditiously conclude negotiations on the regulatory frameworks for Communications, Financial, Tourism and Transport Services, and ensure they effectively complement the adopted schedules of specific commitments.
12. **COMMENDS** the Council of Ministers for successfully and timeously concluding negotiations of the Annexes to the Protocol on Digital Trade and **ADOPTS** the following eight (8) Annexes to the AfCFTA Protocol on Digital Trade:
- (i) Annex on Rules of Origin;
 - (ii) Annex on Digital Identities;
 - (iii) Annex on Cross-Border Digital Payments;
 - (iv) Annex on Cross-Border Data Transfers;
 - (v) Annex on Criteria for Determining the Legitimate and Legal Public Interest Reasons for Disclosure of Source Code;
 - (vi) Annex on Online Safety and Security;
 - (vii) Annex on Emerging and Advanced Technologies; and
 - (viii) Annex on Financial Technology.
13. **RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec./Dec.831(XXXV) which established the AfCFTA Adjustment Fund, and **DIRECTS** the AfCFTA Secretariat and Afreximbank to establish a Digital Trade Fund under the existing AfCFTA Adjustment Fund, in order to support implementation of the Protocol on Digital Trade.
14. **DIRECTS** the Council of Ministers to expedite operationalisation of all of the Annexes of the Protocol on Digital Trade, including the AfCFTA Digital Identity established by the Protocol on Digital Trade and report progress at the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly.
15. **RECALLS** decision Assembly/AU/Dec.902(XXXVII) endorsing Kenya and South Africa as co-champions on Digital Trade and **DECIDES** to appoint H.E. Bola Ahmed Tinubu President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria as the AfCFTA Protocol on Digital Trade Co-Champion to advocate for its implementation and

provide high-level leadership in facilitating cross-border initiatives on the implementation of the Protocol;

16. **DIRECTS** the AfCFTA Secretariat to provide technical assistance and capacity building to State Parties to facilitate and accelerate the implementation of the AfCFTA Protocol on Digital Trade and its Annexes.
17. **REAFFIRMS** the African Currency Marketplace of the Pan African Payment and Settlement System as an instrument to enable trade in African currencies without reliance on third currencies and **URGES** all African Central Banks to support the deployment and adoption of the instrument, including by commercial banks.
18. **NOTES WITH CONCERN** the non-implementation of AU Assembly decisions concerning the Phase II staff recruitment and **DIRECTS** the African Union Commission to reinstate the USD 2.9 million from the 2021 operational balance, as approved by Decision EX.CL/Dec.1143(XL)) of February 2022, decision AU 17 (XXWVII)_E of February 2024 and EX.CL/Draft/Dec.1(XLV)Rev.1 of July 2024 and source it from the reserve fund.
19. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the importance of the AfCFTA as one of the flagship projects of Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want and **COMMENDS**:
 - (i) Angola, Mozambique and Zimbabwe for the submission of tariff offers, **APPROVES** the adoption of their technically verified offers;
 - (ii) The nineteen (19) State Parties that have domesticated the tariff offers in accordance with the prescribed Ministerial Directive and **URGES** the remaining State Parties to expedite their respective national processes in order to accelerate implementation of the Agreement; and
 - (iii) State Parties participating in the pilot Guided Trade Initiative (GTI) and the Secretary-General of the AfCFTA Secretariat for the progress achieved under this pilot as a demonstration of trade that can take place in accordance with the preferential rules of the AfCFTA.
20. **URGES** State Parties to:
 - (i) Submit their complete Schedules of Tariff Concessions for categories A, B and C by the end of October 2025, taking into account the need to expeditiously conclude the negotiations on outstanding rules of origin; and
 - (ii) Intensify the efforts aimed at increasing intra-Africa trade under the legal framework of the AfCFTA and encourage the private sector to leverage trading opportunities under the framework of AfCFTA Trading Companies (ATCs).

21. **DIRECTS** the Council of Ministers to explore options aimed at streamlining, fast-tracking and improving the market access modalities and to present a progress report on this at the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly.
22. **APPROVES** the final extension of the deadline for the negotiations on outstanding rules of origin to October 2025, and in this regard, **DIRECTS** the Council of Ministers to submit any outstanding rules of origin under negotiations for resolution by the Assembly and **URGES** Member States to conduct further national consultations on the outstanding rules of origin with emphasis on the conclusion of all the outstanding rules in by October 2025.
23. **APPROVES** Appendix IV on Rules of Origin of the version that has been transposed to HS2022 nomenclature.
24. **APPROVES** the Review Mechanism for Annex 2 and Appendix IV on Rules of Origin.
25. **APPROVES** the extension of the deadline by an additional three years for headings and subheadings with a mandatory review in 2024 with an automatic change in rule following an objective review.
26. **APPROVES** the rule for HS 2301 and 2309.
27. **APPROVES** the Guidelines for the implementation of Annex 9 to the Protocol on Trade in Goods on Trade Remedies.
28. **DIRECTS** the Council of Ministers to develop programmes to increase the visibility and uptake of the AfCFTA Mobile Reporting Application by the private sector.
29. **DIRECTS** the Council of Ministers to prioritize the finalisation of the AfCFTA Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA).
30. **TAKES NOTE** of the development and progress made on the negotiations of the draft regulations for the implementation of the Protocol to the Agreement establishing the AfCFTA on Competition Policy and **DIRECTS** the Council of Ministers to conclude the regulations and submit them for adoption at the next Ordinary Session.
31. **RECALLS** Assembly Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.902(XXXVII) adopted in February 2024 on the establishment of the Assembly Sub-Committee on the AfCFTA, and appoint H.E. President William Ruto of Kenya as its chairperson and **REQUESTS** the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps to operationalize the Sub-Committee, which shall be composed of ten Heads of State, with two representatives per region, and shall report directly to the Assembly.

32. **APPROVES** the recommendation of the Council of Ministers to reassign the Divisions of Digital Trade, Investment and Intellectual Property Rights, within the approved budget and structure of the AfCFTA Secretariat, in order to enhance operational efficiency of the AfCFTA Secretariat.

33. **REQUESTS** the Champion of the AfCFTA, H.E. Mahamadou Issoufou, to submit a progress report on the status of implementation of the AfCFTA to the 7th Mid-Year Coordination Meeting in July 2025.

**DECISION ON
THE AFRICAN UNION THEME OF THE YEAR 2026
“ASSURING SUSTAINABLE WATER AVAILABILITY AND SAFE SANITATION
SYSTEMS TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS OF AGENDA 2063”**

The Assembly,

1. **RECALLS** Decision EX.CL/Dec.1234(XLIV) approving the proposal to adopt “*Assuring Sustainable Water Availability and Safe Sanitation Systems to Achieve the Goals of Agenda 2063*” as the AU Theme of the year 2026.
2. **FURTHER RECALLS** Decision EX.CL/Dec.1234(XLIV) urging the Commission to develop an Africa Policy on Water that provide a strategic framework towards inclusive and climate resilient water security in the continent beyond 2025.
3. **WELCOMES** the concept note together with the action framework and **ADOPTS** “*Assuring Sustainable Water Availability and Safe Sanitation Systems to Achieve the Goals of Agenda 2063*” as the AU Theme for 2026 to strengthen water security towards attainment of Africa’s aspirations to expand economic opportunities; and curtail the factors underlying unemployment, migration, displacement and insecurity.
4. **UNDERLINES** that the AU Theme for 2026 compliments other continental flagship initiatives to motivate action to achieve the AU Agenda 2063 goal of “*Environmentally sustainable and climate resilient economies and communities*”.
5. **TAKES NOTE** of the opportunity offered for vertical linkages between the action framework for the AU Theme for 2026 and the United Nations Water Conference of 2026 to speed up the implementation of SDG 6, clean water, and sanitation. Tapping into that opportunity will put Africa’s common position for the UN 2026 Water Conference at the centre-stage of global discussions on what needs to be done to add new impetus to the pursuit of Africa’s commitments on water and sanitation.
6. **DIRECTS** the African Ministers Council on Water Secretariat and the Commission support implementation and monitoring of the action framework, ensuring synergy and vertical alignment in the action plans for both the theme of the AU Theme for 2026 and the UN 2026 Water Conference.
7. **REQUESTS** Member States and relevant AU Organs, RECs, Institutions, Permanent Representations, Specialised Technical Offices and the African Development Bank to support implementation of the action framework of the theme at all levels.

**DECISION ON
THE PROGRESS REPORT BY TOGO AND THE COMMISSION ON THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISION ASSEMBLY/AU/DEC/848(XXXVI) ON THE
ORGANIZATION OF THE 9TH PAN-AFRICAN CONGRESS**

The Assembly,

1. **RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.807(XXXIV), adopted at the Thirty-fourth (34th) Ordinary Session of the Assembly, held on 6 and 7 February 2021, declaring the decade 2021-2031 as the “**Decade of African Roots and the African Diaspora**”;
2. **FURTHER RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.848 (XXXVI) adopted at the 36th Ordinary Session of the Assembly, held on 18 and 19 February 2023, approving the proposal of the Togolese Republic to organize, in 2024, the 9th Pan-African Congress under the theme: “**Renewal of Pan-Africanism and the role of Africa in the reform of multilateral institutions: mobilizing resources and reinventing ourselves to act**”, as part of the activities of the “**2021-2031 Decade of African Roots and the African Diaspora**”;
3. **TAKES NOTE** of the progress report of Togo and the Commission on the implementation of Decision Assembly/AU/Dec. 848 (XXXVI);
4. **WELCOMES** the successful organization of the regional preparatory conferences for the 9th Pan-African Congress, initially scheduled to be held in 2024 in Lomé, Togo;
5. **CONGRATULATES** the Togolese Republic, the Commission, the High Committee and the host countries for the work carried out within the framework of the regional conferences, held in the regions of the Continent, including the Diaspora, as a prelude to the organization of the 9th Pan-African Congress in Lomé, Togo;
6. **TAKES NOTE** of the request to postpone the holding of the 9th Pan-African Congress;
7. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** of the proposal of the Togolese Republic and the Commission to organize the 9th Pan-African Congress in 2025 with the participation of all Member States and representatives of the Diaspora;
8. **DECIDES** that the 9th Pan-African Congress will be held in 2025 in the Togolese Republic under the same theme: “**Renewal of Pan-Africanism and the role of Africa in the reform of multilateral institutions: mobilizing resources and reinventing ourselves to act**”;

9. **REQUESTS** the Commission and the Togolese Republic to continue their collaboration to ensure the smooth running of the preparation, organization and success of the 9th Pan-African Congress;
10. **REQUESTS** the Commission to provide support for the organization of the 9th Pan-African Congress;
11. **REQUESTS** Member States, AU partners, and diaspora and Afro-descendant communities around the world to support the organization of the 9th Pan-African Congress and its smooth running;
12. **REQUESTS** the Togolese Republic and the Commission to report to the Assembly in 2026 on the outcomes of the 9th Pan-African Congress;
13. **DECIDES** to remain seized on the matter.

**DECISION ON
THE ELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIRPERSON AND DEPUTY
CHAIRPERSON OF THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Reports of the Commission on the Election and Appointment of the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission respectively;
2. **ELECTS** and **APPOINTS** the following for a term of four (4) years:

No.	NAME	GENDER	COUNTRY	REGION	PORTFOLIO
1	H.E Mahmoud Ali Youssouf	Male	Djibouti	Eastern	Chairperson
2	H.E Ambassador Salma Malika Haddadi	Female	Algeria	Northern	Deputy Chairperson

3. **CONGRATULATES** the newly elected Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson, wishes them the very best in discharging their mandates, and **ASSURES** them of the unwavering support of the Assembly.

**ELECTION OF THE BUREAU OF
THE ASSEMBLY OF THE AFRICAN UNION FOR 2025**

The Assembly,

1. ELECTS the Bureau of the Assembly of the Union for 2025, as follows:

- i) Chairperson: Republic of Angola
- ii) 1st Vice-Chairperson: Republic of Burundi
- iii) 2nd Vice-Chairperson: Republic of Ghana
- iv) 3rd Vice-Chairperson: United Republic of Tanzania
- v) Rapporteur: Islamic Republic of Mauritania

**DECISION ON
THE REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
(PSC) AND THE STATE OF PEACE AND SECURITY IN AFRICA –
Doc. ASSEMBLY/AU/3 (XXXVIII)**

The Assembly;

1. **COMMENDS** the Peace and Security Council (PSC) for its continued efforts in addressing peace and security challenges facing the Continent and **ENCOURAGES** all Member States and partners to respect and support the implementation of the decisions of the PSC.

2. **REAFFIRMS** that the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework (PSCF) Agreement for the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and the Region, is a viable instrument for enabling the DRC and countries of the Region to achieve peace and stability; **REAFFIRMS** the continued commitment of the AU, as one of the guarantors of the Framework Agreement, to support the ongoing efforts to revitalize the Framework Agreement; **COMMENDS** the efforts of the Luanda Process, under the auspices of the Mediator, H.E. Joao Lourenco, President of the Republic of Angola; and the EAC-led Nairobi Process under the leadership of H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta, former President of the Republic of Kenya; **FULLY SUPPORTS** the efforts by the Armed Forces of the DRC (FADRC), with the support of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Mission in the DRC (SAMIDRC), not only to defend the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the DRC, but also to create a secure environment and to protect civilians towards contributing to the stability of eastern DRC, and also to create an environment conducive for the successful implementation of ongoing regional peace efforts; **EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** to H.E. Felix Tshisekedi, President of the Democratic Republic of Congo, and H.E. Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda, for their commitment towards the implementation of the Luanda Process; **EXPRESSES DEEP CONCERN OVER** the resurgence of attacks by M23, ADF and other armed groups against the FADRC; **CONDEMNS** the human rights violations and attacks perpetrated by these armed and terrorist groups against Internally Displaced Person (IDP) camps, schools and administrative infrastructure; **UNDERScores THE NEED** for enhanced coordination of efforts within the framework of the Quadripartite Initiative (EAC, SADC, ECCAS and ICGLR); **WELCOMES THE CALL** by the Heads of State of the EAC for a coordinated approach and consolidation of various initiatives on the resolution of the conflict in eastern DRC; **ENDORSES** the Communique of the Joint EAC-SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government convened on 8 February 2025 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania; the Communique of the Extraordinary Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) held on 31 January 2025; and the Communique of the 24th Extraordinary Summit of the East Africa Community Heads of State on the recent developments in the Eastern Democratic of the Congo held on 29 January 2025 and **URGES** the

parties to ensure the full implementation of these decisions; **REAFFIRMS THE NEED** for all parties to respect and implement all the decisions agreed upon at previous meetings of Heads of State, including the first Quadripartite meeting held in Luanda, in June 2023 and the meeting of 17 February 2023, held in Addis Ababa to address the situation in eastern DRC.

3. **CONDEMNS** the illegal exploitation of natural resources by armed and terrorist groups in eastern DRC and **APPEALS** to all concerned entities to stop this practice and to strengthen existing control mechanisms and **REQUESTS** the AU Commission and all partners to support the DRC in its new Disarmament Demobilization and Reintegration, and community recovery program; **ALSO CONDEMNS** foreign military support being provided to the M23 and any other group operating in eastern DRC and **DEMANDS** the immediate cessation of such support and the immediate unconditional withdrawal of any such uninvited external party/ies from the entire Congolese territory.
4. **ENCOURAGES** Member States to enhance cooperation in the fight against terrorism and armed groups in eastern DRC and Africa, in general, place emphasis in information sharing, in border surveillance, and by facilitating dialogue between border communities and **WELCOMES** the renewal on 20 May 2024, of the Agreement on Joint Operations between the Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF) and FARDC, code-named "Operation Shuja", in order to neutralize terrorist groups ADF and MTN operating in Lubelo and in part of the territory of Irumu; **CONGRATULATES** H.E. Felix Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo, President of the DRC, and H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda, for their commitment and dedicated efforts in the fight against terrorism between the two countries and **REQUESTS** the AU Commission and international partners to mobilize necessary support to the two countries in their joint efforts to end the activities of these terrorist groups (MTN and ADF), affiliated to the Islamic State in East Africa; **PAYS TRIBUTE** to the MONUSCO and SADC peacekeepers (Malawi, South Africa, and Tanzania) Burundi and Uganda who continue to fight armed and terrorist groups in eastern DRC; **WELCOMES** the establishment of the joint monitoring mechanism called "Reinforced Ad Hoc Verification Mechanism" to achieve lasting peace in the eastern DRC, encourage the parties to honor their commitments, and ensure its full implementation and **REQUESTS** the Commission to provide adequate support to the reinforced Ad Hoc Verification Mechanism and to deploy a liaison officer to Goma to coordinate the said support.
5. **COMMENDS** the Central African Republic (CAR) for the steady progress recorded in the peace and reconciliation process through accomplishments in the implementation of the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in the Central African Republic (PAPPR-CAR) and to encourage the Government and people of CAR to continue the efforts towards fully achieving the goals of the DDR; **CALLS ON** the AU Commission as the lead convener of the Peace Agreement to use all existing mechanisms by effectively convening the

reconciliation process and PAPPR-CAR implementation, by reconciling and uniting all actors for a concerted and coordinated approach in assisting CAR to achieve lasting peace; **WELCOMES** the UN Security Council's lifting of the arms embargo on CAR, in response to the 37th Assembly Decision's call for the complete lifting of the arms embargo to allow CAR to properly respond to its security challenges and promote national security; **SALUTES** MINUSCA and all troop/police contributing countries for their commitment in sustaining peace and stability, as well as protection of civilians in the CAR; **ALSO SALUTES** the CAR configuration of the UN Peacebuilding Commission in mobilizing international support to catalyze sustainable peace and socio-economic growth in the CAR; **CALLS UPON** the AU Commission to engage all Member States in a position to do so and development partners to mobilize resources to technically and financially assist the CAR in the organization of upcoming local and general elections which will be held in April and December 2025, respectively; and **ENCOURAGES** the CAR Government to continue engaging all political leaders in the country regarding the organization of the 2025 elections, in order to ensure inclusivity, including the participation of women and youth.

6. **COMMENDS** the signatories to the 2 November 2022 Agreement for Lasting Peace Through a permanent Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (COHA) Agreement for their strenuous efforts to permanently silence the guns in the Tigray region of Ethiopia, and promote national dialogue and reconciliation; **URGES** the AU High-Level Panel on the Ethiopian peace process, to continue to engage with the Parties, stakeholders, and strategic partners to render strong support for the COHA implementation process, particularly, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR), while facilitating political dialogue on the outstanding issues; **EXPRESSES SOLIDARITY** with the people of Ethiopia, and **ENCOURAGES** all stakeholders to embrace the national dialogue process as a vehicle to promote unity, peace, and national reconciliation; **WELCOMES** the establishment of the National Commission for Reintegration by the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and, in this regard, **REQUESTS** the AU High Representative for the Horn of Africa and members of the AU High-Level Panel to canvass the support of international partners and the African private sector to support the nationally led DDR and return of IDPs initiatives. The Assembly **COMMENDS** the AU Monitoring, Verification, and Compliance Mission (MVCM) deployed in the Tigray region since January 2023 for the commitment and high sense of duty by serving as a positive instrument of the Pretoria Agreement and welcomes the extension of the MVCM by the signatories to the Pretoria Agreement, **WHILE ENCOURAGING** the international community to scale up its support to the MVCM; and **COMMENDS** regional, international, and bilateral actors, particularly IGAD, UN, AfDB, USA, Norway, UK, Ireland, Denmark, Germany, and Japan, for supporting the implementation of the peace process in the Tigray region.
7. **WELCOMES** the progress made by the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) in the political and socio-economic fields, demonstrating a great leap towards

- post-conflict reconstruction and development for enduring peace and security; **URGES** political actors to collectively resolve peacefully the growing disputes between the FGS and Federal Member States (FMS), and engage in dialogue, cohesion, and reconciliation; **STRESSES THE IMPORTANCE** of further efforts to reconcile rival clans and prevent Al-Shabaab from exploiting community grievances; **EXPRESSES CONCERN** over the security situation and the recent surge in Al-Shabaab attacks on AU/UN camps and civilian targets, and underscore the necessity of avoiding any security vacuum during the transition period between ATMIS and African Union Support and Stabilization Mission in Somalia (AUSSOM); **APPEALS** to the international community for a continued commitment to adequately support Somalia's pace to peace, security, and stability, especially the implementation of the Somali Development Plan in building capacities of the Somali security forces (SSF), especially in terms of equipment, training, and logistics, to ensure a smooth exit of ATMIS;
8. **WELCOMES** UN Security Council Resolution 2767 (2024), endorsing AUSSOM, following the adoption, by the PSC, of the Strategic Concept of Operations (CONOPs) for the endorsed African Union Support and Stabilization Mission in Somalia (AUSSOM) at its communique [PSC/PR/COMM.1225(2024)] of 1 August 2024; **EMPHASIZES THE IMPERATIVE** of ensuring reliable, predictable, and sustainable funding of the AUSSOM; **STRESSES THE IMPORTANCE** of establishing a dedicated funding mechanism, through UN assessed contributions in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 2719 (2023) as the most suitable mechanism for providing adequate, predictable and sustainable funding in order to avoid the perennial financial challenges faced by previous missions; **WELCOMES** the UN Security Council Resolution 2767(2024), endorsing AUSSOM and **CALLS** for its implementation especially as it relates to the provision of funding using framework resolution 2719 (2023); **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to closely work with the UN Secretary-General in meeting the reporting obligation in paragraphs 43 and 44 of Resolution 2767 (2024) and urge the UN Security Council to provide the necessary confirmation to allow the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 2719 (2023) starting on 1 July 2025; **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to continue the engagements with the UN, EU, and other strategic partners and new donors, in order to ensure adequate, predictable and sustainable funding, and forms of support to AUSSOM and, in this regard, **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to draw up a roadmap in collaboration with the UN for resource mobilization to fill the funding gap of 25% in accordance with Resolution 2719 (2023), including the possibility of convening a pledging conference. The Assembly **COMMENDS** the Chairperson of the AU Commission and the UN Secretary-General for their endorsement of the Joint Roadmap to operationalize UNSCR 2719, starting with Somalia, and for the overall high-level commitment to finance AU peace support operations;
9. **TAKES NOTE, WITH APPRECIATION,** of the Member States which recently expressed interest in contributing troops to AUSSOM, namely: Burundi, Djibouti,

Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda; **REQUESTS** the Commission to urgently finalize the report on the responses, in consultation with the Federal Government of Somalia on the composition of the Mission; **WELCOMES** the agreement recently signed between Ethiopia and Somalia in Ankara, Türkiye on 11 December 2024, **COMMENDS** the Government of Türkiye and the AU Commission for the efforts deployed; **REITERATES** the AU unwavering commitment to respect the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of both countries in accordance with the AU Constitutive Act and International Law; and **REQUESTS** them to demonstrably take all necessary mutual trust and confidence-building measures towards ensuring the successful implementation of the agreement.

10. **STONGLY CONDEMNS** the continued unjustified devastating conflict in Sudan, which has resulted in loss of lives and destruction of property, including critical infrastructure, as well as massive displacement of populations; **REITERATES** to the Sudanese Parties that there is no viable military solution to the crisis and **DEMANDS** them to immediately and unconditionally stop the conflict, establish a permanent ceasefire and return to negotiation followed by an inclusive national dialogue and political transition, in order to alleviate the long suffering of the Sudanese people, and to preserve the unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Sudan, as well as to safeguard its national institutions; **STRONGLY CONDEMNS** the commission of atrocity crimes in violation of international humanitarian law and international human rights law; **ALSO CONDEMNS** in the strongest terms possible, external interference in the conflict by various actors and **DEMANDS** those fueling the conflict including by arming the belligerents, in violation of UN Security Council Resolution 1556 (2004), to cease doing so immediately; **REITERATES ITS CONCERN OVER** the proliferation of mediation and peace initiatives and coordinating bodies, and **ALSO REITERATES** the central role of the AU in close coordination with the IGAD and the neighboring countries and call for all stakeholders to work through the existing AU Expanded Mechanism and Core Group for the Resolution of the Crisis in Sudan; **ENCOURAGES** the PSC Ad-Hoc Presidential Committee on Sudan chaired by H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda, to help find a long-term solution to the conflict, based on the six (6) pillars of the AU Roadmap while prioritizing a cessation of hostilities deal, political dialogue, addressing the needs of neighboring countries while avoiding spillover; and ensuring humanitarian access; **COMMENDS** the AU High-Level Panel for Sudan, the IGAD Special Envoy for Sudan and the Special Representative of the Chairperson of the AU Commission for Sudan, for their collaborative and coordinated efforts aimed at resolving the conflict in Sudan, and **REQUESTS** the AU and IGAD to expedite the convening of the inclusive, Sudanese-led and owned political dialogue; **ALSO COMMENDS** the governments and people of the neighboring countries of Sudan for hosting the Sudanese refugees; **APPEALS** to the international donor partners to fulfil their pledges and disburse the funds in order to support the governments of the neighboring countries of Sudan and the UN agencies in their humanitarian efforts in Sudan.

11. **COMMENDS** H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit, President of the Republic of South Sudan and First Vice President, H.E. Dr. Riek Machar, and all South Sudanese parties for upholding the permanent ceasefire for the past six years; **ENCOURAGES** all stakeholders in South Sudan to continue to build on the current momentum in speedily implementing all outstanding provisions of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (R-ARCSS), particularly, security sector reform, including, the unification of forces, the conclusion of the permanent constitution, voters' registers, the question of refugees, returnees and IDPs, and the conduct of a population census that will pave the way for the organization of free, fair, and credible elections to mark the end of the transition; **TAKES NOTE** of the decision by the Government of the Republic of South Sudan to extend the transition period by two (2) years, thus effectively postponing the elections from December 2024 to December 2026; **ENCOURAGES** the Reconstituted Transitional Government of National Unity (R-TGoNU) to find durable solutions for inter-communal violence, and in this context, **URGES** the responsible authorities in all parts of the country affected by inter-communal violence to holistically address the root causes, including through DDR programmes and stockpile management of small arms and light weapons, with a view to promoting durable peace and security in these areas; **APPEALS** to AU Member States, in a position to do so, and the larger international community, to continue to provide all necessary support towards the full implementation of the R-ARCSS; **COMMENDS** the Government and People of South Sudan for hosting Sudanese refugees and South Sudanese returnees fleeing the conflict in Sudan and **APPEALS** to the international donor partners to provide funding and necessary support to relief agencies so as to enable them to effectively provide humanitarian assistance to the population in need; **WELCOMES** the efforts by the Ad hoc High-Level Committee of Five (C5) on South Sudan, and **ENCOURAGES** the C5 to continue with its engagements on South Sudan; **REITERATES THE APPEAL** to the UN to urgently lift the arms embargo and other sanctions imposed on South Sudan as well international partners to lift all punitive measures imposed on the country, in order to facilitate the successful implementation of the outstanding aspects of the R-ARCSS.

12. **WELCOMES** the signing of the Peace and National Reconciliation Charter of Libya on 14 February 2025 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, as a significant development aimed at promoting peace, stability, and reconciliation in Libya and **CALLS UPON** all the other parties to consider joining consensus with the view to signing the Charter as soon as possible in the greater interest of sustainable peace and stability of the country; and **COMMENDS** the efforts of the Presidential Council to enhance stability and compliance of the ceasefire declaration for more than four years and **ENCOURAGES** all parties to actively participate in the political process **ALSO COMMENDS** the effective role of the Joint Military Commission (5+5) and **CALLS UPON** the AU Member States, the AU Commission, UN and the International Community for support to be extended to the JMC for its ongoing efforts to unify the military institution.

13. **APPRECIATES** the tireless efforts of the AU High-Level Committee for Libya for its efforts and **CALLS** for the intensification of its support towards the intra-Libyan National Reconciliation of all stakeholders, with the active and close support of Libya's direct neighboring countries and other key countries of the northern region that have a critical role to play in the stability of the country and its sustainable peace; **COMMENDS**, in particular, H.E President Denis Sassou Nguesso, Chair of the AU High-Level Committee for Libya for his leadership and dedication towards Libya's peace and national reconciliation; **ALSO COMMENDS** the mediation efforts by Jean-Claude Gakosso, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Congo, and Professor Mohamed Al Hacem Ould Lebatt, Chief of Staff to the Chairperson of the Commission, for their efforts in supporting the Libyan reconciliation process under the auspices of the High-Level Committee for Libya. The Assembly **REITERATES** that the Skhirat Agreement of 17 December 2015, resulting from the process of reconciliation between the Libyan parties, under the auspices of the UN, remains a credible basis and framework for a lasting political solution for the Libyan crisis; and **WELCOMES**, the significant progress made in preparation for the conduct of the electoral process in Libya during the meeting of the Joint Commission between the House of Representatives and the High Council of State, held in Bouznika, Morocco, in December 2024, which resolved disagreements and formulated the laws governing the upcoming presidential and parliamentary elections in Libya.
14. **COMMENDS** the Government of Mozambique, for the efforts made in addressing the security challenges in Cabo Delgado with the support of Southern African Development Community Mission in Mozambique (SAMIM) and other bilateral partners; **REQUESTS** the Commission to continue providing the necessary support to the Government of Mozambique to address the humanitarian and security situation in Cabo Delgado; **ENCOURAGES** the Government of Mozambique to continue to consolidate the gains made thus far, as well as to take all necessary steps to effectively restore State authority in all areas recaptured from the terrorists, including through the adoption of "a whole of society and a whole of government" approach in addressing the fundamental root causes and drivers of terrorism, restoration of basic public services, investments in conducive peace building activities and reconciliation, with a view to more effectively preventing a relapse and the creation of a security vacuum; **UNDERLINES THE NEED** to redouble effort to promote counter narratives, de-radicalization and reintegration programmes that are needed for citizens who were involved in terrorism and to create conditions such as amnesty for those defecting from terrorism and voluntarily surrender, as well as to avoid stigmatization from their communities; **APPEALS** to the international community to redouble its efforts in supporting the peace efforts by Mozambique and SADC; **ALSO COMMENDS** the Government of Mozambique for the conduct of elections in October 2024; **ENCOURAGES** the Government to work with SADC and AU, towards the promotion of dialogue for a peaceful resolution of the post-

election crisis, and to take necessary measures to avoid further escalation of the situation;

15. **REQUESTS** the Commission to scale up its support to the countries in political transition in the region to ensure their swift return to constitutional democratic order and re-emphasize the imperative for Member States to strengthen regional cooperation with the countries in the Sahel, in the areas of intelligence sharing, collective border security mechanisms, and counterterrorism efforts, especially within the ambit of the Nouakchott Process and the Multinational Joint Task Force against the Boko Haram (MNJTF) Initiative; **CALLS ON** the transitional authorities to place the supreme interests of their respective countries and their people above all else, and to ensure the strict implementation of their respective transitional roadmaps, within the agreed timelines, and to operationalize the joint transition monitoring committees in the respective countries as well as to ensure inclusive and transparent transition processes; and **ENCOURAGES** the countries in the Sahel to address the root causes of conflict that may include grievances related to governance, marginalization, and socio-economic inequalities, as this could assist in attaining major milestones in the promotion of democratic governance, respect for human rights, and the rule of law.
16. **COMMENDS** the Member States of the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) for their unwavering support to the MNJTF; **CALLS** on the AU, through the Peace Fund, as well as Member States and the UN to support the ongoing efforts aimed at providing support to the resettlement of IDPs and returnees, as well as the reintegration of the surrendering Boko Haram fighters; **REQUESTS** the Commission and international partners to scale up the provision of adequate, predictable and sustainable funding to support MNJTF, and the provision of adequate force multipliers and enablers, including from the ASF Continental Logistics Base, to enable the Force to effectively continue its operations against the Boko Haram; **ALSO REQUESTS** the AU Commission and Partners to revive the implementation of the Regional Stabilization Strategy for the communities affected by the terrorist activities of Boko Haram.
17. **ENCOURAGES** bilateral and international partners, as well as the AU Commission to continue providing humanitarian relief support to State institutions operating in the Sahel in a timely and impartial manner, reaching the most vulnerable populations.
18. **CONGRATULATES** all Member States that successfully conducted democratic elections during the year 2024, highlighting the specific smooth transfer of power in Botswana, Ghana, Mauritius and Senegal, and the formation of the Government of National Unity in South Africa; **COMMENDS** all Member States for making fervent efforts towards consolidating democratic governance and the peace dividends, in the spirit of realizing Agenda 2063 and respecting the African Charter on Democracy, Elections, and Governance; **ENCOURAGES** all Member States to continue to strengthen institutional mechanisms that will enhance

women and youth participation in national political and electoral processes and also to continue to further strengthen the institutional capacities of national election management bodies and the judiciary, including through provision of adequate financial and human resources in order to enable them to more effectively discharge their mandate; **ALSO ENCOURAGES** Member States to address the issue of voter apathy by encouraging election management bodies to embark on sensitization and civic education programmes during electoral processes to ensure high voter turnout and in the same context, **ENCOURAGES** civil society organizations and the media to play a positive role by contributing towards the successful organization of elections in Member States, including through related civic education and objective reporting; **FURTHER ENCOURAGES** Member States to continue to promote and strengthen democracy, prioritise dialogue between and among political actors, adopt election code of conduct and to utilize existing legal channels for addressing any election related disputes; and **ENCOURAGES** Member States to consistently invite the African Union to observe their national elections and prioritize the timely facilitation of the deployment of such Missions.

19. **COMMENDS** the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco for its continued support to the training of election observers, for the third time in a row; **REQUESTS** the AU Commission to organize the 4th edition of the specialized training, with a view to ensuring its continuity and to further reinforce the professional conduct of the AU Election Observer Missions (AUEOMs); **ENCOURAGES** Member States to support the Commission in the training and deployment of observers including through voluntary contributions to the budget for elections and in this respect, acknowledges the voluntary contribution of US\$ 1 million dollars by the Government of the Republic of Niger, in 2023, which was used as the budget for AUEOMs deployment in 2024 and **ENCOURAGES** all other Member States to emulate Niger's example.
20. **COMMENDS** Member States that have put in place the relevant legislative frameworks for the implementation of their transitional justice processes and **ENCOURAGES THEM** to address the fundamental root causes of conflict, including through the promotion of the culture of peace, tolerance of diversity, the fight against hate speech, inclusivity, national unity, dialogue and reconciliation, in order to guarantee enduring peace and stability.
21. **CONGRATULATES** the Kingdom of Morocco, as an African country, for assuming the Presidency of the United Nations Human Rights Council, in Geneva.
22. **ENCOURAGES** Member States to ratify the African Charter on the Values and Principles of Public Service and Administration, and the African Charter on the Values and Principles of Local Governance and Local Development, in order to promote effective service delivery and enhance efforts towards combatting corruption.

23. **CALLS** for the development of a continental strategy to address the issue of non-state armed and terrorist groups in Africa and **REQUESTS** the Commission, UN and other partners to continue to provide necessary support to Member States in their national DDR programmes.
24. **COMMENDS** Member States for their demining efforts and **ENCOURAGES** the AU Commission to explore modalities for establishing a Centre of Excellence to provide technical support and mobilize funding to support contaminated Member States in their mine action efforts, taking into account the moratorium on the creation of new AU Organs.
25. **DIRECTS** the Commission, working with the RECs/RMs, and in collaboration with the UN and relevant international partners, to scale up support for Member States to fight the illicit proliferation, trafficking, circulation of SALW to deny terrorists, armed groups and criminals, the tools of violence.
26. **CALLS** for enhanced efforts to further strengthen continental initiatives on maritime security.
27. **COMMENDS** the PRC Sub-Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Governance for its work and **ENCOURAGES** the Sub-Committee to continue to enhance efforts towards the promotion of democracy, accountability, good governance, rule of law and human rights.
28. **COMMENDS** the Members of the AU Panel of the Wise for their immense contributions to political stabilization initiatives in Member States currently undergoing political transitions; **ENCOURAGES** the Panel to sustain the lines of communication, fostering trust and confidence between these countries, the AU, and RECs/RMs to ensure cohesive and coordinated support during complex transitions; **REQUESTS** the Panel to further strengthen and expand its collaboration with Regional bodies with similar mandate, including the ECCAS Committee of Elders, the SADC Panel of Elders, the ECOWAS Council of the Wise, and the COMESA Committee of Elders, through the PanWise Network, and other similar entities, including the Forum of Former African Heads of State and Government (Africa Forum) and the West African Elders Forum (WAEF), to jointly develop cohesive strategies and initiatives aimed at effectively addressing common challenges and advancing peace, security, and sustainable governance across the Continent; **REAFFIRMS** its continued support to the Panel in discharging its mandate particularly as it relates to conflict prevention, management, and resolution; **DIRECTS** the Commission to develop and implement streamlined standard operating procedures for the swift deployment of the Panel of the Wise and other High Representatives and Special Envoys to areas experiencing crises.

29. **WELCOMES** the progress made in the decentralization process for the FemWise-Africa Network; **ENCOURAGES** Member States and RECs/RMs to accelerate their efforts to establish national and regional chapters to strengthen the meaningful role of women in preventive diplomacy, mediation, and peace processes at all levels; and **ALSO ENCOURAGES** Member States, RECs/RMs, and the Commission to allocate sufficient resources for the deployment of women mediators and peacebuilders to bridge the gap between early warning and early response, by engaging in peace efforts at grassroots, national, regional and continental levels.
30. **WELCOMES** the selection of the 20-member first Cohort of the WiseYouth Network; **COMMENDS** the Commission for mainstreaming youth in preventive diplomacy and mediation in the continent and **CALLS UPON** Member States and RECs/RMs to promote the utilization of the WiseYouth Network in conflict prevention and resolution at national, regional, and continental levels, toward enhancing youth sensitive-and-inclusive peace processes.
31. **ENCOURAGES** Member States to adopt a unified approach in prioritizing regional cooperation, technological innovation, and humanitarian considerations to safeguard peace, security, and development across the continent; **ENDORSES** the Declaration of the High-Level African Counterterrorism meeting, held from 22 to 23 April 2024, in Abuja, Nigeria under the theme; “Strengthening Regional Cooperation and Institution Building to Address the Evolving Threat of Terrorism in Africa” and **WELCOMES** the decision to upgrade the Nigerian National Counterterrorism Centre in Abuja, to a Regional Counterterrorism Centre.
32. **COMMENDS** the Commission for its continued efforts to mainstream the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) Agenda across the continent; **ENCOURAGES** all Member States that have not yet done so, to adopt National Action Plans (NAPs) for the full implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325, as well as to consider allocating sufficient and context-specific budgetary resources to ensure the effective and sustainable implementation of the WPS Agenda at the national level.
33. **COMMENDS** the progress made and encourage accelerating the integration of child protection into all AU early warning and response systems to ensure comprehensive coverage across Member States; **CONDEMNS IN STRONGEST TERMS POSSIBLE**, the continued killing, recruitment and use of children on the Continent by all belligerents to a conflict, particularly, non-state armed groups and terrorist organizations, for either direct or indirect participation in hostilities or any other purposes; **REQUESTS** the AU Commission to develop a best practices document of reference to prevent and end the recruitment and use of child soldiers by armed groups; **ENCOURAGES** Member States to implement national policies that align with AU directives on child protection in conflict situations; **EMPHASIZES THE NEED** for mainstreaming child protection into disarmament,

demobilization and reintegration processes to establish an environment that prioritizes children's needs and ensures equal access to such program; **ENCOURAGES** Member States to provide psychosocial and post-trauma support to children and educators affected by conflict, including by integrating health services in education programmes and implementing targeted measures to ensure the safety of children such as safe school routes and safe learning environments. **REITERATES THE URGENT NEED** for the Chairperson of the Commission to appoint a Special Envoy for Children in Conflict Situations in line with its former decision;

34. **ENCOURAGES** Member States to continue strengthening the protection of refugee and IDP camps, and to continue to take additional measures to protect them from any exploitation by armed and terrorist groups; **REQUESTS** the Commission to develop systems for the collection, analysis and management of data and statistics related to refugees, returnees and IDPs for their registration, in order to improve decision making and ensure effective humanitarian action on the Continent; **REQUESTS** in particular, the Political Affairs Peace and Security Department, to develop an exhaustive list of leaders of armed and terrorist groups in Africa guilty of crimes against refugees and internally displaced persons and for the prosecution of those who perpetrate, encourage, finance, or facilitate such crimes.
35. **CONGRATULATES** the 3rd Cohort of the African Youth Ambassadors for Peace (AYAPs) for kickstarting a 2-year non-renewable mandate as advocates for the Youth, Peace, and Security agenda in their respective regions as well as the creation of the Youth for Peace Roster of Experts to provide technical support to the YPS agenda; **COMMENDS** the AU Champion on YPS, H.E Evariste Ndayishimiye, President of the Republic of Burundi, for convening the 3rd Annual Continental Dialogue on Youth, Peace, and Security; **ALSO COMMENDS** Member States for their steadfast and intentional support towards the YPS agenda in the continent especially in the development of National Action Plans (NAPS) and **ENCOURAGES** them to consider allocating sufficient resources for the implementation of NAPs on youth peace and security in line with their national policies, to increase the active engagement and sustainability of the YPS agenda at the National, regional, and continental levels; **TAKES NOTE** of the development of the Draft Continental Guideline on the Development and Implementation of NAPS on YPS; **REQUESTS** the AU Commission to expedite the process for their validation and adoption by the Peace and Security Council following the due process, and within the next three months, with a view to their submission to the 39th Ordinary Session of the Assembly and **ENCOURAGES** Member States to continue to promote the effective participation of the youth through concrete continental action by leveraging specialized agencies and organs on youth matters such as the Pan-African Youth Union.
36. **REQUESTS** the Commission to finalize the consultations with Member States, RECs/RMs, African Institutions, and partners on the Common African Position on

Climate, Peace, and Security; **COMMENDS** the Commission for its strategic lead in the process of developing the first-ever continental Common African Position on climate Change, Peace and Security, globally, and **STRESSES THE IMPORTANCE** of ensuring Africa's access to Climate Finance through concessional instruments, including, grants, guarantees and non-debt instruments and the need for early warning mechanisms to honour international funding commitments to support African countries' mitigation and adaptation efforts as key tools for peacebuilding and social cohesion.

37. **CONGRATULATES** H.E. Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt and AU Champion for Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development, for his continued leadership; **ENCOURAGES** Member States to support the work of the PCRD Centre in Cairo; **TAKES NOTE** of the progress made by the Commission in the implementation of PCRD activities across the Continent and encourage the Commission to continue the implementation of the Revised AU PCRD Policy Framework to provide the necessary support to all Member States, particularly, those in political transition and those emerging from violent conflict; **URGES** the Commission and RECs/RMs to tailor support to Member States in holistically addressing the underlying structural root causes, drivers and enablers of violent conflict in Africa while stressing the importance of State building and the development of strong resilient State institutions as critical foundation for sustainable peace and development in Africa. The Assembly **ALSO URGES** the Commission to expedite the operationalization of the AU Humanitarian Agency in order to enhance Africa's capacity to address humanitarian crises and to promote resilience by ensuring coordinated and comprehensive responses to humanitarian challenges that support long-term peace, stability and sustainable development across the Continent; **CALLS ON** the Commission, UN and other partners to continue supporting the activities of the AU PCRD Centre in its efforts in promoting post-conflict reconstruction and peacebuilding efforts in the Continent and **ACKNOWLEDGES** the important contribution of all relevant stakeholders, including civil society organizations, private sector, and local communities, in advancing the work on post-conflict reconstruction and development, particularly in countries undergoing political transitions and those in post-conflict situations, with the aim of effectively building and consolidating peace in Africa.
38. **COMMENDS** the Commission, Member States, and the RECs/RMs for continued commitment to the enhancement of the African Standby Force (ASF), **ENDORSES** the adoption of the AU Training Policy for Peace Support Operations, the AU Strategic Lift Concept, and the Guidelines for Case Management in Peace Support Operations; **REQUESTS** the AU Commission to expedite and extend the process of consultations on the strategic review of the ASF to include the PSC, Member States, all RECs/RMs and African Centers of Excellence accredited by the AU, and to accelerate the process of the development of a comprehensive and inclusive roadmap for the extensive review of the ASF, and to submit the Report of the extensive review to the 17th Session

- of the STCDSS; **ENCOURAGES** Member States to commit to providing strategic air, land and maritime lift capabilities as part of the operationalization of the ASF, as well as humanitarian and relief missions in the event of disasters.
39. **COMMENDS** the Executive Council, the Chairperson of the Commission, the PSC, PRC, F-15, the Chairperson of the PRC Sub-Committee (GSCBFAM), Board of Trustees and EMC for steps taken to operationalize the Peace Fund and call on the Peace Fund Secretariat to accelerate initiatives to mobilize more resources, particularly from the private sector and development partners to the Peace Fund; **ALSO COMMENDS** the direct contributions of the AU through the disbursements to the EAC, ATMIS and Ethiopia as pioneer beneficiaries of the Fund, and as a testament of the Union's commitment towards contributing to its peace enforcement, stabilization, recovery and DDR activities; **FURTHER COMMENDS** the 2024 allocation from the CRF for the Support to South Sudan transition process, support to the Sudan Peace Process/Political Dialogue, Support to SADC Mission in Eastern DRC (SAMIDRC), For the reinforcement of the Lake Chad Basin Stabilization through the MNJTF (Benin, Cameroon, Chad, Niger, Nigeria), Support to Libya – National Reconciliation, Dialogue and Stabilization Initiatives, Support to stabilization efforts as part of Niger's Transition, Burkina Faso for Capacity support to Counter Terrorism, Support to stabilization efforts as part of Mali's Counter Terrorism initiatives and Support to Mozambique for Strengthening Counterterrorism Initiatives towards Stabilization in Cabo Delgado.
40. **TAKES NOTE** of the steady progress in the implementation of the AU Border Program; and call upon Member States, who have not yet done so, to accelerate the delimitation and demarcation of their borders, adopt national border governance policies in line with the AU Strategy on Better Integrated Border Governance, and reinforce the institutional capacities of the national structures responsible for border governance; **COMMENDS** Member States that have signed and ratified the African Union Convention on Cross-Border Cooperation, which will significantly foster the transformation of borders into catalysts of integration and sustainable development; **ENCOURAGES** those Member States which have not yet done so, to also consider doing the same; while pursuing the implementation of the AU Border Programme, **REQUESTS** the Commission and the RECs/RMs to reinforce coordination to enable joint interventions, in order to be more impactful in cross-border spaces; and **CONGRATULATES** the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire for successfully co-hosting the 2nd Abidjan Border Forum with the Commission and endorse the institutionalization of the Forum as a continental platform for border stakeholders, to be convened every two years, and co-hosted by the Government of Cote d'Ivoire and the AU Commission.
41. **ENDORSES** the Conclusions of the Ministerial High-Level Seminar on the AU PSC on the theme: Commemorating 20 years of the PSC by taking Stock of Women's Participation and Leadership in Peace Processes in Africa, "Swakopmund Process" held on 23 March 2024 in Swakopmund, Namibia; the

Dar es Salaam Declaration on the 20th Anniversary of the Peace And Security Council of the African Union adopted on 25 May 2024 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania; the Conclusions of the 16th Annual Retreat of the PSC on the Review of its Working Methods held on 5 -7 November 2024 in Djibouti; and the Conclusions of the 11th High-Level Seminar on Peace and Security in Africa, the Oran Process held in Algiers, Algeria on 1 - 2 December 2024; and **EMPHASIZES THE IMPORTANCE** of ensuring the implementation of these Conclusions in their letter and spirit;

42. **COMMENDS** the efforts being exerted by the African Members of the United Nations Security Council plus (A3 plus) in effectively articulating, promoting, and defending African common positions and interests within the UN Security Council; **PAYS TRIBUTE** to Mozambique, for its exemplary representation of Africa within the Security Council during its tenure; **CONGRATULATES** Somalia on its election into the Security Council for a two-year term and **LOOKS FORWARD** to the enhanced cooperation and contribution of Algeria, Sierra Leone and Somalia, as well as Guyana as the plus, in effectively articulating, promoting and defending African common positions and interests in the UNSC;
43. **COMMENDS** the AU Commission for its efforts at enhancing knowledge management and institutional learning and **ENCOURAGES** continued investment in capacity-building to strengthen institutional effectiveness and coordination across the continent.
44. **UNDERScores** the efforts of the AU Champion on Counter-Terrorism and violent extremism, President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, H.E. Mr. Abdelmadjid Tebboune, in advancing AU agenda of combating terrorism and violent extremism, and **CALLS** for an accelerated implementation of its concrete proposals in this direction;
45. **NOTES** with satisfaction the efforts of the A3+ for the preservation of Africa's interests at the UN Security Council and **WELCOMES** in this regard the adoption by the UN Security Council of Algeria's guidelines on the fight against the financing of terrorism;
46. **RECOGNIZES** the efforts of the AU Centre for Counter-Terrorism (formerly CAERT) in strengthening the institutional capacities of Member States in their fight against terrorism and violent extremism and **DIRECTS** the Commission to provide this AU Centre with the necessary human and material resources to enable it to fully carry out its missions.

DECISION
ON THE BIENNAL REPORT OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL (PSC) ON
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AU MASTER ROADMAP OF PRACTICAL STEPS
TO SILENCING THE GUNS IN AFRICA, 2023-2024
Doc. Assembly/AU/4(XXXVIII)

The Assembly,

1. **ADOPTS** the Seventh Report of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU) on the Implementation of the African Union Master Roadmap of Practical Steps for Silencing the Guns in Africa by the Year 2030;
2. **RECALLS** the Organization of African Unity/African Union (OAU/AU) 50th Anniversary Solemn Declaration adopted on 25 May 2013, in Addis Ababa, in which the Assembly of the Union pledged not to bequeath the burden of wars to the next generation of Africans and undertook to end all wars in Africa by the year 2020; and Decision [Assembly/AU/Dec.630 (XXVIII)] adopted at its 28th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 30 – 31 January 2017, which endorsed, following submission by the PSC, the AU Master Roadmap of Practical Steps for Silencing the Guns in Africa by the Year 2020; **ALSO RECALLS** the Johannesburg Declaration [Ext/Assembly/AU/Decl.1(XIV)] and Decision [Ext/Assembly/AU/Dec.1(XIV)] adopted by the 14th Extraordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union on Silencing the Guns, held on 6 December 2020, in Johannesburg, South Africa, which extended the duration of the implementation of the AU Master Roadmap on Practical Steps to Silencing the Guns in Africa to the year 2030;
3. **COMMENDS** the PSC, all Member States and the RECs and RMs, the Commission; International Partners, Civil Society, the Private Sector and the Media for the invaluable contributions towards the implementation of the African Union (AU) Master Roadmap of Practical Steps for Silencing the Guns (AUMR) in Africa by 2030;
4. **COMMENDS** the efforts of the AU High Representative for Silencing the Guns, HE. Dr. Mohamed Ibn Chambas, and **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to ensure that the Office of the High Representative is sufficiently capacitated to enable it to more effectively discharge its mandate;
5. **CONDEMNS** the involvement of external state and non-state actors in African conflicts, as well as the illegal exploitation of natural (mineral) resources by armed and terrorist groups in Africa while encouraging Member States to strengthen cooperation and information sharing;
6. **REITERATES THE IMPORTANCE** of respecting the principles contained in the AU legal instruments, notably, the AU Constitutive Act, the Protocol Relating to the

Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the AU, including, the sovereignty of Member States; territorial integrity; national unity; non-interference in the internal affairs of Member States; non-aggression; peaceful resolution of conflicts;

7. **ALSO REITERATES THE CALL** for all warring parties, in Member States grappling with violent conflicts, to immediately and unconditionally stop all hostilities, establish permanent ceasefire and embrace genuine, inclusive dialogue and reconciliation as the only viable approach towards consensual and durable solutions;
8. Once again, **EMPHASIZES THE NEED** for enhanced cooperation between and among all actors involved in the implementation of the AUMR, including through intelligence and information sharing and joint operations, at bilateral, regional and Continental levels in order to more effectively combat the circulation of illicit small arms and light weapons towards effectively silencing the guns in the Continent;
9. **ENCOURAGES** Member States to comprehensively address the structural root causes and drivers of violent conflict and instability guided by the peace, security and development nexus, including through deliberate socio-economic programs to empower the people, especially women and youth, in order to reorient the population away from the politics of identity to the politics of interest, **ALSO ENCOURAGES** Member States to adopt 'Whole of Government- Whole of Society' inclusive approaches, based on the nexus between peace, security and development, as reflected in the Tangier Declaration, and to regularly report to the AU Commission on their plans of actions and activities towards silencing the guns, focusing on the five dimensions of the AUMR for the purpose of promoting experience and lessons sharing, as well as to consider the recommendations of the 4th Edition of the Aswan Forum for Sustainable Peace and Development;
10. **UNDERScores THE NEED** for immediate and full implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 2719(2023), in order to guarantee funding for AU -led Peace Support Operations, as well as the need for exploring innovative means and ways of internal resource mobilization, including through engagements with the private sector and African (Continental) financial institutions;
11. **FURTHER ENCOURAGES** Member States to promote cooperation and to pursue the exploration of economic opportunities, in particular, trade facilitation and cross border infrastructure, to strengthen regional integration, necessary for the consolidation of peace and security on the Continent;
12. **ENCOURAGES** Member States to consolidate state authority and to establish effective state presence throughout their national territories and strengthen state institutions, with a view to avoiding a vacuum that can be exploited by criminal, armed and terrorist groups to cause economic, social and security instability;

13. **ALSO ENCOURAGES** Member States to strengthen enforcement capacities including but not limited to building strong and professional national armed forces which are equipped with the correct ideology of non-sectarianism and nationalism, in order to inter-alia, protect and defend the integrity of the State and defeat terrorism;
14. **STRESSES THE NEED** for Member States to develop mechanisms, including at regional level, for dealing with the sources of terrorism financing so as to curtail the activities of terrorist and armed groups, noting that without a sustainable source of funding, terrorist and armed groups would not be able to undertake their activities;
15. **UNDERScores THE IMPORTANCE** for Member States, RECs/RMs and the AU institutions, to scale up efforts in mainstreaming women and youth participation, as well as civil society organizations, as agents of change, at all levels in the implementation of the AUMR;
16. **CALLS ON** all Member States, RECs/RMs and other stakeholders to ensure effective implementation of all Assembly and PSC decisions on peace and security issues, while in particular, expediting the implementation of the Malabo Declaration on Terrorism and Unconstitutional Changes of Government adopted by the 16th Extraordinary Session of the Assembly held on 28 May 2022, in Malabo, in Equatorial Guinea;
17. **ENCOURAGES** Member States to implement the Declaration of the High-Level African Counterterrorism meeting, held from 22 to 23 April 2024, in Abuja, Nigeria under the theme; “Strengthening Regional Cooperation and Institution Building to Address the Evolving Threat of Terrorism in Africa”;
18. **TAKES NOTE** of the Conclusion of the 3rd Edition of the Pan-African Forum for the Culture of Peace and Non-Violence, Biennial of Luanda, held on 22 and 23 November 2023 under the theme: “ Education; Culture of Peace; Citizenship as Tools for the Development of the Continent”, and may wish to encourage the participation of Member States and RECs/RMs in the 4th Edition that will be held in 2025 under the theme: “Honoring the Past; Valuing Our Achievements; and Building the Africa We Want”, as an important tool within the framework of the implementation of the AU Master Roadmap of Practical Steps for Silencing the Guns in Africa by 2030;
19. **REITERATES THE NEED** for reinvigorating preventive diplomacy as an effective tool for conflict prevention, management and resolution and, in this regard, underlines the need for the utilization of all available tools, including the Good Offices of the Chairperson of the Commission, the Panel of the Wise, FEMWISE, Youth-Wise, Special Envoys, I-RECKE platform and NETT4Peace;
20. **INSTRUCTS** the Commission to convene a high-level reflection forum in 2025 (being five years since the extension of the implementation of the AU Master

Roadmap) to comprehensively assess and take stock of the progress made and challenges in the implementation of the AU Master Roadmap to Silence the Guns in Africa; while emphasizing that the platform will also provide an opportunity for Member States and other critical stakeholders to share experiences, lessons learnt and best practices in conflict resolution and the promotion of sustainable peace, security and development on the Continent; and

21. **REQUESTS** the Commission to develop a standardized reporting framework for Member States and other stakeholders by February 2026, in line with the Monitoring and Evaluation Matrix of the AUMR.

**DECISION ON
THE DRAFT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE AFRICAN
UNION AND THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES AND REGIONAL
MECHANISMS ON THE USE OF THE AFRICAN STANDBY FORCE –
Doc. Assembly/AU/6(XXXVIII)**

The Assembly,

1. **REAFFIRMS** the role of the African Stand-by Force as a crucial tool for the promotion of peace, security and stability in Africa, in line with the Constitutive Act of the African Union and the Protocol on the establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the AU;
2. **TAKES NOTE** of Decision EX.CL/Dec.1220(XLIII) of 20 July 2023 on the reports of the 15th and 16th ordinary meetings of the Specialized Technical Committee on Defence, Safety and Security (STCDSS) of May 2023 and June 2024 respectively, which recommended the adoption by the Assembly of the draft memorandum of understanding between the AU and the RECs/RMs on the utilization of the African Stand-by Force;
3. **RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.869(XXXVII) of February 2024, which postponed the consideration of the draft memorandum of understanding between the AU and the RECs/RMs on the utilization of the African Stand-by Force during the 38th Ordinary Session of the Assembly in February 2025;
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to accelerate and broaden the consultation process on the strategic consideration of the ASF to include the PSC, Member States, all RECs and RMs as well as the African Centres of Excellence accredited by the AU; and to accelerate the process for the formulation of a holistic and inclusive roadmap for the thorough consideration of the ASF and to submit the report on the same to the 17th session of the STCDSS and to the 39th Ordinary Session of the Assembly in February 2026; and
5. **RECALLS** the process underway to finalise the MoU and **UNDERLINES** the need to finalise it on the 39th Ordinary Session of the Assembly in February 2026.

**DECISION ON
THE REPORT ON THE PARTICIPATION OF AU ON G20 BY CHAIRPERSON OF
AFRICAN UNION, ASSISTED BY CHAIRPERSON AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION–
Doc. Assembly/AU/7 (XXXVIII)**

**Decision on Revised Modalities for Participation of the African Union in the G20
Ministerial and G20 Finance Track Meetings**

The Assembly,

RECALLING Decision Assembly/AU.Dec.845(XXXVI) providing that the current Chairperson of the AU assisted by the Chairperson of the Commission shall represent the AU in the G20 Leaders' Summits;

ALSO RECALLING Decision Assembly/AU.Dec.873 (XXXVII) on Modalities for Participation of the African Union in the G20 and Preliminary Priorities to be Pursued which provides for AU participation in Ministerial meetings that: the Chairperson of the Executive Council, assisted by the Chairperson of the Commission to represent the AU in the G20 Meetings of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs; the Chairpersons of the AU Specialized Technical Committees, assisted by the respective Commissioners, to lead AU Delegations to G20 sectoral Ministerial Meetings; and that the Chairperson of the STC on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration assisted by the Commissioner for Economic Development, Trade, Tourism, Industry and Minerals to represent the AU in the meetings of the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors;

FURTHER RECALLING Decision Assembly/AU.Dec.873 (XXXVII) on Modalities for Participation of the AU in the G20 and Preliminary Priorities to be Pursued which provides that the modalities will be reviewed after one year of participating in the G20;

1. **WELCOMES AND TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Chairperson on the Participation of the AU in the G20 in 2024 presented by His Excellency Mohamed Ould Cheikh El Ghazouani, President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and Chairperson of the AU during 2024;
2. **TAKES NOTE** of challenges in securing the participation of Chairpersons of STC in G20 meetings and the adverse impact it has on the articulation of African Union positions in those meetings;
3. **FURTHER TAKES NOTE** of the lack of an AU's voice in G20 discussions on monetary issues due to the fact that the African Central Bank is not yet established;

4. **FURTHER DECIDES** that the Chief Executive Officer of the African Monetary Institute shall, when it is operational, and pending with the establishment of the African Central Bank, be part of the AU delegations to the G20 Finance Track meetings.
5. **DECIDES** that the Report of the Chairperson on the Participation of the AU in the G20 should be a permanent feature under the agenda item on strategic reports;
6. **URGES** all Member States to develop and retain institutional memory on the G20;
7. **FURTHER URGES** all Member States to follow-up and implement the commitments of the Rio de Janeiro G20 Leaders' Declaration;
8. **CONGRATULATES** the African Development Bank and the African Export and Import Bank for honoring their pledges to provide financial resources in support the AU's participation in the G20, and **INVITES** other Pan-African Multilateral Financial Institutions to make similar contributions; and,
9. **COMMITTS** to fully support the South African G20 Presidency during 2025.

**DECISION ON
THE REPORT ON THE INSTITUTIONAL REFORM OF THE AFRICAN UNION BY
H.E. WILLIAM RUTO, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA –**

The Assembly,

MINDFUL of Article 9 (1) (a) of the Constitutive Act of the African Union on the powers and functions of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Union to determine policies of the African Union and the necessity of abiding by the Decisions of the Assembly;

RECALLING Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.635(XXVIII) of January 2017 and the establishment of the institutional reform process of the African Union (AU);

ALSO RECALLING Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.635(XXVIII) paragraph 5 (c) (i) on the political management of the Union: The African Union Assembly shall handle an agenda of not more than three strategic items at each Summit in line with the Mekelle Ministerial Retreat recommendations. Other appropriate business will be delegated to the Executive Council;

FURTHER RECALLING Decision Assembly/AU/Dec. 866(XXXVII) of February 2024, appointing H.E President William Samoei Ruto (PhD), President of the Republic of Kenya as the new AU Champion on Institutional Reform, and **TAKING NOTE** with satisfaction of the 2025 progress report on AU institutional reform.

EMPHASIZING the need to implement Decision EX.CL/Dec.893(XXVII) of June 2015 on the scale of assessment and implementation of alternative sources of financing the African Union and Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.605(XXVII) of June 2016 on the financing of the Union;

COMMENDS the Champion for his strong commitment and dedication in the conduct of the reform process and **DECIDES** as follows:

1. **TO ADOPT** the 2025 progress report on AU Institutional Reform presented by H.E. William Samoei Ruto, President of the Republic of Kenya, Champion on AU Institutional reform relating to the restructuring of the remaining AU organs, institutions, agencies and offices and the division of labour between the AU, Regional Economic Communities, Regional Mechanisms and Members States as well as the other reform issues contained therein;

A. On restructuring the remaining AU Organs, Institutions and Offices

2. **DIRECTS** the PRC, with the support of the AUC, to conclude its review of the restructuring process of the remaining AU Organs, institutions, and offices entities and **SUBMIT** a report to the Executive Council during its Session in July 2025.

B. On the division of Labour between the AU, RECs, RMs and Member States

3. **DIRECTS** the AUC, relevant AU stakeholders, RECs, RMs and Member States to expedite consideration of the Study on Division of Labour between the AU, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), and Member States and present recommendations at the Mid-Year Coordination Meeting (MYCM) in July 2025.

C. On the oversight of the AU Reforms:

4. **TO ESTABLISH** a Heads of State and Government oversight Ad Hoc Committee for the AU Reforms, under the leadership of the AU Reform Champion H.E. President Ruto of the Republic of Kenya. The Committee shall maintain political momentum, provide oversight and guidance and drive the implementation of the AU reform process. The Heads of State and Government oversight Ad Hoc Committee for the AU Reforms shall be made up of ten (10) members constituted as follows:

- a) Five Heads of State and Government, including the Champion on the AU Reforms, from the five regions ;
- b) The five (5) members of the Bureau of the Assembly.

5. **TO HOLD** a Special Summit on AU Reforms in July 2025. Before the holding of this summit the Commission shall undertake final consultations with the AU stakeholders and make concrete proposals to the Summit for the final phase of the Reforms

D. On the Agenda of the AU Summit:

6. **TO DIRECT** the Commission to submit concrete proposals in view of implementing Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.635 (XXVIII) 5(c) (i) which states that "the African Union shall handle an agenda of no more than three (3) strategic items at each Summit" and present an implementation strategy to the Heads of State and Government Oversight Committee for AU Reforms no later than June 2025.

E. On the categorization of Decisions

7. **TO DIRECT** the Commission to initiate, without further delays, the categorization of Assembly and Executive Council decisions as per Decision Assembly/AU/Dec. 687(XXX) of January 2018.

F. On Peace and Security:

NOTING WITH CONCERN the increasingly complex threats and challenges and rapidly evolving global and continental security landscape that has constrained the AU's current peace and security architecture.

UNDERSCORING that peace and security is a critical precondition for continental integration and development.

8. **AUTHORIZES** the Chairperson of the AU Commission in consultation with the Champion to appoint a High-Level Panel comprising of five Eminent African Experts, to review the AU's Peace and security Framework within the next four months.
9. **REQUESTS** the AU Champion on the Institutional Reforms to report back to the next Extraordinary AU Summit following the due process.

G. On Financing the Union:

RECALLING Decision Assembly/AU/Dec. 578(XXV) of 2015 and Decision Assembly/AU/Dec. 605 (XXVII) of 2016;

WELCOMING progress made on AU financing reforms in particular in relation to financial governance and the revitalization of the AU Peace Fund;

NOTING WITH CONCERN that strategic financial independence and autonomy has still not been achieved. The targets set in Decisions Assembly/AU/Dec. 578(XXV) and Assembly/AU/Dec. 605(XXVII) have not been fully implemented. AU Member States only finance 24% of the programme budget. The Peace Support Operations budget remains largely dependent on external partners;

RECOGNIZING the AU Members States that have fully implemented the 0.2% Kigali Financing Decision;

WELCOMING the revitalization of the AU Peace Fund which has attained the full endowment level of \$400m;

10. **REQUESTS** the AU High Representative for Financing the Union to undertake consultations on progress made in the overall Financing of the Union as follows:
 - a) to identify the barriers to the full implementation of the Johannesburg and Kigali decisions and make proposals on how to overcome these challenges;
 - b) to assess the challenges to the deployment of the AU Peace Fund and make recommendations on how to enhance the use efficiency and effectiveness of the Fund;
 - c) to assess Fund endowment levels in line with the Fund's objectives and current peace and security priorities and make proposals.
11. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the High Representative to present a report to the Assembly at the Special Summit in July 2025.

12. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Executive Council to convene an Extra-Ordinary Session of the Executive Council, bringing together Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Ministers of Finance of Member States to strengthen the financing of the Union and the Peace Fund, in line with Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.687 (XXX) of January 2018 .

H. On operationalizing the Court of Justice of the African Union:

RECALLING the Second Ordinary Session of the Assembly held in Maputo, Mozambique, on 11 July 2003, which adopted the Protocol of the Court of Justice of the African Union which entered into force on 11 February 2009;

NOTING that the Protocol on the Statute of the African Court of Justice and Human Rights, adopted on 1st July 2008 in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, which seeks to merge the two Courts and establish a single Court, is yet to enter into force;

FURTHER NOTING that the Amendments to the Protocol on the statute of the Court of Justice and Human Rights establishing a criminal chamber adopted in June 2014 in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, are yet to come into force.

ALSO RECALLING Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.757(XXXIII) of February 2020 on Consequence Management and the Oversight Role of the Chairperson of the Commission within the Union on the Functioning of the Commission and other AU Organs, which requested the Commission to present a report on the operationalization of the Court of Justice of the Union, mandated to consider appeals from the AU Administrative Tribunal.

RECOGNIZING the paramount importance of operationalizing the Court of Justice of the African Union to attain the objectives of the Union and ensure its effective functioning.

13. **DECIDES** that before the Court of Justice is operationalised the Commission, the PRC and relevant stakeholders must provide the legal, structural and financial implications of operationalising the Court of Justice and submit its report to the Executive Council during its next Ordinary Session in July 2025. The legal implications of operationalising the Court of Justice requires extensive and deeper analysis due to the impending matter of the Court of Justice with the AfCHPR

I. On revamping the Pan-African Parliament

14. **APPEALS** to Member States to ratify the Malabo Protocol of July 2014, which requires 28 ratifications to enter into force, of which thirteen (13) ratifications are still needed.

15. **REQUESTS** the Champion to report on the implementation of this Decision and Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.866(XXXVII) of February 2024 at the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly in February 2026 and **DIRECTS** the Chairperson of the

Commission and the Reform Implementation Unit to assist the Champion in the undertaking of his mandate;

16. **DECIDES** to remain seized on the matter.

**DECISION ON
THE REPORTS OF THE FORUM OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT
PARTICIPATING IN THE AFRICAN PEER REVIEW MECHANISM (APRM FORUM)
BY H.E. ABDELMADJID TEBBOUNE PRESIDENT OF THE PEOPLE'S
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA AND CHAIRPERSON OF THE AFRICAN
PEER REVIEW MECHANISM (APRM)
Doc. Assembly/AU/10 (XXXVIII)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the 3rd Extraordinary Summit and the 34th Ordinary Session of the African Peer Review Forum of Heads of State and Government of the Participating States to African Peer Review Mechanism (APR Forum) held on the 14th of February 2025;
2. **CONGRATULATES** H.E Abdelmadjid TEBBOUNE, President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria and Chairperson of the APR Forum for his sterling leadership of the APRM and unwavering commitment to the promotion of democracy and good governance on the continent;
3. **WELCOMES WITH GREAT APPRECIATION** the voluntary contribution to the APRM of an amount of US\$1 million made by H.E TEBBOUNE, President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, on behalf of the Government and the people of Algeria; **COMMEND** President TEBBOUNE for this firm commitment aimed at ensuring full ownership of the APRM by Member States;
4. **RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.874(XXXVII), adopted by the 37th Ordinary Session of the Assembly held in February 2024 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in which the Assembly supported the APR Forum decision mandating the APRM Secretariat to organise, with the APR Focal Points Committee and the Commission the 3rd APRM Extraordinary Summit in line with the request by the Republic of Zambia;
5. **FURTHER RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.758(XXXIII) adopted by the 33rd Ordinary Session of the Assembly held in February 2020 in which the Assembly adopted the APRM Statute and the Rules of Procedure of the Heads of State and Government of Participating States of the APRM;
6. **FURTHER RECALLS** Article 11 (1) of the APRM Statute which provides that the APR Forum shall be the highest governing structure of the APRM, which provides political leadership and strategic guidance to the APRM and serves as a Sub-Committee of the Assembly AND Article 11 (8) of the APRM Statute which provides that the APRM Forum shall meet once a year in ordinary session to consider review reports of APRM Participating States, undertake peer review and make other decisions on the management and implementation of the APRM mandate;

7. **WELCOMES WITH GREAT SATISFACTION** the convening of the 3rd APRM Extraordinary Summit in line with Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.874(XXXVII), and Article 11 (1) (8) of the APRM Statute as well as the relevant provisions of the Rules of Procedure of the APR Forum;
8. **REITERATES** that the APRM remains the premier homegrown, African led and African owned good governance tool conceived in 2003 and voluntarily acceded to by forty-five (44) AU Member States representing more than two-thirds of total AU membership;
9. **COMMENDS WITH SATISFACTION** the end of the transition period at the APRM and **EXTENDS** its appreciation to the former Chief Executive Officer of the APRM Continental Secretariat, Professor Eddy Maloka, for his professional handling and management of the transition period at the APRM;
10. **RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.887(XXXVII) adopted by the 37th Ordinary Session held in February, 2024 in which the Assembly appointed Ambassador Marie Antoinette Rose-Quatre as CEO of APRM Continental Secretariat with effect from 3 June 2024 and for a term of four (4) years renewable once; and directed the APRM Secretariat, in collaboration with the AU Commission, to organize the swearing-in of the newly appointed CEO;
11. **COMMENDS** the APRM Continental Secretariat and the Commission for the successful implementation of Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.887(XXXVII);
12. **EXPRESSES GREAT GRATITUDE** to H.E Abdelmadjid TEBBOUNE, President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria and Chairperson of the APR Forum, for the successful organisation of the swearing-in ceremony of Ambassador Marie Antoinette Rose-Quatre as CEO of the APRM Continental Secretariat, on 20 November, 2024 in Algiers, Algeria;
13. **WELCOMES WITH APPRECIATION** the peer review Report of the Republic of Zambia, **CONGRATULATES** H.E. Hakainde Hichilema, President of the Republic of Zambia for his steadfast and sustained leadership in promoting good governance in his country by undertaking the Second-Generation Country Review;
14. **ACKNOWLEDGES WITH APPRECIATION** the Targeted Review Report of the Republic of Senegal on mineral resources at the heart of the transformation of the Senegalese economy;
15. **CONGRATULATES** H.E. Bassirou Diomaye FAYE, President of the Republic of Senegal for his dedication to the cause of good governance with all its five manifestations, including sustainable and broad-based socio-economic

development and unwavering commitment for economic transformation of his country and the continent;

16. **ENCOURAGES** H.E Hakainde HICHILEMA, President of the Republic of Zambia and H.E DIOMAYE FAYE, President of the Republic of Senegal for successfully completing the review; AND encouraged them to take concerted action in developing National Programmes of Action to implement the findings and recommendations of their reports; **URGED** them to align these programmes with the AU Agenda 2063, particularly its Second 10-Year Implementation Plan;
17. **COMMENDS** the APR Panel of Eminent Persons for its exemplary leadership in conducting the second-generation Review of Zambia and the targeted review of Senegal; and for upholding the highest standards of integrity, credibility, technical competence, professionalism and independence throughout the review process;
18. **ENCOURAGES** APRM Participating States that have not been peer reviewed to take the necessary measures to undertake country reviews and ensure their reports are presented to the APR Forum; **URGES** in line with previous Assembly Decisions all AU Member States of that have not yet joined the APRM to accede to the Mechanism so as to accelerate the speedily realisation of AU Agenda 2063, the African We Want;
19. **FURTHER URGES** APRM Participating States that have been reviewed to implement their National Plans of Actions and recommendations to inform institutional reforms at the national level and avert highlighted challenges in their peer reviews;
20. **ACKNOWLEDGES WITH APPRECIATION** the Progress Reports of the Republic of Kenya and the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire on the implementation of their Country Review Reports;
21. **COMMENDS WITH GREAT SATISFACTION** H.E. William Samoei RUTO, President of the Republic of Kenya and H.E. Alassane OUATTARA, President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, for their outstanding leadership and consistent efforts to improving governance in their respective countries;
22. **REAFFIRMS** full availability of the Mechanism to continue providing its support to Kenya and Côte d'Ivoire in view of entrenching democratic gains and good governance;
23. **RECALLS** the Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.874. (XXXVII) directing APRM Continental Secretariat, working in close collaboration with the African Union Commission, to develop and submit to the Assembly during the next ordinary session for approval, clear criteria for the selection and appointment of APR Panel members and placing a moratorium on the selection and appointment of new Panel Members until a clear criterion has been developed and adopted by

AU Assembly; **ADOPTS** the selection and appointment criteria of APR Panel Members and directs APRM to ensure its immediate implementation;

24. **EXPRESSES DEEP APPRECIATION** to the retiring APR Panel Members, Ambassador Inonge Mbikusita-Lewanika, Dr Ousmane Diallo, and Dr Honore Mobonda for their exemplary performance during their tenure; **DIRECTS** the APRM to immediately initiate the process of appointing new members to the APR Panel of Eminent Persons, in strict adherence to the approved criteria, to ensure a fully constituted Panel is in place and operational by February 2026.
25. **WELCOMES WITH APPRECIATION** the appointment by the APR Forum, Ambassador El-Henfy Houssam El Din, representing North Africa as the Incoming Chairperson of the APR Panel of Eminent Persons and Ambassador Ali Ahmed Arita, Representing East Africa as the Incoming Vice- Chairperson of the APR Panel for the year 2025;
26. **TAKES NOTE** of the importance of E-governance for enhancement of socio-economic development of Member States and its potential to accelerate the realisation of AU Agenda 2063; **ENDORSES** the Forum's recommendation for E-governance to be the sixth thematic area of the APRM review process;
27. **TAKES NOTE WITH SATISFACTION** of the steps taken to ensure effective realisation by APRM continental structures of their mandates as well efforts done for the APRM to deliver on its mandate with impact and tangible results;
28. **REQUESTS** the APRM Participating States to also consider making voluntary contributions to the APRM and those that still have arrears to settle them so as to ensure true ownership of the APRM by Member States and implementation of its mandate with impact and tangible results;
29. **COMMENDS WITH GRATITUDE** the Chairperson of the Commission, H.E. Moussa Faki and the Chief Executive Officer of the APRM Continental Secretariat, Ambassador Marie-Antoinette Rose Quatre, for their collaborative leadership during and the remarkable results achieved over the past eight (8) months, which demonstrate their commitment to enabling the APRM to discharge its mandate effectively and without hindrance; **ADOPTS** with satisfaction the APRM Annual Report 2024 and calls on the APRM Continental Secretariat to ensure its widest dissemination.
30. **REITERATES** its Decision Ext/Assembly/AU/Dec.1-4(XI) of November 2018 in which the Assembly reaffirmed the need to strengthen the capacity of the APRM to deliver on its expanded mandate and enhance its functional autonomy;
31. **STRESSES** the need for the APRM to be provided with adequate and sufficient human resources and budget allocations to execute its mandate effectively and without hindrance;

32. **TAKES NOTE WITH SATISFACTION** of the full implementation of the Second APRM Strategic Plan of the APRM 2020-2024, and **COMMENDS** the APRM for realising all its key priority areas; **ENDORSES** the Third APRM Strategic Plan 2025-2028;
33. **APPLAUDS** the APRM for ensuring that the Third Strategic Plan is aligned with the AU Agenda 2063 Second Ten Year Implementation Plan, the AU Wide Strategic Plan and the APRM Impact Study and utilises AU's balanced scorecard approach enhances monitoring results and impact;
34. **COMMITTS** to support the APRM to ensure the full implementation of the APRM Thid Strategic Plan; **ENCOURAGES** the APRM to take the necessary measures to realise the key priority areas of the Third APRM Strategic Plan 2025-2028;
35. **RECALLS** its Assembly/AU/Dec.874(XXXVII) of February, 2024, in which the Assembly reiterated the significance of South-South and Triangular Cooperation in promoting good governance and economic transformation on the continent; and the offer of the Republic of Sierra Leone to host the Third Africa High-Level Forum on South- South and Triangular Cooperation for sustainable development;
36. **ACKNOWLEDGES WITH SATISFACTION** efforts of the Government of Sierra Leone to host the Third Africa High-Level Forum on South- South and Triangular Cooperation for sustainable development in 2025; **ENDORSES** the theme "Forging Good Governance and Economic Resilience to foster Africa's Integration and Agenda 2063" as a significant step toward strengthening Africa's development goals;
37. **REITERATES** its Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.631(XXVIII) of January, 2017 in which the Conference welcomed the commitment to revitalise the Peer Review Mechanism, with a view to sharing its model, experience and knowledge with other regions of the world, for benchmarking and greater recognition of the Mechanism;
38. **ACKNOWLEDGES WITH APPRECIATION** the APRM efforts to support national capacities of Member States in monitoring and evaluation of Agenda 2063/Agenda 2030 through the Voluntary National Reporting (VNRs), National development Planning Community of practice and peer- learning activities during the High-Level Political forum at the United Nations;
39. **RECALLS** its Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.686(XXX) of January, 2018, in which the Assembly welcomed steps taken to position the APRM as an early warning tool for conflict prevention on the Continent, in the context of harmony and synergy between the APRM, the African Peace and Security Architecture, and the African Governance Architecture;

40. **FUTHER RECALLS** its Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.874(XXXVII) of February, 2024, in which the encouraged the APRM Continental Secretariat in close collaboration with the Commission and Member States to continue organising the Joint Retreat between the APR Panel of Eminent Persons and the AU Panel of the Wise, and the Joint Retreat between the APRM and the AU Peace and Security Council;
41. **REQUESTS** on the APRM Continental Secretariat in close collaboration with the Commission and Member States to take the necessary measures to organize and hold the Joint Retreat between the APR Panel of Eminent Persons and the AU Panel of the Wise, and the Joint Retreat between the APRM and the AU Peace and Security Council in 2025;
42. **RECALLS** its Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.720(XXXII) of February, 2019, mandating the APRM to prepare, in collaboration with the African Governance Architecture (AGA), the Africa Governance Report and to present it every two (2) years for consideration by the Assembly at its Ordinary Sessions;
43. **TAKES NOTE WITH APPRECIATION** of the Africa Governance Report 2025 (AGR-2025) focusing on Natural Resource Governance in Africa, recommended for adoption by the APR Forum;
44. **CONGRATULATES** the AU and APRM structures, members of the AGA Platform and Member States, African research institutions and independent experts who participated in the development of the AGR-25 for their commendable work; **EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE** to the partners for their invaluable support and commitment in developing the AGR-2025;
45. **ENDORSES** the Conclusions and Recommendations of the AGR-2025 and **URGES** all AU Member States to implement the recommendations contained in the Report, with a view to enhancing good governance, rule of law, respect for human rights, and sharing of best practices at both country and continental levels;
46. **FURTHER URGES** the APRM Continental Secretariat to ensure wide dissemination of **AGR-2025** after incorporating observations from Member States;
47. **UNDERScores** the importance of mobilizing adequate financial resources for the dissemination of the AGR-2025 and the implementation of its recommendations; **REQUESTS** APRM to launch the AGR-2025 officially in collaboration with AGA;
48. **URGES** all AGA members to incorporate the Report in their Annual Work Plans and **FURTHER URGES** all AU Member States to develop national governance reports as a self-assessment tool, for promoting good governance and efficient

and effective management of natural resources, in line with the recommendations of the AGR-2025;

49. **REQUESTS** the APRM to develop, in collaboration with AGA the theme and focus of the Fifth African Governance Report and present the Report to the 40th Ordinary Session of the Assembly scheduled to take place in February 2027;
50. **RECALLS** Decision EX.CL/Dec.1189-1216(XLII) of February 2023 adopting the African Principles and Guidelines on Corporate Governance and directing the APRM to collaborate with the African Union Commission to support Member States with the implementation of the African Principles;
51. **REQUESTS** the APRM Continental Secretariat and the African Union Commission the support of the African Development Bank to ensure adequate preparations and launch African Principles and Guidelines on Corporate Governance during the first half of 2025;
52. **REITERATES** its Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.631 (XXVIII) adopted at the 28th Ordinary Session of the Assembly, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in January 2017, directing the APRM to provide support to Member States in the field of credit ratings;
53. **RECALLS** the Decision EX.CL/ Dec.1268(XLV) of July, 2024 in which the Executive Council requested the AUC and the APRM in collaboration with AfreximBank and other Pan-African Financial Institutions, to expedite the operationalisation of the private sector-driven African Credit Rating Agency based on self-funding;
54. **WELCOMES WITH APPRECIATION** the initiatives and progress attained by the Commission and APRM towards the establishment and operationalisation of the Africa Credit Rating Agency; **COMMENDS** the Commission and APRM with the support of the United National Economic Commission for Africa, African Development Bank, AfreximBank for the successful hosting of the Presidential Breakfast on the establishment African Credit Rating Agencies;
55. **EXPRESSES GREAT GRATITUDE** to H.E Abdelmadjid TEBBOUNE, President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria and Chairperson of the APR Forum; H.E Taye Atske Selassie, President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, H.E William Ruto, President of the Republic of Kenya and the H.E Hakainde Hichilema, President of the Republic of Zambia for their unwavering support from the speedily operationalisation of the private sector-driven African Credit Rating Agency based on self-funding;
56. **REQUESTS** Member States, African Financial Institutions, the Private Sector to support the full operationalisation and effectiveness of the African Credit Rating Agency;

57. **EXPRESSES GRATITUDE** to the APR Forum and all structures of the APRM and the AU for working tirelessly in ensuring that the APRM is positioned to deliver on its mandate with impact and tangible results;
58. **CONGRATULATES** the Chairperson of the APR Forum, H.E. Abdelmadjid Tebboune, President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria for the sterling leadership provided to the APRM and the exceptional success realized by the Mechanism under his leadership.

**DECISION ON
THE REPORT OF THE AUDA-NEPAD HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT
ORIENTATION COMMITTEE BY H.E. PRESIDENT ABDEL FATTAH EL-SISI
PRESIDENT OF THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT
Doc. Assembly/AU/11 (XXXVIII)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE WITH APPRECIATION** of the report of H.E. Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt and Chairperson of the Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC) of the African Union Development Agency - New Partnership for Africa's Development (AUDA-NEPAD).
2. **ENDORSES** the conclusions and recommendations of the 42nd Session of the AUDA-NEPAD HSGOC, held on 10 of February 2025, in line with AU rules and procedures.
3. **RECALLS** the conclusions and recommendations of the 41st Session of the HSGOC, held on 13 February 2024; and commends the AUDA-NEPAD for the impressive progress achieved.
4. **REAFFIRMS** the central role, as well as the growing significance and impact of the AUDA-NEPAD, as the premier development Agency of the African continent; and **RESTATES** that its mandate is to coordinate and execute priority regional and continental projects towards the accelerated realization of Agenda 2063.
5. **REASSERTS** that, as per the Statute of the AUDA-NEPAD, the Premier Development Agency of the African continent, the HSGOC, the Steering Committee and the Secretariat, are the only AUDA-NEPAD governance structures.
6. **RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.813-838(XXXV) of February 2022 calling upon the AUDA-NEPAD to expedite processes for establishing the Development Fund; **COMMENDS** AUDA-NEPAD's progress since then, including the convening of a retreat of the Committee of Fifteen Ministers of Finance (F15) in June 2024 to examine the Feasibility Study, the establishment of a high-level advisory board to review the Study, consultations with Multilateral Development Banks and Development Financial Institutions and with the AUDA-NEPAD Steering Committee, as well as the convening of another F15 meeting on 3-4 February 2025 to review the revised study; and therefore **REQUESTS** the AUDA-NEPAD to work closely with the F15 to finalize the feasibility study, and get endorsements from the Steering Committee and relevant AU Policy Organs following due process, for approval at the July 2025 Mid-Year Coordination meeting.

7. **RECALLS** the principle of voluntary Member State contributions to AUDA-NEPAD, as established in Decisions Assembly/AU/Dec 6-32 (II), Assembly/AU/Dec 268-288 (XIV), and Ext/Assembly/AU/Dec.1-4(XI); **COMMENDS** Member States already contributing, **NOTES** the significant financial constraints of AUDA-NEPAD; and in this regard **REITERATES** the urgent need for Member States to consider voluntary contributions to ensure predictable and sustainable funding for AUDA-NEPAD's optimal operation.
8. **RECOGNIZES** the importance of Africa's coordinated engagement in the 4th International Conference on Financing for Development (Spain; June 2025); **REQUESTS** AUDA-NEPAD, in collaboration with the AUC, RECs, Member States, and relevant financial institutions, to undertake a comprehensive review of the progress of the 2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda; and **MANDATES** AUDA-NEPAD to convene a consultative process to develop a common African position;
9. **RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec. 283 (VIV) on the need for the AUDA-NEPAD to have the required flexibility and agility to carry out its mandate; and **TAKES NOTE** of the operational constraints placed on the AUDA-NEPAD.
10. **ENCOURAGES** the AUDA-NEPAD, to engage with the relevant PRC Sub-Committees and the F15, to explore innovative funding options to fill critical posts already approved in the structure, utilizing both Member States and Development Partner (DP) funding.
11. **RECALLS** Decisions Assembly/AU/Dec.852 (XXXVI) of February 2023 and Assembly/AU/Dec.875 (XXXVII) of February 2024 on the expansion of AUDA-NEPAD's national and regional presence; **TAKES NOTE** of the interest of some Member States to host AUDA-NEPAD Offices at their expense and **COMMENDS** the Agency's engagement efforts in responding to Member States' requests for AUDA-NEPAD's expanded footprint presence at no additional cost to the budget of Member States' contributions; **REQUESTS** AUDA-NEPAD to follow the usual regulatory process for the implementation of this process aimed at opening national offices.
12. **APPLAUDS** the AUDA-NEPAD for establishing the Agenda 2063 Digital Platform as the continental tool to coordinate, monitor, evaluate and serve as the repository platform for knowledge capitalization, knowledge sharing, domestication, communication, advocacy and decision-making and **CALLS UPON** Member States to make use of this important tool.
13. **TAKES NOTE WITH APPRECIATION** of the Report by H.E. Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Chairperson of the AUDA-NEPAD HSGOC, presented and adopted at the 6th Mid-Year Coordination Meeting (Accra, Ghana; 21 July 2024) on "AUDA-NEPAD's Instrumental Role in

Delivering an Investment Push to Finance Agenda 2063's Second Ten-Year Implementation Plan (STYIP) in Cooperation with the Regional Economic Communities”.

14. **RECALLS** Decision Assembly /AU/Dec.875(XXXVII) of February 2024 which applauded AUDA-NEPAD for conceptualizing and developing the Africa Team Resource Mobilization Initiative as a framework for resource mobilization efforts across the continent.
15. **APPLAUDS** the Africa Team Initiative as a strategic framework to operationalize the Second Ten-Year Implementation Plan; **ENDORSES** the joint resource mobilization efforts led by AUDA-NEPAD and RECs in partnership with other AU entities, aimed at securing sustainable and innovative financing for the implementation of priority programs under the STYIP; **REQUESTS** AUDA-NEPAD and RECs to jointly provide regular updates on the implementation of the Africa Team Initiative, including progress on resource mobilization, program execution, and impact assessment, to the mid-year coordination meeting; and **CALLS UPON** development partners, Multilateral Development Banks, and the private sector to actively support the Africa Team Initiative and collaborate with AUDA-NEPAD, RECs, and Member States in mobilizing resources and technical expertise for Africa's transformative development.
16. **COMMENDS** the Republic of South Africa on the successful convening of the Presidential Infrastructure Champion Initiative (PICI) Heads of State Meeting on 9 February 2025; **WELCOMES** the reinvigoration of PICI with a renewed focus on expanding resource mobilization through annual Presidential-Investor Dialogues and instituting an Annual PICI Technical Task Team Meeting for coordination and monitoring; **URGES** Member States to reaffirm their commitment to the PICI Secretariat through financial and technical contributions and to strengthen national focal points for effective coordination; **CALLS UPON** the Republic of South Africa to engage G20 partners and international development financiers to leverage its G20 Presidency (2024-2025) in advocating for increased infrastructure investments across Africa; and **REQUESTS** the PICI Technical Task Team to reorganize the PICI process and establish a framework that enhances support to PICI members in order to accelerate project finalization and ensure timely delivery of infrastructure initiatives.
17. **MINDFUL** of the critical importance of infrastructure, transport connectivity, and trade facilitation in achieving Africa's integration and development objectives; **COMMENDS** AUDA-NEPAD for Successfully convening the 8th PIDA Week (26– 29 November 2024, in Addis Ababa;
18. **COMMENDS** AUDA-NEPAD for securing endorsement of the Continental Power Systems Masterplan (CMP) as an AU Agenda 2063 flagship project.

19. **COMMENDS** AUDA-NEPAD for Developing the Continental AI White Paper & Roadmap, laying out a governance framework for AI in Africa and advancing the African Cybersecurity and Data Governance Initiative to foster regional cyber resilience; and **URGES** Member States to prioritize investments in cybersecurity, Artificial Intelligence and digital governance, safeguarding Africa's digital economy.
20. **AWARE** of the transformative potential of digital technologies, artificial intelligence (AI), and cybersecurity for Africa's development; **APPLAUDS** AUDA- NEPAD for its innovative cooperation with Meta; **CONGRATULATES** AUDA- NEPAD and Meta for the design and development of AKILI AI, a tool dedicated to supporting African entrepreneurs and positioning the continent for the future; and **REQUESTS** AUDA-NEPAD and its technical and financial partners to prepare and present the full AKILI AI product during the upcoming AU Coordination Summit in July 2025 for consideration by the HSGOC.
21. **CONGRATULATES** the AUDA-NEPAD on launching the 4th African Innovation Outlook (AIO-2024); **URGES** Member States to strengthen their capacity for Science, Technology & Innovation (STI) measurement; and **REQUESTS** Member States to address the decline in STI data by expediting the designation of focal points to work closely with AUDA-NEPAD in improving data collection and measurement across Africa.
22. **APPLAUDS** AUC and AUDA-NEPAD for the drafting and approval of STISA-2034; **AFFIRMS** AUDA-NEPAD's role in implementation and coordination of STISA 2034 in collaboration with AUC and other stakeholders; and **URGES** AUDA-NEPAD to finalize the implementation plan and ensure timely and effective execution.
23. **CONGRATULATES** the AU High-Level Panel on Emerging Technologies (APET) and AUDA-NEPAD for advancing the developmental impact of emerging technologies across Africa; and **DIRECTS** the AUDA-NEPAD and APET to develop a regulatory framework governing the adoption of emerging technologies and provide Member States with technical and policy support to guide adoption.
24. **COMMENDS** H.E. President Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda, AU Champion on Domestic Health Financing, for his exemplary leadership that has been a source of strategic guidance and momentum for advancing Africa's domestic health financing agenda; and **TAKES NOTE** of AUDA-NEPAD's progress achieved in operationalizing Regional Health Financing Hubs (RHFHs) across the East African Community, Southern African Development Community, and West African Health Organization.
25. **CALLS UPON** the remaining RECs to expedite the operationalization of RHFHs

to ensure no Member State is left behind in achieving sustainable and equitable health systems.

26. **RECALLS** Declaration Assembly/AU/Decl.4(XXXII) which underscores fostering public-private sector cooperation to strengthen sustainable health financing systems; and **COMMENDS** H.E. President William Ruto, President of the Republic of Kenya, for the launch of the AUDA-NEPAD Programme for Investment and Financing in Africa's Health Sector (PIFAH).
27. **ENCOURAGES** Member States implementing the Africa Leadership Meeting (ALM) commitments to leverage this mechanism for developing and implementing priority health investment projects to Transform Africa's Health Economy.
28. **COMMENDS** AUDA-NEPAD for conceptualizing and developing the African Demographic Dividend and Sexual and Reproductive Health Programme (A2DSRH) which will contribute to reinforcing national and regional health systems, and promote access to safer, effective, efficient, and accessible health care; and **RECALLS** Assembly/AU/Dec. 629 (XXVII) on the Africa Health Strategy (2016-2030) as well the Assembly/AU/Dec.591(XXVI) on Harnessing the Demographic Dividend through Investments in the Youth.
29. **CALLS ON** Member States to fast-track the implementation of these decisions as well as strive to harmonize the processes of policies pertaining to sexual and reproductive health and the demographic dividend while respecting national laws and culture and societal specificities; and **DIRECTS** AUDA- NEPAD, working with the AUC, to coordinate with relevant stakeholders, the development of a report on progress of the implementation of the Maputo Plan of Action (2016-2030) and the 2017 AU Roadmap on Harnessing the Demographic Dividend through investment in youth, and develop recommendations to fast-track implementation within the remaining period.
30. **COMMENDS** H.E. President Abdel Fatah El-Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, for the establishment of the AUDA-NEPAD Center of Excellence on Climate Change, Resilience and Adaptation in Cairo, Egypt; and **REQUESTS** AUDA-NEPAD to accelerate the operationalization of the center.
31. **COMMENDS** H.E President William Ruto, President of the Republic of Kenya, for the successful organization and hosting of the Africa Climate Summit and **APPLAUDS** AUDA-NEPAD for its responsiveness in the establishment of a Gold Standards for carbon offsets in Africa.
32. **ENCOURAGES** Member States to exchange views and best practices on carbon markets, taking into account “the Common But Differentiated Responsibilities” principle that guides African states in climate action.

33. **WELCOMES** the adoption of the Kampala CAADP Declaration and the CAADP Strategy and Action Plan: 2026–2035; and acknowledging the critical role of resilient agrifood systems in achieving food security, nutrition, and sustainable development in Africa; **COMMITTS** to developing and implementing national strategies for food systems transformation, aligned with the CAADP framework and the Kampala Declaration.
34. **COMMENDS** the AUDA-NEPAD and AUC for their support to Member States in actively and effectively participating in the post-Malabo process; and **DIRECTS** the AUDA-NEPAD to coordinate and facilitate the implementation of the Kampala Declaration, Strategy, and Action Plan by Member States, RECs and other stakeholders.
35. **WELCOMES** and **ENDORSES** the Guidelines for Mainstreaming Agriculture Food Systems in National Plans and Programmes”, developed by AUDA-NEPAD, as a valuable resource for Member States; **DIRECTS** AUDA-NEPAD, in collaboration with the AUC, to provide technical support and capacity building to Member States for the utilization of the Guidelines in mainstreaming food systems into national plans, and to mobilize resources, including from development partners to support Member States’ efforts in implementing the Kampala Declaration and the CAADP Strategy and Action Plan.
36. **REQUESTS** AUDA-NEPAD, in collaboration with the UN food System Hub, to support Member States to prepare their second national food systems stock-take report; **FURTHER REQUESTS** AUDA-NEPAD, in collaboration with AUC and Member States, to coordinate the development of a common African position for the 2nd United Nations Food Systems Summit Stocktaking Moment (UNFSS+4), taking place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 28–30 July 2025.
37. **CONGRATULATES** the Republic of South Africa on assuming the first ever G20 “African” Presidency in 2025; and **ACKNOWLEDGING** AUDA-NEPAD’s longstanding and constructive contributions to the G20 processes, as well as its presence in South Africa; **REQUESTS** that AUDA-NEPAD be included in the official AU delegation to all G20 meetings held in South Africa during 2025, including the Leaders' Summit.
38. **CONGRATULATES** H.E. Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, for his exceptional leadership of the AUDA-NEPAD HSGOC since February 2023, and **DECIDES** to extend the chairmanship of the HSGOC by one year until February 2026.
39. **COMMENDS** the continued sustained excellence of the AUDA-NEPAD in delivering remarkable developmental results and congratulates the CEO, Mrs. Nardos Bekele-Thomas, for her visionary leadership.

40. **RECALLS** that the membership of the AUDA-NEPAD HSGOC for the period February 2023 to February 2025 is as follows:

Central Region	Eastern Region	Northern Region	Southern Region	Western Region
1. Cameroon	6. Ethiopia	11. Algeria*	16. Lesotho	21. Cote d'Ivoire
2. DRC	7. Kenya	12. Egypt*	17. Malawi	22. Ghana
3. Central Africa	8. Rwanda	13.	18. South Africa*	23. Guinea Bissau
4. Equatorial Guinea	9. Uganda	14.	19. Zambia	24. Nigeria*
5. Gabon	10. Tanzania	15.	20. Zimbabwe	25. Senegal*

* non-rotating Initiating Members

EIGHT (8) HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT CHAIRING THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES - 2025		
1.	ECOWAS	Nigeria
2.	ECCAS	Equatorial Guinea
3..	IGAD	Djibouti
4.	UMA	Libya
5.	COMESA	Burundi
6.	SADC	Zimbabwe
7.	EAC	Kenya
8.	CENSAD	Chad

41. **DECIDES** to extend the current membership of the HSGOC by one year until February 2026.
42. **RECALLS** that as per the AUDA-NEPAD Rules of Procedures and based on regional consultations, the four (4) Vice-Chairpersons of the AUDA-NEPAD HSGOC for the period February 2023-February 2026 are as follows:
- First Vice – Central Region: vacant.
 - Second Chairperson –Southern Region: The Republic of South Africa.
 - Third Vice – Western Region: vacant.
 - Fourth Vice/Rapporteur – Eastern Region: The Republic of Rwanda (as outgoing AUDA-NEPAD HSGOC Chairperson).
43. In line with the Rules and Procedures, **URGES** the Central and Western regions to conclude their consultations and elect their representatives of the Bureau of HSGOC.

**DECISION ON
THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF TEN (C-10) HEADS OF STATE AND
GOVERNMENT ON THE REFORM OF THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY
COUNCIL, BY H.E. JULIUS MAADA BIO, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
SIERRA-LEONE – Doc. Assembly/AU/12(XXXVIII)**

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the 25th Report of the African Union Committee of Ten Heads of State and Government on the reform of the United Nations Security Council (and **ENDORSES** the Outcome of the Eleventh Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the African Union Committee of Ten Heads of State and Government, held in Algiers, the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, from June 9–10, 2024.
2. **RECALLS** decisions, including Assembly/AU/Dec.853(XXXVI), Assembly/AU/Dec.564(XXIV), Assembly/AU/Dec.574(XXV), and Assembly/AU/Dec.724(XXXII).
3. **REITERATES** that reforming the United Nations is crucial to ensuring its alignment with contemporary geopolitical realities and emerging global challenges. In this regard, it is imperative to address the historical injustice faced by Africa, particularly its absence in the permanent category and its gross underrepresentation in the non-permanent category of the United Nations Security Council.
4. **ACKNOWLEDGES WITH APPRECIATION** the engagement of the Committee of Ten, which continues to make significant strides in promoting, defending, and advocating for the Common African Position, as outlined in the Ezulwini Consensus and the 2005 Sirte Declaration on United Nations Security Council reform.
5. **COMMENDS** the convening of the meeting during the High-Level Week of the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly between the Foreign Ministers of the Permanent Members of the United Nations Security Council and the Foreign Ministers of the Committee of Ten Member States; as well as the first High-Level debate of the United Nations Security Council on the “Maintenance of International Peace and Security: Addressing Historical Injustice and Enhancing Africa’s Effective Representation” during Sierra Leone’s August presidency of the Council.
6. **WELCOMES** the growing support and momentum for the Common African Position on UN Security Council reform, particularly as articulated in Action 39, paragraph (a) of the Pact for the Future, which endorses the imperative to ‘Redress the historical injustice against Africa as a priority and, while treating Africa as a special case, improve the representation of the underrepresented and unrepresented regions and groups’.

7. **REAFFIRMS** its commitment to the Common African Position, as outlined in the Ezulwini Consensus and the Sirte Declaration, as the **ONLY** viable option for Africa's full representation in the United Nations Security Council. In this context, the IGN established by Decision 62/557 remains the most appropriate and legitimate forum for UN Security Council reform.
8. **REITERATES** that full representation of Africa in the reformed United Nations Security Council entails:
 - (i) Not less than two (02) permanent seats with all the prerogatives and privileges of permanent membership, including the right of veto, if retained.
 - (ii) Five (05) non-permanent seats.
 - (iii) The African Union's right to select its representatives for election to the UN Security Council, to act in its name and on its behalf.
9. **REQUESTS:**
 - (i) The Committee of Ten Heads of State and Government to engage at the highest political levels, including with the five Permanent Members of the Security Council, to advance the Common African Position on UN Security Council reform;
 - (ii) The Committee of Ten Heads of State and Government to continue intensifying its engagement with other Interest and Regional Groups and stakeholders, building on progress made in advancing the Common African Position on UN Security Council reform. In this regard, **ENCOURAGES** the Committee of Ten Heads of State and Government to hold High-Level Meetings outside the margins of the African Union Summit;
 - (iii) All African Union Member States to include the concise common language to advance the Common African Position in their respective National Statements at the opening of the 80th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2025, reiterating the call for comprehensive reform of the United Nations Security Council, and operationalizing the commitment to redress the historical injustice against Africa as a priority and treating Africa as a special case;
 - (iv) African Union Member States to prioritize the issue of United Nations Security Council reform in their foreign policy engagements with non-African partners, particularly emphasizing the need to correct the historical injustice Africa continues to face, and to treat Africa as a special case and priority in the reform process.

10. **REITERATES** its firm commitment to preserving Africa's unity and solidarity on all aspects of the United Nations Security Council reform process, including participation within and outside the intergovernmental negotiations, and to continuing to speak cohesively with one voice on all aspects of the reform process.
11. **CALLS UPON** Africa to only engage in text-based negotiations provided there is prior consensus between Member States on the five clusters and an agreed framework, which broadly addresses the issue of historical injustice, that has wide consensus, and a model of reform that clearly addresses expansion in both categories of the UNSC.
12. **REITERATES** that African Union Member States in New York with dual membership should withdraw such membership from all other Interest Groups, especially those with inconsistent positions to the Common African Position, as reflected in the Ezulwini Consensus and the Sirte Declaration and avoid conflicting with the Common African Position with the views and/or positions of the other Interest and Regional Groups.
13. **WELCOMES** the decision to hold a Ministerial Meeting of the C-10 in the Republic of Zambia in June 2025 and the C-10 Ambassadors Retreat meeting prior to the Ministerial Meeting in the Republic of Sierra Leone.
14. **DECIDES:**
 - (i) That the Common African Position on the reform of the United Nations Security Council shall remain a strategic item on the Assembly's agenda and work plan. In this regard, **REAFFIRMS** the importance of the Commission continuing to provide the necessary funding and support to facilitate the work of the Committee of Ten, ensuring its effectiveness in delivering its mandate.
 - (ii) To increase the allocation in the budgets of the Commission and the African Union Permanent Observer Mission to make funds available to facilitate the activities of the Committee of Ten on UN reforms, enabling the Committee to effectively engage with Member States, Interest Groups, and stakeholders in the IGN process. **EMPHASIZES** that funding is crucial to enabling the Committee of Ten to fulfil its operational responsibilities and objectives. **ENCOURAGES** African Union Member States to make voluntary funds available to support the work of the Committee of Ten.
 - (iii) That the Committee of Ten will continue to uphold its mandate until Africa achieves its objectives regarding the reform of the United Nations Security Council.

**DECISION ON
THE COMMITTEE OF THE AFRICA CDC HEADS OF STATES AND GOVERNMENT
BY H.E. MOHAMED OULD CHEIKH EL GHAZOUANI, PRESIDENT OF THE ISLAMIC
REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA – Doc. Assembly/AU/13 (XXXVIII)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the reports of the Committee of Heads of State and Government (CHSG) of Africa CDC, chaired by H.E. Mohamed Ould Cheikh El Ghazouani, President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.
2. **COMMENDS** the leadership of H.E. Cyril Ramaphosa, President of the Republic of South Africa and AU Champion for Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness, and Response (PPPR), as well as H.E. Mohamed Ould Cheikh El Ghazouani, President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Chairperson of the AU, and Chair of the CHSG of Africa CDC, for their role in guiding Africa CDC's efforts in disease prevention and control across the continent.
3. **CONGRATULATES** Africa CDC for its progress in 2024, particularly in responding to the declaration and management of Mpox as a Public Health Emergency of Continental Security (PHECS) and its collaborative efforts in addressing outbreaks of Marburg virus, cholera, an unknown-cause outbreak, Lassa fever, and other emerging health threats.
4. **EXPRESSES DEEP CONCERN** over the rising number of new epidemics, including antimicrobial resistance (AMR), which affects all AU Member States; Mpox, impacting nearly 50% of Member States; Marburg virus; cholera; Disease X; dengue fever; Lassa fever; and other emerging threats that could potentially lead to African-origin pandemics if not adequately managed. These threats are exacerbated by insufficient human and financial resources, weaknesses in health systems, and shortages of critical health commodities.
5. **WELCOMES** the implementation of decision Assembly/AU/Dec.835(XXXV) on the operationalization of the African Epidemics Fund (AfEF) through the approval of the AfEF framework, which aims to establish a sustainable, coordinated, and transparent response mechanism for public health emergencies. **INSTRUCTS** Africa CDC to mobilize resources to ensure a sustainable, coordinated, and transparent response to health emergencies in Africa.
6. **RECOGNIZES AND STRONGLY REAFFIRMS** the pivotal role played by Africa CDC in safeguarding Africa's public health by providing strategic direction, and support to Member States thanks to its role as the Public Health agency of Africa, per its Statutes, and working in collaboration with the Commission, AUDA-NEPAD, AMA, AfCFTA and other AU Organs, in all public health aspects including those related to domestic and international health financing, local manufacturing of health commodities, African Pooled Procurement Mechanism,

community engagement, digitization of health information systems, and various other innovations in health.

7. **EXPRESSES CONCERN** over the lack of coordination and preparedness among Member States when participating in global health governance meetings, particularly those of various global health initiatives and other international health forums. This fragmented approach weakens Africa's global health agenda.
8. **NOTES** the progress made in implementing decision Assembly/AU/Dec.880(XXXVII) on establishing an accountability framework for the effective implementation of the Lusaka Agenda on strengthening global health initiatives (GHIs) towards achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in Africa.
9. **CONGRATULATES** Africa CDC, AfreximBank, and UNECA for the remarkable steps taken towards local manufacturing of health commodities in Africa through PHAHM (Platform for Harmonised African Health Manufacturing) and the effective operationalisation of the APPM (African Pooled Procurement Mechanism).
10. **CONGRATULATES** African countries making progress on local manufacturing including Algeria, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leon, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe in the area of local manufacturing of vaccines, medicines, diagnostic, and medical devises.
11. **DECIDES** to name the funding initiative for local manufacturing as the "President Mohamed Ould Cheikh El Ghazouani Initiative for Funding of Local Manufacturing of Health Commodities in Africa," in recognition of the leadership and unwavering support from H.E. President Mohamed Ould Cheikh El Ghazouani, President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and Chairperson of the Union, in mobilizing USD 3.2 billion to support the Africa CDC's agenda for local manufacturing of vaccines, medicines, diagnostics, and other health commodities.
12. **TAKES NOTE** of the work underway by the Africa CDC to ensure demand certainty and predictability through member states commitment to procure near-term African Manufacturers' products for the sustainability of existing manufacturers in Africa.
13. **RECOGNIZES** Africa CDC's continuous efforts to mobilise funds from various partners to support Member States in responding to different outbreaks and **INVITES** AU Policy Organs for an increased funding allocation to Africa CDC with an approved structure of a minimum of 312 staff to be paid by Member

States, which will ensure the organisation's full functionality and ability to deliver on its mandate.

14. **REQUESTS** Africa CDC to unify the voice of Member States in representing Africa within global health initiatives (GHIs). It also **ENCOURAGES** Africa CDC to apply for membership on the governing boards of these initiatives to better support Africa's health agenda. **DIRECTS** Africa CDC to collaborate with the Commission to ensure Africa's representation in the health pillars of the G20, G7, FOCAC, and other global forums, and to report progress to AU policy organs.
15. **ENCOURAGES** Africa CDC to continue supporting Member States in negotiating the Pandemic Agreement, which is expected to be finalized at the 2025 World Health Assembly, and to report updates to the Assembly.
16. **DIRECTS** Africa CDC to continue leading the Lusaka Agenda and serving as its Secretariat, while supporting appropriate health system financing programs in Africa, including increased domestic resource allocation.
17. **FURTHER DIRECTS** the Africa CDC Secretariat to ensure implementation of the above commitments and serve as the conduit for expressing Africa's interests, reporting progress at the 47th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council in July 2025 and the 39th Ordinary Session of the Assembly.

**DECISION ON
THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON INCLUDING ANNEXED
CHAMPIONS REPORTS– Doc. Assembly/AU/15 (XXXVIII)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE WITH APPRECIATION** the annual report of the Chairperson and adopts its contents.
2. **TAKES NOTE WITH APPRECIATION** of the annual report of the Chairperson including Champions' Reports and **ENDORSES** recommendations therein whose implementation is subject to the due process of assessing their financial, legal and structural implications.

**DECISION ON
THE REPORT OF THE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE ON
CLIMATE CHANGE (CAHOSCC); BY H.E. WILLIAM RUTO, PRESIDENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF KENYA– Doc. Assembly/AU/16 (XXXVIII)**

The Assembly

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Coordinator of the Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC), H.E. William Ruto, President of the Republic Kenya, and also **TAKES NOTE** of the Recommendations therein;
2. **EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** to the Republic of Kenya for coordinating the work of CAHOSCC, providing political direction and maintaining the unity of Africa during the 29th Conference of the Parties (COP29) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the 19th Meeting of the Parties serving as the Conference of the Parties to its Kyoto Protocol (KP) and the 6th Session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement;
3. **ACKNOWLEDGES WITH APPRECIATION** the role of H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the Commission in coordinating and mounting up climate change events at COP29, which promoted climate actions for Africa and thus elevated the profile of our Continent;
4. **EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia as the President of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) for the leadership and political support of AMCEN. **COMMENDS** the role played by the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) and the Africa Group of Negotiators (AGN) on Climate Change in preparation for and engagements at COP29;
5. **ACKNOWLEDGES** with appreciation the work of the African Climate Commissions (the African Islands, the Congo Basin and Sahel), and **CALLS** for strong coordination by the Commission in order to scale up the implementation of these initiatives and enhance coordinated positive impacts in addressing climate change in Africa;
6. **REAFFIRMS** the urgent need to implement the outcomes of the inaugural Africa Climate Summit - African Leaders Nairobi Declaration on Climate and Call to Action.
7. **WELCOMES** the operationalisation of the Africa Climate Summit Secretariat at the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry Headquarters, in Nairobi, Kenya in collaboration with the African Union Commission.

8. **RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.883 (XXXVII) in which the Republic of Kenya offered to host and fund the Africa Climate Summit Secretariat Office in Nairobi, including implementation of its roadmap and governance structure and
9. **WELCOMES** the operationalization of the Africa Climate Summit Secretariat at the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry Headquarters, Nairobi, Kenya in collaboration with the African Union Commission.
10. **RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.883 (XXXVII) in which African Heads of States and Government committed to hold Africa Climate Summit biennially through the African Leaders Nairobi Declaration on Climate Change and Call to Action and **REQUESTS** Member States to offer to host the next African Climate Summit.
11. **DECIDES** that the ACS Secretariat will support the Commission in collaboration with a hosting Member State to convene the biennial Africa Climate Summits.
12. **WELCOMES** the offer to host the Second Africa Climate Summit (ACS II) by the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia at the AU Headquarters in early September 2025.
13. **RECOMMENDS** that the Theme for the next ACS be on Mobilising Finance for Africa Adaptation and Resilience.
14. **COMMENDS** H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat for his exemplary leadership in the manner in which the Commission convened the First Africa Multi-Stakeholders Conference on Carbon Markets held from 24 to 16 July 2024 at the AU Headquarters, **ENDORSES** the Africa Action Plan on Carbon Markets and **REQUESTS** the Commission to fast-track the implementation of this Action Plan;
15. **CONGRATULATES** H.E. Ilham Aliyev, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, H.E. Mukhtar Babayev, the President of COP29, for hosting a successful Conference of Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, and delivering critical and renewed calls for more ambitious national climate goals to advance a comprehensive climate action agenda and particularly, the operationalization of the Loss and Damage Fund and Article 6 of the Paris Agreement;
16. **WELCOMES** the historic replenishment of the International Development Association (IDA) and the announcement by the world's top Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) to increase climate financing for low- and middle-income countries to reach USD 120 billion a year by 2030.
17. **EXPRESSES GREAT CONCERN** for the non-agreement of the developed countries to mobilizing USD1.3 trillion by 2030 that is the minimum required to address the immediate climate change action in Africa and other developing

countries with least capacity to adapt to the impacts and **WELCOMES** the decision to discuss the Roadmap to 1.3T with a focus of scaling up climate finance to support low greenhouse gas emissions and climate resilient pathways, through non-debt-creating instruments and measures to create fiscal in the international finance ecosystem.

18. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the launch of the Baku Adaptation Roadmap that aims at advancing progress in line with Article 7, paragraph 1, of the Paris Agreement and supporting the implementation of the elements outlined in paragraph 38 of decision 2/CMA.5 and **REQUESTS** the subsidiary bodies to develop modalities for work under the roadmap;
19. **HIGHLIGHTS** the importance of the forthcoming COP30 in Belem, Brazil, in further building trust and addressing the needs to secure ambition and implementation of all climate action efforts by 2030 in light of the Baku ambitions and pledges;
20. **FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGES** with gratitude the ambitious declarations and pledges made during COP29.
21. **EXPRESSES CONCERN** with climate and environment based unilateral actions, policies and taxes and their potential impacts on African exports and trade; and **CALLS** for a dialogue on measures such as the EU Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism, EU Deforestation Regulations, Inflation Reduction Act, amongst other to understand their impacts on African economies, including shared prosperity in the transition to low greenhouse and climate resilience in their pursuit of sustainable development.
22. **CALLS ON** all Parties to the UNFCCC advance outcomes towards shared prosperity under the Just Transition Work Programme, including through a Just Transition Framework that advances an enabling international cooperation that addresses structural and systemic deficiencies to effective contribution of African countries to the transitions; and **EMPHASISES** the importance of a just, orderly, and equitable transition from fossil-fuel-based energy systems.
23. **UNDERSCORES** the work of the African Climate Commissions, ClimDev -Africa Programme in coordinating the implementation of Africa's response to Climate Change and **CALLS FOR** strong coordination by the African Union Commission in order to scale up the implementation of these initiatives and enhance coordinated positive impacts in addressing climate change in Africa.
24. **COMMENDS** Afreximbank for the support being given to the Commission in the area of climate change, including contributions towards the African Pavilion during Conferences of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

25. **REQUESTS** Afreximbank to join the CLIMDEV – Africa Programme under the leadership of the African Union Commission to support Member States and Regional Economic Communities in the implementation of climate actions in Africa.
26. **RECOGNISES** with appreciation the complementary support provided by all partners to the African Group of Negotiators, in particular by the African Union Commission, the African Development Bank, the ClimDev Africa Programme, and other Partners;
27. **COMMENDS** the Commission, the African Development Bank, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, AUDA-NEPAD, Africa Risks Capacity and AfreximBank for the effectiveness of the Africa Pavilion at COP29 and **REQUESTS** them all to continue to support and to join the Africa Pavilion institutional partnership for subsequent UNFCCC COPs;
28. **URGES** Member States to ensure that the African Group of Negotiators is representative and has official delegates from each of the Member States, **STRESSES** the utmost importance of conforming to the equal representation of all African sub-regional groups in different constituted bodies and funds established under the UNFCCC and its Paris Agreement, and **REQUESTS** the AGN Chair to ensure the full implementation of this equal representation in order to ensure inclusivity;
29. **ALSO URGES** the African Group of Negotiators to focus on negotiations in the spirit of the principle of subsidiarity and leave programme development to the African Union Commission, AUDA-NEPAD and Regional Economic Communities among others;
30. **MANDATES** the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) Sub-Committee on Environmental Issues to clear all documents to be considered by future sessions of CAHOSCC in compliance with the Rules of Procedures that govern AU Summits.
31. **APPRECIATES** the Commission's effort in addressing the constraints associated with access to climate finance and **COMMENDS** the Commission and partners on the implementation of the AU Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy and Action Plan (2022-2032) and the Green Recovery Action Plan;
32. **APPEALS** to Member States to develop comprehensive and coherent national strategies for critical or green minerals and carbon markets aligned with broader development visions and priorities and consider the entire value chain from exploration to end-use; and strengthen legal and regulatory frameworks for critical or green minerals and carbon markets;

33. **REQUESTS** the Commission to fast-track implementation of the AU Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy, the AU Green Recovery Action Plan and the Nairobi Leaders' Declaration on Climate Change and **URGES** development partners and continental financing Agencies to support these efforts.
34. **TAKES NOTE** of the launch of the Africa Green Industrialization Initiative (AGII) at COP28 in 2023, aimed at advancing pan-African transformation through green industrialization, aligned with the African Leaders' Nairobi Declaration on Climate Change and Call to Action 2023;
35. **WELCOMES** the establishment of an AGII Secretariat as a technical arm to oversee daily operations, coordinate continental policy development, and drive the implementation of the Africa Green Industrialization Initiative, and **REQUESTS** the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Secretariat to support the implementation of the AGII, and **CALLS UPON** Development Partners, Private Sector Players, and other relevant stakeholders to provide the necessary assistance to ensure the successful implementation of the AGII.
36. **REQUESTS** H.E. Dr. William Samoei Ruto, President of the Republic of Kenya and Chair of the Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC), to oversee the implementation of this decision and report progress to the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly.
37. **RECALLING** Decision Assembly AU/Dec.15(XVI) Add.3, which made biodiversity one of the priorities of the AU. **RECOGNIZES** the importance of bioeconomy in the livelihoods and economic growth of Africa. **DECIDES** to hold an Africa Summit on Biodiversity in 2025 in order to attract investments and stimulate regulated trade in biodiversity, ensure the sustainability of biological resources and support dependent communities on the continent and **REQUESTS** the Commission to mobilize resources for it and send out a call to Member States to offer to host.
38. **ALSO APPEALS** to partners to support the convening of the First Africa Biodiversity Summit for continental and global benefits.
39. **FURTHER ENCOURAGES** Member States to prioritize scaling up climate finance investments in agriculture and related sectors directed to food producers, especially smallholder farmers to help enhance their adaptative capacity to combat the impact of climate change.
40. **HIGHLIGHTS** the urgency of addressing human mobility in the context of climate and environmental change, as well as leveraging opportunities for addressing mobility in adaptation, and just transitions and toward long-term, sustainable development; **URGES** African Countries to work collaboratively with the African

Union Commission in its efforts to advance the Kampala Ministerial Declaration on Migration, Environment and Climate Change.

41. **TAKES NOTE** of the increasing frequency and intensity of disasters in Africa such as drought, floods and cyclones. **RECOGNIZES** the on-going efforts to arrest the impacts of these disasters through risk informed development, development of policies and institutions responsible for disaster risk reduction in member states and RECs, the development of the Africa Multi-Hazard Early Warning System and Early Action (AMHEWAS) programme and the establishment of related Situation Rooms at the African Union Commission and its extension to RECs and Member States, and the ongoing production of the biennial review reports which document the state of DRR in Africa.
42. **APPRECIATES** the role of the AU Champion on Disaster Risk Management, H.E. Filipe Jacinto Nyusi, Former President of the Republic of Mozambique, especially in terms of improved advocacy for disaster risk management. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** of the Early Warning for ALL Initiative of the United Nations Secretary-General.
43. **TAKES NOTE** of the increasing frequency and intensity of disasters in Africa such as drought, floods and cyclones and the importance of strengthening adaptation measures across the continent. **RECOGNIZES** the urgent need to provide early warning and response mechanisms to disasters in Africa.
44. **CALLS UPON** Member States and the Commission to fast track the establishment of the Continental Civilian Capacity Mechanism on Disaster Preparedness and Response.
45. **DECIDES** that the AMHEWAS Programme is Africa's primary vehicle for implementing early warning activities including the application of Early Warning for ALL Initiative.
46. **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the outcome of the high-level presidential meeting held during the Conference of World Leaders Summit of the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, jointly convened by His Excellency Mr. Denis SASSOU N'GUESSO, President of the Republic of Congo, Chair of the Congo Basin Climate Commission, His Excellency Dr. William RUTO, President of the Republic of Kenya, Coordinator of CAHOSCC and Dr. AKINWUMI A. ADESINA, President of the African Development Bank Group.
47. **DECIDES** to convene a round table of donors to finance projects, including investment plans of the Blue Fund for the Congo Basin on the margins of the 30th Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP30) to the UNFCCC in Belem, Brazil.

48. **TAKES NOTE** while Africa provides global environmental public goods, its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) does not take into consideration its vast natural capital, significantly underestimating Africa's GDP and wealth.
49. **RECOGNISES** the need for proper valuation of Africa's natural assets to attract greater financial flows, improve credit ratings, and expand countries' access to green finance for climate resilient investment.
50. **TAKES NOTE** of the outcomes of the UNCCD COP 16 held from 02-13 December 2024 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia and **CONGRATULATES** the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for hosting a successful COP.
51. **WELCOMES** the launch of the Riyadh Global Drought Resilience Partnership which had received over USD 12 billion in pledges.
52. **WELCOMES** the outcome of the High Level Side Event held in Baku, Azerbaijan, during the World Leaders Summit at COP29 on "Measuring the Green Wealth of Africa" and its impact for climate policy and green transitions.
53. **WELCOMES** the financial pledges made at the COP to support the Great Green Wall Initiative and **CALLS** for a more coordinated approach under the aegis of the African Union Commission, to have a Continental oversight of the initiatives covering the Sahel, Sahara and Southern Africa (SADC).
54. **REQUESTS** the Commission and other Pan-African Institutions to support the African Group of Negotiators and Desertification in developing a Common Position in the lead up to the UNCCD COP 17 scheduled to take place in Mongolia, by financially and technically supporting the organization of the Africa Preparatory meetings in 2026 and providing capacity building and knowledge sharing in collaboration with the other RIO Conventions.
55. **CALLS ON** the Commission and the African Development Bank to establish a technical team of experts to collaborate with other developing countries and regions of the world, particularly Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as Asia, to forge a strong global alliance to ensure the inclusion of natural capital in the GDP of nations.
56. **CONGRATULATES** the Republic of South Africa on assuming the G20 Presidency for 2025; and **TAKES NOTE** of the priorities and proposed deliverables for South Africa's Presidency of the G20 Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group (ECSWG) and request the AU Commission to convene a consultative meeting with AU Member States to deliberate upon these prior to the first G20 ECSWG Meeting in March 2025.
57. **CONGRATULATES** HE Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania for successfully hosting the Africa Heads of States Summit in Dar Es Salaam and championing Mission 300 and Clean Cooking Solutions in

Africa; and **APPRECIATES** the support of the Commission, the African Development Bank Group and the World Bank Group in hosting the Mission 300 Africa Energy Summit;

58. **ENDORSES** the Dar es Salaam Declaration on Mission 300 Africa Energy Summit on providing access to electricity for 300 million people in Africa by 2030;
59. **ENCOURAGES** the Commission to collaborate with the Member States, the RECs, the African Development Bank, and other partners in implementing the Dar es Salaam Declaration; and,
60. **REQUESTS** the Commission to regularly report on the implementation of the Declaration, highlighting the key achievements, challenges, and recommendations for further action.

**DECISION ON
THE ADOPTION OF DRAFT LEGAL INSTRUMENTS**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Recommendations of the Executive Council for the consideration and adoption of the Draft Legal Instruments;
2. **ADOPTS** the following Draft Legal Instruments:
 - i) *Draft African Union Convention on Ending Violence Against Women and Girls;*
 - ii) *Draft Statute of the Africa Food Safety Agency; and*
 - iii) *Draft Annexes to the Protocol to the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area on Digital Trade:*
 - a) *Draft Annex on Rules of Origin*
 - b) *Draft Annex on Digital Identities*
 - c) *Draft Annex on Cross-Border Digital Payments*
 - d) *Draft Annex on Cross-Border Data Transfers*
 - e) *Draft Annex on Criteria for Determining the Legitimate and Legal Public Interest Reasons for Disclosure of Source Code*
 - f) *Draft Annex on Online Safety and Security*
 - g) *Draft Annex on Emerging and Advanced Technologies*
 - h) *Draft Annex on Financial Technology*
 - iv) *Draft Statute of the African Continental Civilian Capacity Mechanism for Disaster, Preparedness*
3. **CALLS ON** Member States to ratify the legal instruments, where applicable, to ensure their speedy entry into force and implementation.

**DECISION ON
THE APPOINTMENT OF FIVE (5) MEMBERS OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY
COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the election of five (5) Members of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union by the Executive Council;
2. **APPOINTS** the following four (4) Member States to the Peace and Security Council for a term of three (3) years:

NO.	COUNTRY	REGION
1.	Cameroon	Central
2.	Ethiopia	Eastern
3.	Eswatini	Southern
4.	Nigeria	Western

3. **TAKES NOTE** of the postponement of the election of a Member of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union from the **Northern Region** to the Twenty-Fourth Extraordinary Session of the Executive Council.
4. **DECIDES** to exceptionally delegate its authority of appointment to the 24th Extraordinary Session of the Executive Council to appoint the elected member of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union from the Northern Region.

**DECISION ON
THE APPOINTMENT OF THE MEMBERS OF THE PANEL OF WISE**

The Assembly,

1. **RECALLS** Article 11 of the Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union, which mandates the establishment of the Panel of the Wise to support the efforts of the PSC and the Chairperson of the Commission, particularly in the area of conflict prevention and the Modalities for its functioning adopted by the PSC at its 100th meeting on 12 November 2007;
2. **FURTHER RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.824(XXXV) adopted at the 35th Ordinary Session of the Assembly held in Addis Ababa in February 2022 and Decision EX.CL/Dec.1183(XLI) of the 41st Ordinary Session of the Executive Council, which appointed the 5th Panel of the Wise for a three-year tenure that concluded in February 2025;
3. **EXPRESSES DEEP APPRECIATION** for the dedication, sacrifice, and notable contributions in advancing peace, security, and stability across the continent through preventive diplomacy, fact-finding missions, and mediation efforts of the outgoing members—namely,
 - H.E. Domitien Ndayizeye (Burundi),
 - H.E. Amr Mahmoud Abu Zaid Moussa (Egypt),
 - Hon. Justice (Rtd) Effie Owuor (Kenya),
 - Professor Babacar Kanté (Senegal), and
 - H.E. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka (South Africa)
4. **COMMENDS** the overall and regional Deans of the African Diplomatic Corps in Addis Ababa for facilitating the transparent and consultative selection process for the 6th Panel of the Wise;
5. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the growing complexities and emerging threats to peace and security in Africa, which require a well-resourced, empowered, and proactive Panel capable of adapting to evolving challenges and delivering on its mandate effectively;
6. **DECIDES**, in line with Article 11(2) of the PSC Protocol, to appoint the following highly respected personalities as members of the 6th Panel of the Wise for a three-year mandate, effective February 2025:
 - **Central Africa Region:** H.E. Domitien Ndayizeye, former President of the Republic of Burundi (reappointed);
 - **Eastern Africa Region:** Hon. Justice (Rtd) Effie Owuor, Republic of Kenya (reappointed);

- **Southern Africa Region:** H.E. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Republic of South Africa (reappointed).
7. **DIRECTS** the incoming Chairperson of the Commission to consult with the Western and North African regions to select one (1) candidate per each region based on consensus for these vacant positions and submit to the 47th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council;
 8. In accordance with Rule 4(2) of the Assembly Rules of Procedure on Delegation of Authority, **DECIDES TO DELEGATE** to the 47th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council the authority to appoint representatives from the Western and North African regions to complete the composition of the 6th Panel of the Wise;
 9. **AFFIRMS** the critical importance of providing the Panel of the Wise with the necessary institutional, financial, and logistical support to ensure its full operational capacity and independence in carrying out its mandate, including:
 - Strengthening its preventive diplomacy missions, fact-finding initiatives, and engagement with national, regional, and continental stakeholders;
 - Enhancing its capacity to act swiftly in conflict-prone areas through targeted early warning and response mechanisms;
 - Expanding its access to mediation support resources, research, and expertise in order to develop actionable strategies for conflict prevention and resolution.
 10. **URGES** all Member States of the Union to extend their full cooperation and facilitate the work of the Panel in the spirit of shared responsibility for peace and security on the continent;
 11. **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to prioritize the allocation of sufficient resources to the Panel of the Wise in the annual budget and mobilize additional support from partners to strengthen its work, particularly in preventive diplomacy and mediation.

DECISION
**ON THE REPORT ON THE OPERATIONALISATION OF THE CÔTE D'IVOIRE-
CERFAM EXCELLENCE PRIZE FOR STRENGTHENING NUTRITION
AND FOOD SECURITY**

(Item Proposed by the Republic of Côte D'Ivoire)

DOC. Assembly/AU/21 (XXXVIII)

The Assembly,

1. **RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.892(XXXVII) on the reports on the African Champions and Leaders for Nutrition Initiative (ALN) and the extension of the mandate (2024-2026) of His Majesty ETSIE III, King of Lesotho and African Union Champion for Nutrition, to enable him to continue to mobilize Member States for the implementation of the African Regional Nutrition Strategy and commitments made under the Malabo Declaration;
2. **AGAIN COMMENDS** the leadership of H.E. ALASSANE OUATTARA, President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, for his advocacy with his peers for the adoption of the 2022 African Union theme on nutrition and food security as well as for the holding of the high-level meeting on nutrition jointly organized by Côte d'Ivoire and the African Union on 8 December 2022, in the presence of His Majesty ETSIE III, King of Lesotho;
3. **TAKES NOTE** of Abidjan Declaration Assembly/AU/Decl.3(XXXVII) on the 2022 African Union theme on nutrition which **CALLS FOR ACTION** to “**accelerate investment, implementation and coordination to improve nutrition and food security in Africa**”;
4. **DECIDES** to institute the “**Côte d'Ivoire-CERFAM Excellence Prize for strengthening Nutrition and Food Security**” which aims at honouring people, institutions, public or private bodies and active non-governmental organizations which have undertaken concrete activities to make a significant contribution to the reduction of malnutrition and hunger in Africa and the world;
5. **ADOPTS** the main measures taken by Côte d'Ivoire to operationalize this Prize as part of the extension of the activities of the Regional Centre of Excellence Against Hunger and Malnutrition (CERFAM) placed at the disposal of Africa and which seeks to identify best practices for the fight against hunger and malnutrition in Africa and to respond to the need to strengthen the capacity of Member States of the African Union for South-South cooperation partnership;
6. **ENDORSES** the operational modalities of this prize to be:

- awarded every two years as from 2027 with an amount of FCFA 100 million, i.e. about 152,000 euros, to one, two or a maximum of three awardees;
 - financed through the interest generated by the investment of an initial endowment meant to ensure its sustainability for at least 20 years. This capital will be financed by the State of Côte d'Ivoire;
 - placed under the patronage of a former African Head of State who will be the embodiment of its values and objectives; and
 - administered by the Regional Centre of Excellence Against Hunger and Malnutrition (CERFAM) based in Abidjan, and which is the executive body of the Prize;
7. **ENCOURAGES** Côte d'Ivoire to consolidate the specific details and operational modalities of this Prize in order to ensure its actual implementation in 2027; and
8. **REMAINS** convinced that the “**Côte d'Ivoire-CERFAM Excellence Prize for Nutrition and Food Security**” will enhance nutrition activities on the continent.

DECISION
ON HOSTING OF THE THIRD AFRICAN IMPLEMENTATION AND PARTNERSHIP
CONFERENCE ON WATER (PANAFCON-3) FROM MAY 27-29, 2025 IN LUSAKA,
ZAMBIA, (*Item proposed by the Republic of Zambia*)
Doc. Assembly/AU/22(XXXVIII)

The Assembly,

1. **RECALLS** the outcomes of the 5th Ordinary Session of the Specialised Technical Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy, Water and Environment (STC on ARBWE) held in November 2023 underscoring the key role of the Member States and encouraging them to actively engage in the ongoing processes to formulate the post-2025 Africa Water Vision and Policy.
2. **ALSO RECALLS** Decision EX.CL/Dec.1234(XLIV) para II/39 urging the Commission to develop an Africa Water Policy that provides a strategic framework towards inclusive and climate resilient water security on the continent beyond 2025.
3. **TAKES NOTE** of the Republic of Zambia's leadership and commitment to host, on 27 – 29 May 2025, the third African Implementation and Partnership Conference on Water (PANAFCON-3) in partial implementation of AMCOW Decision GA/13/2023/CAI/1 to conduct a multi-level dialogue process to:
 - a) assure broad and active stakeholder input into prioritisation of the technical proposals and articulation of the action framework of the post-2025 Africa Water Vision and Policy;
 - b) assure high-level political ownership of the Vision and Policy and, in turn, active commitment to actualise it by – among others – placing emphasis on making a business case for the water and sanitation economy as an essential success factor of national fiscal policy; and,
 - c) ensure that the post-2025 Africa Water Vision and policy is aligned to and is adopted as an implementation framework of Agenda 2063.
4. **CALLS FOR** broad participation and the involvement of all stakeholders to review the initial draft of the post-2025 Africa water vision and policy framework for assuring inclusive and climate resilient water security on the continent.
5. **REQUESTS** Member States, RECs, the Commission, AMCOW, the African Development Bank, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, development, technical, coordinating and implementing partners, the private sector and all stakeholders to ensure the success of the conference and action on its outcomes.

6. **REITERATES** the need to ensure strong political leadership, commitment and support towards achieving the undertakings of the Conference.
7. **CALLS ON** His Excellency President Hakainde Hichilema of the Republic of Zambia, supported by the leadership of the Sectoral Ministerial Committee on Water and Sanitation of the STC on ARBWE, to provide leadership and inspire action to implement the eventual outcomes of PANAFCON-3 and present, for the consideration of the Assembly, an implementation framework for the vision and policy that is aligned to and will motivate action to realise Aspiration 1 of Agenda 2063 of “A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development”.
8. **FURTHER CALLS ON** the Republic of Zambia and the leadership of the Sectoral Ministerial Committee on Water and Sanitation of the STC on ARBWE to ensure the success of the Conference and the contribution of the post-2025 Africa Water Vision and Policy in influencing the global agenda on water and sanitation.

DECISION
**ON INFORMATION ON THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE 4TH EDITION OF THE PAN-
AFRICAN FORUM FOR THE CULTURE OF PEACE AND NON-VIOLENCE “LUANDA
BIENNIAL” (Item Proposed by the Republic of Angola) –**

The Assembly,

1. **COMMENDS** the Government of the Republic of Angola, the AU, and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on the update regarding the preparations for the 4th Edition of the Pan-African Forum for the Culture of Peace and Non-Violence “Biennale of Luanda”, which will take place in two (2) phases, specifically from 2nd to 4th of July, and 12th –13th of November, 2025, in Luanda, Republic of Angola.
2. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the connection between the theme of the 4th Edition of the Pan-African Forum for the Culture of Peace and Non-Violence “Biennale of Luanda”, “**Honoring the Past, Valuing Achievements, Building the Africa We Want**” and the African Union’s theme for 2025, “**Justice for Africans and Afro-descendants through Reparations**”.
3. **DIRECTS** the Commission and UNESCO to prepare and promote activities and programs related to the theme of the 4th Edition of the Pan-African Forum for the Culture of Peace and Non-Violence “Biennale of Luanda” throughout 2025.
4. **REQUESTS** Member States and RECs to include activities related to the theme of the 4th Edition of the Pan-African Forum for the Culture of Peace and Non-Violence “Biennale of Luanda” as part of the implementation of the 2025 theme program.
5. **RECOGNIZES** the important role played by the Pan-African Forum for the Culture of Peace and Non-Violence “Biennale of Luanda” in promoting peace and stability across the continent.
6. **TAKES NOTE** of the structure of the 4th Edition of the Pan-African Forum for the Culture of Peace and Non-Violence “Biennale of Luanda,” which will comprise two (2) phases, namely, on **2nd to 4th of July, 2025** for Intergenerational Dialogue at the ministerial level, Thematic Forums, and Parallel Events, and on the other hand, on **12th to 13th of November, 2025**, for High-Level Opening Ceremony, Presentation of the results of the July thematic forums, Inauguration of the main exhibition (highlighting the contributions of exceptional achievements and the legacy of prominent African and diaspora figures to human progress), Cultural Agenda – Festival of Cultures.
7. **CALLS FOR** the active participation of Member States and RECs in the 4th Edition of the Pan-African Forum for the Culture of Peace and Non-Violence “Biennale of Luanda”.

DECISION
**ON SOCIAL JUSTICE IN AFRICA: ADVANCING PEOPLE-CENTERED ECONOMIC,
SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS**

(Item proposed by Tunisia)
Doc. Assembly/AU/24(XXXVIII)

The Assembly,

RECALLING the Constitutive Act of the AU and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, which underscore the Union's commitment to equity, human dignity, and sustainable development,

FURTHER RECALLING the foundational principles of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the AU, which emphasized equality, human dignity, and the eradication of socio-economic disparities, and reaffirming these ideals of Agenda 2063, which places people-centered development at the core of Africa's transformation agenda while promoting inclusive economic growth, social equity, and environmental sustainability,

ACKNOWLEDGING the critical role of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, particularly Articles 13, 15, and 22, in guaranteeing inclusive governance, the right to decent work, and equitable socio-economic development,

COMMENDING Africa's leadership in the Global Coalition for Social Justice, launched by the International Labour Organization (ILO), as a demonstration of the continent's commitment to multilateral cooperation in advancing social justice, decent work, and sustainable development,

WELCOMING the adoption of the 10-year strategic plan on the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) of the African Union (2024), which aims to promote a people-centered economic model aligned with Agenda 2063, and recognizing the efforts of the Specialized Technical Committee on Social Development, Labour and Employment (STC-SDLE-5) in advancing the Social Agenda 2063,

REAFFIRMING the relevance of the AU Ouagadougou+10 Declaration and Plan of Action on Employment, Poverty Eradication, and Inclusive Development in Africa, adopted by the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government in January 2015, as a critical framework for addressing employment and socio-economic challenges,

RECOGNIZING the pivotal role of social justice in fostering inclusive economic growth, eradicating poverty, addressing inequalities, and ensuring environmental sustainability,

RECALLING Aspiration 1 of Agenda 2063, which envisions a prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development and Aspiration 6 envisions "An Africa whose development is people-driven, relying on the potential of African people, especially its women and youth, and caring for children,"

CONCERNED by the persistent challenges of poverty, unemployment, inequality, and limited access to social protection across the continent,

NOTING the importance of the upcoming Second World Summit for Social Development as a global platform for advocating for a people-centered development model,

CONSIDERING the item proposed by the Republic of Tunisia "***Social Justice in Africa: Advancing People-Centered Economic, Social, and Environmental Progress***" as a reflection of the continent's commitment to addressing poverty, unemployment, inequality, and climate change,

The Assembly

1. **COMMENDS** the proposal made by the Republic of Tunisia and endorses "***Social Justice in Africa: Advancing People-centered Economic, Social, and Environmental Progress***" as a priority focus for the African Union's annual theme of the year to be envisaged in the forthcoming years;
2. **REQUESTS** the Commission, in collaboration with Member States and relevant stakeholders, to conduct a feasibility study on the effective implementation of the theme. This study will explore strategies, mechanisms, and partnerships necessary to integrate social justice into the Union's initiatives, ensuring a people-centered approach to economic, social, and environmental progress;
3. **ENCOURAGES** Member States to prioritize and integrate principles of social justice into national policies, strategies, and programs to accelerate inclusive development and promote equity across economic, social, and environmental dimensions;
4. **MANDATES** the Commission to:
 - a. Develop a comprehensive roadmap for implementing the above-mentioned Theme, with clear objectives, strategies, and timelines.
 - b. Establish partnerships with key stakeholders, including international organizations, financial institutions, workers' organizations, and the private sector, to leverage resources and expertise.
 - c. Facilitate capacity-building initiatives to enhance institutional and human resource capabilities across Member States;
5. **URGES** Member States to actively participate in the Second World Summit for Social Development scheduled from 4 to 6 November 2025 in Doha, Qatar and align their contributions with the objectives of the African Union, ensuring Africa's unified and influential voice in shaping global outcomes;

6. **CALLS UPON** the international community, including the United Nations system, the International Labour Organization (ILO), and partners, to support Africa's efforts in advancing social justice through technical, financial, and policy assistance;
7. **DECLARES** the theme “***Social Justice in Africa: Advancing People-Centered Economic, Social, and Environmental Progress***,” as a flagship initiative of the African Union in 2025, serving as a framework to operationalize the principles of social justice and to drive transformative progress across the continent, and **RECOMMENDS** the adoption of the theme for the AU's annual theme of the year to be envisaged in the forthcoming years.

DECISION
ON QUALIFICATION OF SLAVERY, DEPORTATION AND COLONIZATION AS
CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY AND GENOCIDE AGAINST THE PEOPLES OF
AFRICA (*Item proposed by Togo*) - Doc. Assembly/AU/25 (XXXVIII)

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the proposal made by the Togolese Republic on the '*qualification of slavery, deportation and colonisation as crimes against humanity and genocide against the peoples of Africa*' and **ACKNOWLEDGES** the interest of this theme to the Continent of Africa;

2. **RECALLS**
 - (i) the Banjul Conference Declaration, following the meeting of the Experts Group on Slavery and the follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, held from 10 to 13 June 2008 in Banjul, in the Republic of the Gambia;

 - (ii) the 2001 Durban Declaration of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, which explicitly considered slavery and the transatlantic slave trade as appalling tragedies of human history and a crime against humanity;

 - (iii) the 2006 United Nations General Assembly Resolution 61/19, which stressed that 'the slave trade and slavery are among the most serious violations of human rights in the history of mankind, especially in terms of their scale and duration';

 - (iv) the 2007 United Nations General Assembly Resolution 62/122 establishing an International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade, to be observed annually beginning on 25 March 2008;

 - (v) the April 1993 Abuja Declaration on Reparations, the outcome of a conference sponsored by the AU, which recognised that 'there is a unique and unprecedented moral debt owed to the peoples of Africa that has not yet been paid - the debt of compensation owed to Africans as the most humiliated and exploited people of the last four centuries of modern history';

 - (vi) the 2009 Decision EX.CL/Dec.408 (XII) on the Commemoration of the Abolition of Slavery;

- (vii) the 2015 Study conducted by the African Union Commission on International Law (AUCIL) on the Legal Basis for Reparations for Transatlantic Slavery and other Crimes against the African Continent;
 - (viii) the Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.847(XXXVI) authorising the Accra International Conference on Building a United Front to Advance the Cause of Justice and Reparations for Africans adopted by the Assembly at its 36th Ordinary Session held on 18 and 19 February 2023 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;
 - (ix) the Accra International Conference on Reparations, held from 14 to 17 November 2023;
 - (x) the Decision Assembly /AU/Dec.884 (XXXVII) whereby the Assembly adopted the theme for the year 2025, '**Justice for Africans and People of African Descent through Reparations**';
 - (xi) the Declaration of the Pan-African Youth Forum, held from 1 to 4 November 2024 in Oran, Algeria, which "appreciated the African Union theme of the year 2025 and stressed the need to instil in new generations the values and principles that inspired the heroic struggles of our ancestors and the African peoples for freedom, justice and dignity";
3. **EMPHASISES** the gravity of the historical injustices perpetrated against Africans and people of African descent through slavery, deportation, apartheid and colonisation;
 4. **REITERATES** the fact that the enslavement of the people of African descent and the mass crimes, massacres of civilian populations, torture and extrajudicial executions, arbitrary detentions and other types of crimes against humanity and injustices perpetrated against African countries and peoples during colonization were not accidental but deliberate and planned;
 5. **REAFFIRMS** that the enslavement of the people of African descent and the mass crimes and other forms of injustice perpetrated against the Continent during colonization were not accidental, but deliberate and planned
 6. **CONSIDERS** slavery, deportation and colonisation as practices without any legitimate justification and as serious violations of human dignity;
 7. **NOTES** that the current disparities between the level of development of Africa and that of other continents can largely be explained by slavery and colonialism, which profoundly destructured African communities and disrupted their development;

8. **REAFFIRMS** the thirst for justice of the African people, diasporas and Afro-descendants and their pressing expectations for reparation, restitution and return of Africa's cultural assets as well as the collection and restitution of national archives from the colonial period;
9. **EMPHASISES** the need to protect future generations and humanity from the risk of a resurgence of slavery and colonisation and to put appropriate labels on these atrocities and crimes in order to avoid their repetition;
10. **REQUESTS** AUCIL, in collaboration with concerned stakeholders, to undertake a study on the implications of the description of colonization as a crime against humanity as well as the description of certain acts committed during the era of slavery, deportation and colonization as acts of genocide against the peoples of Africa, and to present a report to the Assembly in February 2026;
11. **CONSIDERS** that this is a crucial and indispensable step in the struggle to advance the cause of reparation;
12. **INVITES** Member States, regional organisations, African and diasporic civil society organisations to work through various initiatives to ensure that new generations have a better understanding of the crimes and deliberately concealed sequences of the history of slavery and colonization;
13. **COMMENDS** the Togolese Republic for its proposal on the qualification of slavery, deportation and colonization as crimes against humanity and genocide and **REQUESTS** it to follow up on the implementation and implications of the Decision, in collaboration with the Commission, the Republics of Ghana, South Africa and Algeria, as well as all AU Member States, Diaspora organizations, Afro-descendants and international organizations.
14. **DECIDES** to remain seized on the matter.

DECISION ON THE DATE AND VENUE OF THE THIRTY-NINTH (39TH) ORDINARY SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE AFRICAN UNION

The Assembly,

1. **DECIDES** that the dates of the 39th Ordinary Session of the Assembly, which will be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, shall be the following:
 - (i) Fifty-First (51st) Ordinary Session of the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC), from 12 to 30 January 2026;
 - (ii) Forty-Eighth (48th) Ordinary Session of the Executive Council, 18th and 19th February 2026;
 - (iii) Thirty-Ninth (39th) Ordinary Session of the Assembly, 21st and 22nd February 2026.
2. **REQUESTS** the Commission to make all the necessary arrangements for the successful hosting of the Thirty-Ninth (39th) Ordinary Session of the Assembly and the preparatory meetings of the Executive Council and the PRC according to the aforementioned dates.

DECISION ON THE DATE AND VENUE OF THE SEVENTH (7TH) MID-YEAR COORDINATION MEETING

The Assembly,

1. **RECALLS** Decisions Assembly/AU/Dec.635 (XXVIII) and Assembly/AU/Dec.687 (XXX) adopted in January 2017 and January 2018 respectively, regarding the Mid-Year Coordination Meeting;
2. **DECIDES** that the dates of the 7th Mid-Year Coordination Meeting and preceding Executive Council and PRC Sessions, shall be as follows:
 - (i) Fiftieth (50th) Ordinary Session of the PRC from 9th June to 20th June 2025 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;
 - (ii) Forty-Seventh (47th) Ordinary Session of the Executive Council from 10th and 11th July 2025, Malabo, Equatorial Guinea;
 - (iii) Seventh (7th) Mid-Year Coordination Meeting of the African Union and the RECs on 13th July 2025, in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea;
3. **REQUESTS** the Commission to put in place all the necessary measures in order to organize the Seventh (7th) Mid-Year Coordination Meeting as well as the preparatory meetings of the Executive Council and the PRC according to the aforementioned dates.

**DECISION ON THE HOSTING OF 4TH AFRICA – TÜRKIYE
PARTNERSHIP SUMMIT**

The Assembly,

1. **WELCOMES** the Joint Communiqué and the Joint Implementation Report of the Third (3rd) Africa-Türkiye Ministerial Review Conference;
2. **ENDORSES** the offer made by the State of Libya to host the Fourth (4th) Africa-Türkiye Partnership Summit to be held in 2026;
3. **REQUESTS** the PRC in close collaboration with the Commission and the host country to agree on the dates for the Fourth (4th) Africa-Türkiye Partnership Summit and commence the preparatory processes for the successful holding of the Summit.

DECISION ON THE SCALE OF ASSESSMENT AND CONTRIBUTIONS

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Decision of the 46th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council on the report of the Joint Sitting of the Ministerial Committee on scale of assessment and contributions and the Committee of Fifteen Ministers of Finance (F15).
 - a. **On Member States experiencing force majeure circumstances making them temporarily unable to pay their assessed contributions**
2. **RECALLS** Decision Ext/Assembly/AU/Dec.3(XI) adopted in November 2018 in which the Assembly decided that it may consider requests from Member States experiencing force majeure circumstances making them temporarily unable to pay their assessed contributions. Such Member States shall notify the Assembly in writing and the Assembly may consider such requests and take a decision.
3. **ALSO RECALLS** Decision EX.CL/Dec.1071(XXXV) of July 2019 which considered the security and political situation of Somalia, withheld the imposition of sanctions for non-payment of contributions, and requested the Commission to consult with the country to agree on a payment plan to clear the arrears within four (4) years from the adoption of the Decision.
4. **FURTHER RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.752(XXXIII) of February 2020 which took note of the request from the Republic of Burundi and the challenges the country faced in meeting its annual contributions to the Union, as well as the request to the Commission to engage with Member States facing difficulties paying their contributions to the Union and those in arrears for two (2) or more years in order to agree on the payment plan for clearing their arrears.
5. **RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.802(XXXIV) of February 2021 which endorsed the payment plans for the Republic of Somalia and the Republic of Burundi to clear their arrears.
6. **TAKES NOTE** that 2024 was the last year of the implementation of the payment plans agreed with the Federal Republic of Somalia and the Republic of Burundi and **APPROVES:**
 - (i) The proposed restructured payment plan by the Federal Republic of Somalia to pay its arrears amounting to US\$1,722,316.95 recorded as of the 1st of January 2025, over a period of five years alongside its annual assessed contributions from 2025 to 2029.
 - (ii) The request by the Republic of Burundi for an additional six (6) months on its payment plan up to 30th June 2025 to pay its arrears amounting to US\$ 1,306,050.97.

- b. **On the formulation of the new scale of assessment**
- 7. **FURTHER TAKES NOTE** that 2026 marks the final year of the implementation of the current scale of assessment for Member States' contributions (2024-2026) and **DIRECTS** the Commission to begin the process of formulating the new scale of assessment for consideration and adoption by the Assembly in February 2026, following due process.

**DECISION ON THE REVISED DRAFT STATUTE OF THE
AFRICAN MONETARY INSTITUTE (AMI)**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the endorsement of the draft Statute of the AMI by the 5th Extraordinary STC on Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic Planning and Integration and **RECOMMENDS** submission of the same to the upcoming STC on Justice and Legal Affairs before adoption by the Mid-Year Coordination Meeting in July 2025;
2. **DIRECTS** that the AMI be operationalised by September 2025.

DECISION ON THE AFRICAN UNION'S PARTICIPATION IN THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE ADVISORY OPINIONS PROCEEDINGS ON PALESTINE**The Assembly,**

1. **RECALLS** the AU's consistent support for the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital, in accordance with international law and relevant United Nations resolutions;
2. **NOTES** the UN General Assembly's request for an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on Israel's obligations concerning the presence and activities of the UN, other international organizations, and third States in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;
3. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the AU's proactive participation in the advisory opinion process, including the submission of its written statement in July 2024 and the impactful oral statement delivered before the ICJ on 26 February 2024, which reaffirmed the Union's commitment to international law and justice for the Palestinian people;
4. **ALSO ACKNOWLEDGES** Resolution ACHPR/Res.611 (LXXXI) 2024 by the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights during its 81st Ordinary Session, which condemned ongoing violations of international law in the occupied Palestinian territories, and the Pan-African Parliament's declaration adopted on 16 November 2024 during its Fourth Ordinary Session, which expressed strong solidarity with the Palestinian people and called for urgent measures to promote justice and peace;
5. **DECIDES** as follows:
 - (i) To commend the Commission through the Office of the Legal Counsel (OLC) for representing the African Union in the ICJ proceedings on Legal Consequences arising from the Policies and Practices of Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which articulated a principled and compelling position on the legal obligations of Israel and the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people;
 - (ii) To mandate the Commission, through the OLC, to continue its active engagement in the ICJ advisory opinions on Palestine, including on "the obligations of Israel in relation to the presence and activities of the United Nations, other international organizations and third States" in and in relation to the Occupied Palestinian Territory;
 - (iii) To urge Member States to extend their full cooperation and assistance to the OLC by contributing relevant data, expertise, and support to strengthen the African Union's position and advocacy in the ICJ proceedings.

**DECISION ON THE APPOINTMENT OF H.E. MOHAMED OULD CHEIKH EL
GHAZOUANI, PRESIDENT OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF MAURITANIA AS
CHAMPION FOR SCIENCE AND INNOVATION**

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the successful organisation of the Continental Education Conference under the theme, “Educate and Skill Africa for the 21st Century” by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, from 9th to 11th December 2024, in Nouakchott, Mauritania;
2. **COMMENDS** the President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, **H.E. Mohamed Ould Cheikh El Ghazouani**, for his visionary leadership and commitment in harnessing the power of education, science, technology and innovation towards a technologically advanced and scientifically autonomous Africa, and **DECIDES** to appoint him as a Champion for Science and Innovation.

**DECLARATION
ON ACCELERATING ACCESS TO CLEAN COOKING SOLUTIONS IN
AFRICA (Item proposed by the United Republic of Tanzania) –
Doc. Assembly/AU/19 (XXXVIII)**

WE, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, assembled on 15 and 16 February 2025 at our 38th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;

Taking Note of the submission by the United Republic of Tanzania (URT) on its commitment to advancing the Clean Cooking Initiative, and recognizing the urgent need to accelerate access to clean, affordable, and reliable cooking solutions across Africa;

Acknowledging that reliance on traditional cooking fuels poses significant health, environmental, and economic challenges, particularly for women and children, and that urgent action is required to promote clean cooking technologies;

Recalling the collective resolve of Member States to transition towards sustainable, modern, and efficient cooking technologies in line with the African Union Agenda 2063 and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 7 on affordable and clean energy;

Recognizing with appreciation the leadership of H.E Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania in prioritizing clean cooking as a key component of energy access and climate resilience in Africa, and efforts of H.E President Samia Suluhu Hassan to mobilize national and regional resources and partnerships to scale up clean cooking solutions across the continent;

Affirming the need for increased financing, policy support, and cross-sectoral collaboration to achieve universal access to clean cooking solutions across the continent;

HEREBY DECLARE THE FOLLOWING:

1. **Encourage** the private sector and government institutions, to scale up production and distribution of clean cooking products and increasing investment in clean cooking infrastructure in rural and urban areas.
2. **Encourage** Member States to engage national and international stakeholders in securing funding for the implementation of the African Women Clean Cooking Solutions Programme (AWCCSP) and the African Clean Cooking Programme (ACCP).
3. **Emphasize** that both the national and continental levels, the environment for the AWCCSP and ACCP must align with the objectives of these programs.

4. **Strengthen** research, training and innovation considering the nature of clean cooking technologies so that Africa can achieve clean, affordable and reliable cooking solutions.
5. **Request** the Commission through the Department of Infrastructure and Energy to create systems for monitoring the adoption and impact of clean cooking solutions at national and regional level for sharing with member states to ensure standardized approach in measuring progress towards achieving the set goals on clean cooking.
6. **Request** H.E Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania to continue her championship on clean cooking on the continent, by ensuring high level continued political engagement, coordination and partnerships, as a key component of energy access, gender responsive just energy transition in the climate mitigation efforts in Africa, human health and climate resilience.
7. **Declare** access to clean cooking a top priority for Africa, recognizing its importance for health, the environment, climate change, energy security and economic transformation and **urge** Member States to take concrete steps towards advancing the clean cooking agenda in their respective national policies.

DECLARATION
ON AFRICAN UNION SOLIDARITY WITH HAITI AND SUPPORT FOR THE
TRANSITION OF THE UNITED NATIONS MANDATED MULTINATIONAL SECURITY
SUPPORT MISSION (MSSM) IN TO A UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING
OPERATIONS (*Item proposed by the Kenya*) – Doc. Assembly/AU/20 (XXXVIII)

WE the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, assembled on 16th February, 2025 at our 38th Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;

RECALLING the AU Charter which emphasizes the importance of peace, democracy, and security in creating an enabling environment for development and dignity;

ALSO RECALLING decision Assembly/AU/Dec. 884 (XXXVII) of February, 2024 the AU which expressed deep rooted Pan-African origins of the AU and those of its precursor, the OAU, encompassing historical, cultural and blood ties that bind the continent of Africa and the African Diaspora and appointed H.E. Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo -Addo, President of the Republic of Ghana as the AU Leader on Advancing the Cause of Justice and Payment of Reparations to Africans, with a view to enhancing advocacy for a common position on reparations in Africa, and forging a common front for Africa and the Diaspora at the global level.

ACKNOWLEDGE one of the four fundamental objectives of the Institutional Reform of the AU, as enshrined in Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.635 (XXVIII) which echoes the seventh aspiration of Agenda 2063 which aims at “An Africa which acts as a player and a strong, united and influent partner on the International scene”.

TAKE NOTE of declaration Assembly/AU/Decl.2(XXXII) of February 2019 which reaffirmed commitment to the unity of African people, to building an integrated Africa, to forging cultural, political, social and economic linkages that further the Pan Africanist dream among all peoples of African descent.

RECALLING the commitment to solidarity emanating from shared history, descendancy, humanity and culture that informed the launch of the Africa-CARICOM Summit in September 2020, reaffirm Africa’s responsibility to its 6th region and its aspiration to strengthen collaboration in the pursuit of a common destiny.

EXPRESSING DEEP CONCERN about the ongoing political instability, gang violence, sexual and gender-based violence, and humanitarian crises in Haiti, all of which threaten the safety and dignity of the Haitian people, hinder the return to democratic governance, and obstruct the path to long-term social and economic development, and could jeopardize stability in the region;

NOTING the unanimous adoption of United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Resolution 2699(2023) authorizing a Multinational Security Support (MSS) Mission to Haiti and UNSC Resolution 2751 (2024), which renewed this mandate for a further 12 months, at the request of the Government of Haiti;

WELCOMING the contribution of various countries in support of the MSSM and in particular support Kenya's role as the lead-nation of the Multinational Security Support Mission, and in acting on behalf of Africa in support of Haiti; and further noting the gains made since the deployment of the MSS to Haiti;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the Government of Haiti, through its Transitional Presidential Council, has called for the transformation of the MSS mission into a United Nations Peacekeeping Operation (PKO) in a communication dated October 22, 2024 (UNSC document S/2024-765), in order to contribute to the stability of the country and the rebuilding of its democratic institution;

STRESSING the need for continued and enhanced international support to enable the MSS achieve its mandate, and to secure the process of transition that is underway in Haiti;

RECOGNIZING the public support expressed by some members of the UNSC, African Member States such as Chad, Benin, Burundi, Senegal and Algeria; and contributors to the MSS, in particular Kenya, for initiating reflection and analysis based on the reports and recommendations regarding the performance of the MSS mission, as mandated by UNSC Resolutions 2699 (2023) and 2751 (2024), in order to consider transitioning the MSS mission to a UNPKO, as well as the importance of continued diplomatic engagement with other UNSC members and interested actors to facilitate the transition requested by Haiti;

REAFFIRMING that the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security rests with the UNSC, in accordance with its Charter, and that peacekeeping operations are one of the fundamental instruments available to the United Nations to fulfil this responsibility;

NOTING the importance of ensuring that peacekeeping operations in Haiti respect human rights, international law, and national sovereignty, based on the full and express consent of the Haitian authorities and the will of its people, while providing the support requested by the Haitian interim government to help restore stability and public order, taking into account respect for the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity, and political independence of States, as well as the principle of non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of States; and

AFFIRMING that, in addition to peacekeeping operations, there is a need to address the root causes of conflict, and that these must be tackled in a coherent, well-planned, coordinated, and comprehensive manner, using political, social, and developmental instruments,

RESOLVE TO:

1. **Express strong** solidarity with the people of Haiti during these difficult times and support the Transitional Presidential Council's call for international assistance to restore security, secure its political transition and place Haiti on a path for sustainable security, rule of law and democratic governance. In this regard, endorse the request of the TPC for the transition of the MSS Mission to a UN Peacekeeping Operations as a means of providing guaranteed resources to achieve this objective.
2. **Thank** the UNSC for remaining seized of the Haiti situation; and aware of the imperative and urgent need for adequate and sustainable resources to enable dealing with the complexity of challenges facing Haiti, and build on the current momentum, **urge** the Council to positively consider Haiti's request to transition the MSS mission into a UNPKO, ,
3. **Direct** the A3 to strongly champion and coordinate with all members of the UNSC to fast-track the transition of the MSS to UNPKO; further urge all UNSC members to lend their full support to the transition; and call on UN Secretariat to expeditiously facilitate the transition of the MSS to a UNPKO.
4. **Recognize** the support provided by certain AU member states to the MSS mission, in the particular the commitment of Kenya as the lead nation, **commend** the bravery of the MSS troops whose support to the Haitian National Police has delivered significant successes and generated a positive momentum in Haiti; and to encourage other AU member states to consider joining efforts to ensure the full deployment of the MSS in Haiti, in accordance with UNSC Resolution 2751 (2024), and to continue coordinating in-kind and material contributions through existing mechanisms, including the UN Trust Fund and the International Security Coordination Group.
5. **Recognize** the contributions made by regional and international partners to the MSS mission, and to emphasize the importance of supporting the efforts of the Haitian National Police to restore law and secure the return to democratic governance in the country; further call on all the international community to demonstrate their support to, and solidarity with, the people of Haiti and their country.
6. **Request** Kenya, as the lead nation of MSS to brief the African Union through the AU Peace and Security Council on the progress of this mission; and to further **urge** the African Union Commission to facilitate an African Solidarity Mission to Haiti
7. **Reaffirm** the AU commitment to supporting Haiti through this period, and to advocate for additional resources and attention to the social and economic reconstruction of Haiti, focusing on building peace, democratic governance, political stability, and sustainable development.

**DECLARATION ON THE AFRICA FERTILIZER AND
SOIL HEALTH SUMMIT**

WE the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, assembled on 16th February, 2025 at our 38th Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;

ENDORSE the annexed Declaration of the Africa Fertilizer and Soil Health Summit held on 9 May 2024 in Nairobi, Kenya.

**NAIROBI DECLARATION ON AFRICA FERTILIZER AND SOIL HEALTH SUMMIT
NAIROBI, KENYA | 9TH MAY 2024**

We, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union having met in Nairobi, Kenya during the Africa Fertilizer and Soil Health Summit;

RECALLING that the 2006 Abuja Declaration on Fertilizer for the African Green Revolution identified the critical need to increase fertilizer use to stimulate agricultural productivity growth to end hunger and poverty in Africa;

FURTHER RECALLING the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) Malabo Declaration adopted during the Twenty-Third Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea in June 2014. In the Declaration, the Member States committed to inclusive agricultural transformation. The CAADP-Malabo Declaration also solidified previous decisions, including the 2003 Maputo Declaration on CAADP; the 2004 Sirte Declaration on the Challenges of Implementing Integrated and Sustainable Development in Agriculture and Water in Africa;

ACKNOWLEDGING the persistent and long-term challenges in implementing commitments in the various declarations and appreciating the progress made since the Abuja Declaration, especially the significant increase in local manufacturing of mineral fertilizers to over \$15 billion of investments by the private sector;

DEEPLY CONCERNED that since the adoption of the Abuja Declaration in 2006, fertilizer consumption in Africa has only increased from an average of 8kg/ha to about 18kg/ha in 2022, which is less than half of the target of 50kg/ha set in the declaration;

RECALLING that the average global fertilizer consumption rate is about 135kg/ha and that Africa's average consumption rate of 18kg/ha is only 13 percent of the global rate;

RECOGNIZING that while the Continent now produces approximately 30 million metric tons of mineral fertilizer each year, most of the fertilizers are exported outside the continent and the majority of Member States are still over-dependent on imported fertilizers, especially non-phosphate-based fertilizers which expose Africa to external market shocks and price volatility;

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING that the recent global fertilizer crisis has disproportionately affected Africa, with a year-on-year decline of 25% in fertilizer consumption in 2022;

RECOGNIZING that focusing on fertilizers alone cannot stop land degradation nor boost the productivity of Africa's soils and their agricultural yields;

CONCERNED about the continued reliance on cropland expansion to increase agricultural production, the continued slow pace of agricultural productivity increase, the small area under sustainable soil management and the resultant soil nutrient depletion,

low farmer incomes, expansive land degradation, CO₂ emissions, severe biodiversity loss, and high environmental cost. This decline in soil health significantly reduces the response of crops to the use of yield-enhancing inputs such as mineral fertilizers and improved crop varieties, and greatly increases the vulnerability of smallholder farmers and communities to the impacts of climate and other shocks;

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING that the perspective on agricultural sustainability has evolved from a narrow crop productivity and profitability focus to a broader focus on social, environmental, and economic sustainability, climate change adaptation and mitigation, rehabilitation of degraded land, and restoration and maintenance of ecosystem services, including biodiversity;

APPRECIATING that the need to increase fertilizer use in Africa remains valid and pertinent, and this must be done in a way that supports soil health and environmental resilience. Africa's agriculture also continues to be highly susceptible to climate change which threatens the future sustainability of agriculture on the continent;

REFLECTING that today the challenges of food and nutrition insecurity, malnutrition, and climate change persist and require urgent attention. The need for regional cooperation on the issue of fertilizer and soil health is greater than ever before as opportunities for investment and great inter- and intra-regional trade are now significantly enhanced by AU Member States' adoption of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA);

APPRECIATIVE of the fact that increasing the use of fertilizers, both mineral and organic resources, is imperative for increasing productivity and soil health restoration. The efficiency and effectiveness of mineral and organic fertilizers and other complementary inputs must be enhanced to increase productivity, maximize profitability and returns on investment, improve soil health, and enhance resilience to climate change;

MINDFUL of the imperative that building soil health and regenerating degraded soils is critical for sustainable food systems transformation and is a prerequisite for efficient and effective use of fertilizers and that it is a long-term process. Supporting mechanisms and incentives are necessary to enable farmer investments in soil health improvement;

STRESSING that investments in local domestic manufacturing and blending of fertilizers must be leveraged to capitalize on the continent's resources and reduce reliance on global markets. Fertilizer access and affordability must be improved. Financing tools such as trade credit guarantees, working capital, and targeted subsidies must be consolidated to reduce market distortions, reduce costs and strengthen input supply chains;

RECOGNIZING the opportunities offered by regional cooperation, coordination, and harmonization of fertilizer policies and regulations, pooling investments to increase the capacity of countries and the continent to produce fertilizers, coupled with easing cross-

border trade; collaborative research and development, capacity building as well as cross-country learning and sharing of best practices;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING the integrated nature of Africa's agricultural sub-sectors (crops, fisheries, forests, and livestock) and soil health concerns which require the prioritization of integrated soil and water conservation and management at the watershed, landscape, or catchment level to improve soil health;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the last-mile delivery system in Africa is weak, with long distances for farmers to access fertilizers and other critical agricultural inputs as well as advisory services;

Hereby:

Endorse the Fertilizer and Soil Health Action Plan and the Soil Initiative for Africa Framework as key guiding documents to harness multi-stakeholder partnerships and investments to drive policies, finance, research and development, markets, and capacity building for fertilizer and sustainable soil health management in Africa.

On Fertilizers:

1. We commit to triple domestic production and distribution of certified quality organic and inorganic fertilizers by 2034 to improve access and affordability for smallholder farmers through the following actions:
 - a. Prioritize local production and blending of mineral fertilizers using locally available raw materials;
 - b. Strengthen research and development on the utilization of inorganic and organic fertilizers by resuscitating the African Centre for Fertilizer Development in Harare;
 - c. Provide incentives for local production, utilization and recycling of organic resources;
 - d. Leverage opportunities offered by decentralized, low-carbon, and circular fertilizer production;
 - e. Establish small and medium (SME) ventures, especially by youth and women, oriented to the production and distribution of organic and inorganic fertilizers;
 - f. Leverage the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) to double intra-Africa fertilizer trade by 2034.

2. We commit to make available by 2034, to at least 70% of smallholder farmers on the continent, targeted agronomic recommendations for specific crops, soils, and climatic conditions to ensure greater efficiency and sustainable use of fertilizers through the following actions:
 - a. Develop context-specific fertilizer and soil health advisory recommendations leveraging the potential of data and following principles of 4R Nutrient Stewardship and Integrated Soil Fertility Management;

- b. Develop and deploy standardized and appropriate tools for assessing soil fertility, soil health, and context-specific sustainable soil management and nutrient requirements;
 - c. Establish a digital information system to operationalize fertilizer, crop and climate decision support tools on soil management at national, regional and continental levels.
3. We support efforts of natural gas producing Member States in fertilizer production to increase their production and ensure availability at stable prices.

On Soil Health:

4. We commit to reverse land degradation and restore soil health on at least 30% of degraded soil by 2034 through the following actions:
 - a. Deploy innovative incentive mechanisms - including repurposing current subsidy programs - to encourage soil health investments by smallholder farmers;
 - b. Promote integrated soil and water conservation, planning, and management practices across agricultural sub-sectors and landscapes/ watersheds;
 - c. Promote investments in irrigation as part of integrated soil and water resource management for enhancing nutrient-use efficiency and climate change resilience;
 - d. Strengthen national, regional and international collaborative research and extension systems to tackle soil health challenges and improve the quality of support to smallholder farmers;
 - e. Promote organic agriculture practices to improve soil health alongside conventional agriculture.

On Financing:

5. We commit to fully operationalize the Africa Fertilizer Financing Mechanism (AFFM) to improve production, procurement, and distribution of organic and inorganic fertilizers, and soil health interventions through the following actions:
 - a. Widening the scope of the Mechanism to support the implementation of this Declaration with specific attention to de-risking farmer investments in yield-enhancing technologies and soil health of current and targeted food security crops, financing infrastructure and logistics to improve availability of fertilizers, access to food markets for farmers and supporting fertilizer and soil health policy reforms;
 - b. Create a multi-source soil health fund, for research, innovation, capacity building, and start-ups on fertilizer use and soil health actions. The fund to be part of the already existing Africa Fertilizer Financing Mechanism (AFFM), which is hosted by the African Development Bank (AfDB);
 - c. Pay special attention to Africa's Small Island Developing States (SIDS), that face challenges because of the fragility of their ecosystems including access to fertilizers and the costs that are intrinsic to Small Island Developing States.

6. We request the AU Commission to mobilize financial and technical resources to execute these commitments in close cooperation with the various existing climate funds.

On Creating an Enabling Environment

7. We commit to formulating and implementing policies and regulations to create a conducive environment for fertilizer and soil health interventions through the following actions:
 - a. Develop continent-wide, context-specific guidelines for the formulation and implementation of relevant and effective fertilizer and soil health policies;
 - b. Harmonize national and regional policies and regulatory frameworks to ensure coherence and promote regional and continental trade;
 - c. Enhance engagement and dialogue with the private sector at all levels;
 - d. Strengthen public private partnerships to enhance investments in the fertilizer value chain.

On Capacity Enhancement to Support Implementation

8. We commit to developing and promoting systemic national capacity building for locally relevant fertilizer and soil health management practices and technologies through the following actions:
 - a. Establish regional research and development networks for the exchange of knowledge and technologies;
 - b. Build, strengthen, and standardize the fertilizer analysis capacity and services of laboratories in accordance with fertilizer quality standards in collaboration with all the relevant stakeholders including Professional Agricultural Institutions;
 - c. Capacitate the African Centre for Fertilizer Development that was set up in Harare by the African Union.
9. We commit to promoting African solidarity through knowledge sharing, training, development, and transfer programs for best practices in soil fertility and soil health;
10. We further commit to ensuring that at least 70% of smallholder farmers have access to quality extension and advisory services on fertilizer and soil health both from public and private extension systems through the following actions:
 - a. Review and upgrade basic education and tertiary training programmes for soil science and agronomy to include subjects relevant to sustainable soil management;
 - b. Build, strengthen and standardize the soil analytical services to ensure they are available and affordable to smallholder farmers;
 - c. Strengthen last-mile delivery systems by supporting agro-dealers and SMEs.

On Domestication

11. We commit to domesticate the recommendations in this Declaration into National Agricultural Investment Plans for implementation;
12. We call upon Ministers of Finance to mobilize and allocate adequate resources for the implementation of the recommendations in this Declaration.

Call for Action

We request:

13. AUC and AUDA-NEPAD to support Member States in domesticating promising mechanisms for rewarding smallholder farmers for improved soil health practices, including carbon markets;
14. AUC and AUDA-NEPAD to develop a systematic soil health monitoring system aligned with existing CAADP M&E systems, in order to track progress, including developing continent-wide metrics for measuring soil health;
15. AUC and AUDA-NEPAD to develop a post-summit implementation roadmap for the Fertilizer and Soil Health Action Plan and in line with the Soil Initiative for Africa, and report to the Specialized Technical Committee (STC) on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment in November 2025;
16. AUC and AUDA-NEPAD to develop the partnerships and institutional arrangements for implementation of this declaration and report to the Ordinary Session of the Assembly in February 2026;
17. AUC and AUDA-NEPAD to support and retool the African Centre for Fertilizer Development as an institution to support research and development of fertilizers in Africa;

We encourage:

18. Member States to establish and strengthen national Fertilizer Research and Development Centres;

We call upon:

19. The private sector to increase investments in Africa's fertilizer industry and promote sustainable soil management practices;
20. Continental and International Financial Institutions to support private and public sector investments in Africa's fertilizer industry;

21. Development partners to support the Commission, AUDA-NEPAD, Regional Economic Communities and Member States in the implementation of this Declaration.

Done in Nairobi, Kenya, on 9th May 2024

**DECLARATION ON THE KAMPALA CAADP DECLARATION ON BUILDING
RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE AGRIFOOD SYSTEMS IN AFRICA**

WE the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, assembled on 16th February, 2025 at our 38th Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;

ENDORSE the annexed Declaration of the Extraordinary Summit on the Post Malabo **CAADP** Agenda on Building Resilient and Sustainable Agrifood Systems in Africa held on 11 January 2025 in Kampala, Uganda.

KAMPALA CAADP DECLARATION ON BUILDING RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE AGRIFOOD SYSTEMS IN AFRICA

We, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union (AU), meeting at an Extraordinary Summit in Kampala, Uganda, from 9 to 11 January 2025, reaffirm our commitment to the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP). We recognize the urgent need to renew our efforts to advance the development of resilient, inclusive, and sustainable agrifood systems in Africa.

RECALLING Aspiration 1, Goal 5 of Agenda 2063, which aims to modernize agriculture for increased productivity and production.

FURTHER RECALLING the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) Malabo Declaration, adopted during the Twenty-Third Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, in June 2014, where Member States committed to inclusive agricultural transformation. The Malabo CAADP Declaration reaffirmed previous declarations, including the 2003 Maputo Declaration on CAADP and the 2004 Sirte Declaration on the challenges of implementing integrated and sustainable development in agriculture and water in Africa.

RECOGNIZING that Africa's population is projected to reach 2.5 billion people by 2050 while the global population is expected to reach 9.8 billion people, and appreciating the challenges this will pose for food demand and the need for significant increases in agricultural production, productivity, food processing and trade.

ACKNOWLEDGING the significant effects of climate change on agriculture and food systems, particularly on vulnerable populations, and emphasizing the necessity for innovative responses that ensure access to safe, affordable, and nutritious food while reinforcing international cooperation and commitments to sustainability frameworks.

CONSIDERING the rapid urbanization and shifting consumption patterns toward ready-to-eat and processed foods, we recognize the crucial role of strengthening the food processing sector to connect smallholder and other farmers of any size with expanding domestic and regional markets. Although growing rapidly, the processing sector is still in its early stages. Africa, therefore, has the opportunity to shape a path that promotes food processing technologies and practices aimed at maximizing nutritional outcomes.

RECOGNISING the transformative impact of technological innovations, advances in digital agriculture, biotechnology, and precision farming to revolutionize Africa's agrifood systems, along with the growing adoption of mobile phones and digital tools that are enhancing farmers' access to critical information, financial services, and markets.

NOTING WITH CONCERN the serious challenges posed by climate variability, environmental degradation, greenhouse gas emissions and social instability, Africa faces a complex set of issues that directly affect agricultural productivity and production. Changing rainfall patterns, rising temperatures, and frequent extreme weather events

highlight the critical need for sustainable land and water management, as well as climate-smart agricultural practices. Furthermore, addressing social instability, particularly migration caused by conflict, is vital as the continent grapples with both climate impacts and productivity shortfalls.

RECOGNIZING the critical role of gender dynamics in agriculture, empowering women, youth and vulnerable groups is fundamental because these groups form a large part of the agricultural workforce in many African countries. Removing barriers to accessing resources such as land, credit, and agricultural inputs is critical to significantly boosting productivity and improve food and nutrition security. Gender-sensitive policies and interventions are therefore essential for transforming the agrifood systems and building stronger and more resilient communities.

HIGHLIGHTING the immense potential of youth engagement, Africa's rapidly growing youth population presents an opportunity for driving agricultural innovation and growth. By equipping young people with training, mentorship, and access to vital resources, we can empower them as change agents in agrifood systems. This engagement not only addresses pressing issues like unemployment and rural-urban migration but also injects fresh perspectives and energy, fostering more dynamic and forward-looking agrifood systems.

NOTING that trade policies and regional integration initiatives such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) are pivotal in transforming Africa's agrifood systems. AfCFTA seeks to increase intra-African trade by reducing tariffs, eliminating trade barriers, and harmonizing standards to enhance market access and foster stronger economic ties among African nations. This integration bolsters agricultural competitiveness and resilience, positioning Africa for sustainable growth.

RECOGNIZING the crucial role of inclusive agro-industrialization to drive economic growth, job creation, and shared prosperity, it is essential to integrate agricultural production into broader supply chains to combat food insecurity and improve nutrition. Achieving this, however, requires investment in technology innovation systems, efficient services, infrastructure, as well as policy, regulatory and institutional arrangements to enhance the performance and competitiveness of the emerging agrifood processing sector.

ACKNOWLEDGING the transformative potential of emerging technologies to boost productivity and resilience in Africa's agrifood systems, these innovations offer powerful solutions to pressing challenges such as food and nutrition insecurity, and climate change by improving farming techniques and optimizing resource management. The adoption of mechanization, digital agriculture, biotechnology, and other technological advancements is essential to enhance efficiency, sustainability, and scalability in the sector.

EMPHASIZING that sustainable water management, particularly in water-scarce regions, is fundamental to the transformation of Africa's agrifood systems. Implementing

efficient practices such as drip irrigation, rainwater harvesting, and water recycling is critical for increasing agricultural productivity in the face of climate change and population growth. Investments in water infrastructure and sustainable management practices are vital to strengthening the resilience of agrifood systems and ensuring their long-term sustainability.

NOTING that addressing the diverse needs of farmers, from smallholders to large-scale farmers, is key to achieving sustainable agrifood systems transformation. Smallholder farmers often struggle with limited access to resources, while medium and large-scale farmers face regulatory and logistical hurdles. Tailored policies and support systems are essential to address these varying challenges, empowering all farmers to enhance productivity and production, promote equitable growth, and strengthen food and nutrition security across the continent.

EMPHASIZING that the shift from an agriculture-led to an agrifood systems approach will address challenges across the entire agrifood system, while aligning policies with broader development goals. This holistic approach prioritizes environmental sustainability, promotes diverse and nutritious diets to combat malnutrition, and ensures economic inclusion for Africa's largely agricultural population. The agenda also aims to expand market access and boost regional trade, particularly through the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), with a goal of significantly increasing intra-African agricultural trade.

RECOGNIZING the importance of post-harvest loss reduction, we emphasize the need to promote innovations in post-harvest handling, storage, and transportation to reduce food losses and improve food availability and incomes for farmers.

WELCOMING the resolutions of the Extraordinary Session of the Specialized Technical Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Water and Environment, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 23-25 October 2024.

We, hereby, adopt the *CAADP Strategy and Action Plan: 2026-2035* and the following *Kampala CAADP Declaration on Building Resilient and Sustainable Agrifood Systems in Africa*

I. Commitment to Intensify Sustainable Food Production, Agro-Industrialization, and Trade

We commit to increasing agrifood output by 45% by the end of 2035 through the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices to meet the growing Africa food requirements and global trade opportunities, reducing post-harvest loss by 50%, tripling intra-African trade in agrifood products and inputs by 2035 in line with the AfCFTA, and raising the share of locally processed food to 35% of agrifood GDP by 2035. To achieve this, we resolve to:

- a) Strengthen and ensure the functionality of agricultural input systems including seed systems, soil health and fertilizers, water management, and agricultural research and extension services, while promoting the widespread adoption of sustainable agricultural practices that conserve resources, protect ecosystems, and ensure long-term productivity and production.
- b) Create an enabling policy and regulatory environment that fosters the development and integration of emerging technologies, such as biotechnologies, artificial intelligence, digitalization, and precision agriculture.
- c) Stimulate the growth, competitiveness, and sustainability of agro-industrial enterprises, with a particular focus on small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).
- d) Enhance the integration of smallholder farmers, women, and youth into value chains and regional markets, while developing and strengthening these chains to stimulate value addition at all stages and ensuring equitable participation and benefits across agricultural production and trade, all the while ensuring compliance with sustainability standards that meet environmental and social requirements to enhance economic growth and efficiency.
- e) Strengthen market access and trade facilitation by removing trade barriers and improving infrastructure for the efficient movement of goods.
- f) Invest in regional value chains, post-harvest infrastructure, food baskets and trade corridors, enhance regional cooperation, increase trade to improve food and nutrition security across African Union Member States.

II. Commitment to Boost Investment and Financing for Accelerated Agrifood Systems Transformation

We commit to mobilizing a total of \$100 billion in public and private sector investment in African agrifood systems by 2035, while ensuring that at least 10% of annual public expenditure is allocated to agrifood systems and that at least 15% of agrifood GDP is reinvested annually into the sector. To this end, we resolve to:

- a) Increase both public and private sector investment in agrifood systems to drive sustainable growth and innovation.
- b) Expand public sector investment to support critical infrastructure and initiatives within agrifood systems.
- c) Strengthen capacities to develop and implement flagship programs and bankable projects, ensuring that investments lead to impactful and scalable outcomes.
- d) Improve access to financing for agrifood systems transformation, facilitating greater participation from stakeholders across all sectors, ensuring that adequate levels of climate finance reach farmers and small and medium scale food producers and processors.

III. Commitment to Ensure Food and Nutrition Security

We commit to achieving zero hunger in all African Union Member States by 2035 and reducing stunting by 25%, wasting by 25% and overweight by 25%, ensuring that 60% of the population can afford a healthy diet. To this end, we resolve to:

- a) Promote agrifood systems that enhance human nutrition and health outcomes, promoting diets that contribute to overall well-being.
- b) Boost the production and consumption of nutritious traditional and indigenous crops, animals, fish and fisheries products through specific policy and regulatory reforms and financing strategies for those value chains.
- c) Strengthen nutrition policies, programs, education, and consumer awareness to eliminate micronutrient deficiencies.
- d) Enhance sanitary and phytosanitary standards (SPS) and implement One Health protocols to safeguard food safety and protect human, animal, plant and environmental health.
- e) Invest in disease surveillance and reporting, strengthen veterinary laboratories, increase vaccine production, prioritize eradication of peste des petits ruminants (PPR) by 2030, and improve cooperation on transboundary animal diseases.
- f) Prioritize research and development of improved fodder crop varieties and promote alternative feed sources to enhance livestock nutrition and reduce dependency on traditional feeds.
- g) Strengthen fisheries and aquaculture value chains while promoting sustainable practices, resilience building, and effective and sustainable management of aquatic resources.
- h) Develop innovative social safety nets that effectively tackle malnutrition and promote food and nutrition security.

IV. Commitment to Advancing Inclusivity and Equitable Livelihoods

We commit to reducing the number of people living in extreme poverty by 50%, reducing the yield gap between men and women farmers by 50%, and empowering at least 30% of women, 30% youth and 30% vulnerable groups in agrifood value chains by 2035. To achieve this, we resolve to:

- a) Improve infrastructure and access to social services in rural areas and vulnerable communities.
- b) Reduce the yield gap between male and female farmers.
- c) Facilitate access to productive resources including friendly financial services, innovation, technology and access to land for women, youth, and vulnerable groups.
- d) Facilitate climate resilient and green jobs for youth, women and vulnerable groups through initiatives that support enterprises focused on climate smart agriculture, renewable energy in agribusiness, carbon markets and climate adaptation.

- e) Implement inclusive social protection programs that address the needs of vulnerable populations.

V. Commitment to Building Resilient Agrifood Systems

We commit to ensuring that Africa's agrifood systems are resilient to climate, socio-economic, and environmental shocks. We commit to have at least 30% of agricultural land under sustainable management and 40% of households protected from shocks by 2035. To achieve this, we resolve to:

- a) Increase investments in human and physical capacity for research to generate agricultural technologies and innovations that mitigate climate change.
- b) Strengthen early warning and response systems for various shocks while implementing national resilience strategies that integrate resilience into plans and policies, ultimately mobilizing resources for capacity building in agrifood systems.
- c) Enhance the absorptive capacity of agrifood systems to minimize damage, protect livelihoods, and support recovery efforts following shocks or disruptions.
- d) Promote adaptation strategies within agrifood systems and livelihoods to reduce vulnerability to major shocks and stressors.
- e) Increase mobilization of climate finance and technical assistance to support farmers, particularly smallholders and transition to low-carbon farming practices.
- f) Promote indigenous knowledge and practices, recognizing their role in fostering environmental stewardship and resilience.

VI. Commitment to Strengthening Agrifood Systems Governance

We commit to ensuring that by 2028, all Member States of the African Union and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) integrate the Kampala CAADP Declaration into their national and regional agrifood systems investment plans and adopt best practices in governance of agrifood systems based on CAADP principles. Furthermore, by 2030, all countries will incorporate the CAADP Biennial Review process into their national agriculture joint sectoral review platforms. To achieve this, we resolve to:

- a) Maintain the CAADP principles that include agrifood-led economic growth for inclusive and sustainable development; regional complementarity and cooperation; and, inclusive participation of all stakeholders, especially women, youth, and vulnerable groups.
- b) Promote evidence-based decision-making and mutual accountability, ensuring that actions are guided by reliable data.

- c) Strengthen the African Union Commission, AUDA-NEPAD, and regional economic communities to enable them to fulfill the roles and mandates outlined in this declaration.
- d) Develop a financial instrument designed to support the effective implementation of this Declaration.
- e) Empower national, regional and continental parliaments, and their committees, to ensure consistent alignment of legislation and national budgets to the objectives of the Kampala CAADP Declaration, and to provide oversight for the effective implementation of relevant policies
- f) Strengthen producer organizations to enable them to fulfill their role in developing and implementing national and regional policies, as well as the mandates outlined in this Declaration.

VII. A Call for Action

We, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, recognize that to achieve the goals and targets set out in this declaration will require the commitment of many parties to transform these decisions into tangible results. To achieve this, we call upon:

a) Member States to:

- Integrate and reflect commitments in this declaration in national policies, strategies and budget frameworks, for effective implementation through National Agrifood Systems Investment Plans (NASIPs) and ensure that effective implementation programs and tools are in place to deliver on NASIPs.
- Develop and implement comprehensive and coherent policies that foster private sector investment in agrifood systems transformation while ensuring effective public sector support for these systems.
- Increase investments in infrastructure, agricultural research and extension services to support accelerated agrifood systems transformation.
- Ensure effective coordination systems are in place and there is inclusive participation in agrifood systems governance with special attention to women, youth, and vulnerable groups.
- Ensure adequate capacity and designate an apex monitoring and evaluation team, supported by Africa-wide knowledge systems, technical experts, and robust digital platforms for effective performance measurement and data management.

b) African Union (AUC and AUDA-NEPAD) and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to:

- Support AU Member States and RECs to incorporate the commitments in this declaration into National and Regional Agrifood Systems Investment Plans (NASIPs and RASIPs).

- Facilitate regional collaboration, economic integration, and harmonization of policies across African Union Member States to boost intra-African trade.
- Establish a private sector-led advisory council to enhance private sector engagement.
- Conduct a biennial Agricultural Review Process, beginning the year 2027, and report on progress to the AU Assembly during its January/February Ordinary Session starting in 2028.
- Enhance the utilization of the results of the CAADP biennial review report to inform planning and decision-making at national, regional, and continental levels.

c) Farmers and rural producers to:

- Adopt innovative practices and emerging technologies to boost agricultural productivity, sustainability and resilience.
- Invest in boosting agricultural production innovations and cost competitiveness to capture a larger share of domestic and regional markets.

d) Civil society organizations to:

- Create a dedicated framework to oversee the National and Regional Agrifood Systems Investment Plans (NASIPs/RASIPs), ensuring transparency and accountability in their implementation.
- Advocate for resource allocation for agrifood systems development, enhancing funding opportunities and support for NASIPs/RASIPs initiatives.
- Promote sustainable and equitable agricultural practices in agrifood systems transformation.

e) Private sector to:

- Invest in technology, innovation, market development and value chain integration to drive agrifood systems transformation.
- Increase investments in sustainable value chains to boost food production, agro-industrialization and trade.

f) Parliamentarians to:

- Support the African Union Member States and RECs in the development and implementation of Agrifood System policies and investment plans at national and regional levels, through appropriate legislation, budgetary allocations and institutional oversight
- Ensure that at least 10% of annual public expenditure is invested in agrifood systems and monitor its efficient utilization at national and regional levels.

g) Development partners and international organizations to:

- Commit to support implementation of the CAADP Strategy and Action Plan: 2026-2035 and the Kampala CAADP Declaration by aligning their technical and financial resources to the continental priorities.
- Support AUC, AUDA-NEPAD and regional economic communities to provide the necessary support to Member States to integrate the Kampala CAADP declaration in NASIPs/RASIPs.
- Support data systems and mutual accountability efforts at continental, regional and national levels.

This declaration shall come into effect on January 1, 2026

Done on January 11, 2025 at Kampala, Uganda.

DECLARATION ON THE 6TH MID-YEAR COORDINATION MEETING

WE, the Heads of State and Government, representing the Bureau of the Assembly of the African Union and Chairpersons of the Eight (8) Regional Economic Communities (RECs) as well as Regional Mechanisms (RMs), meeting in Accra, Ghana on 21st July 2024, on the occasion of the Sixth Mid-Year Coordination Meeting, chaired by H.E. Mohamed Cheikh El Ghazouani, President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and Chairperson of the African Union;

RECALLING the outcomes of the five previous Mid-Year Coordination Meetings, the latest of which declaration on 16 July 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya is contained in document MYCM/AU/ Decl.(V);

UNDERSCORING the need to promote cooperation in all fields of human endeavour in order to raise the standard of living of the African peoples, maintain and enhance economic stability, foster close and peaceful relations among Member States and contribute to the progress, development and economic integration of the Continent;

UNDERLINING the importance of the harmonization of national and regional policies in order to promote socio-economic development across the continent;

RECOGNIZING that the promotion of intra-African trade remains a fundamental factor for sustainable economic development, employment generation and effective integration of Africa into the global economy; and

REITERATING that the implementation of the Protocol on Relations between the African Union and the Regional Economic Communities charges the Union and the Communities with the responsibility to ensure that both the African Union and the Regional Economic Communities guarantee the realization of the continent's integration process in the most effective way possible, and that this integration process is hastened in order for Africa to tackle the challenges posed by globalization.

HEREBY DECLARE THAT WE:

1. **CONGRATULATE** the Chairperson of the AU, H.E. Mohamed Ould Cheikh El Ghazouani, President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, for his efforts at promoting peace, security and human rights on the continent; and
2. **APPRECIATE** the prospects opened up through his active and constructive participation and his advocacy with international partners on the continent's priorities, particularly with regard to debt relief, sustainable global development and responses to socio-security challenges.

STATUS OF INTEGRATION

3. **TAKE NOTE** of the Report of the Commission on the Continental Integration of Africa and **FURTHER TAKE NOTE** of the Reports of the Chairpersons of the Regional Economic Communities on the status of Regional Integration as follows:
- (i) H.E. Mohammad Younis Menfi, President of the Presidency Council of the State of Libya and current Chairperson of the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU);
 - (ii) H.E. Mahamat Idriss Deby, President of the Republic of Chad and current Chairperson of the Community for Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD);
 - (iii) H.E. Hakainde Hichilema, President of the Republic of Zambia and current Chairperson of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA);
 - (iv) H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit, President of the Republic of South Sudan and current Chairperson of the East African Community (EAC); v. H.E. Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, President of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea and current Chairperson of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS);
 - (v) H.E. Bola Ahmed Tinubu, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and current Chairperson of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS);
 - (vi) H.E. Ismail Omar Guelleh, President of the Republic of Djibouti and current Chairperson of the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD); and
 - (vii) H.E. João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, President of the Republic of Angola and current Chairperson of the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

REPORTS BY HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT AND CHAMPIONS HOLDING SPECIAL PORTFOLIOS

4. **TAKE NOTE** of the reports by Excellencies and Champions of Special Portfolios:
- (i) H.E. Dr. Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda and current Chair of the Summit of the Eastern Africa Standby Force, and **ENDORSE** the recommendations contained therein.
 - (ii) H.E. Abdelmadjid Tebboune, President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria and current Chair of the North African Regional Capability, and **ENDORSE** the recommendations contained therein.
 - (iii) H.E. Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt and Chair of the Heads of State and Government Orientation Committee (HSGOC) of the African Union Development Agency (AUDA NEPAD), and **ENDORSE** the recommendations contained therein.
 - (iv) H.E. Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo, President of the Republic of Ghana and AU Champion on AU Financial Institutions, and **ENDORSE** the recommendations contained in the two reports namely:

- Establishment of the African Union Financial Institutions (AUFIs); MYCM/AU/Decl(VI) Page 3 and
 - Scaling up Interoperability for Economic Integration: using mobile money to buy and sell across Africa.
- (v) H.E Denis Sassou Nguesso, President of the Republic of Congo and Second Vice Chairperson of the Bureau of the Assembly, and ENDORSE the recommendations contained therein relating to the conclusions of the First International Conference on Afforestation and Reforestation (CIAR1); APPROVE the recommendations on a common African position contained in his report and further ENDORSE that the Report should be transmitted to the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 79) for the consideration and adoption of a World Decade of Afforestation and Reforestation; and
- (vi) H.E. Mahamadou Issoufou, AU Champion on the AfCFTA, and ENDORSE the recommendations contained therein.

REPORTS OF THE AU COMMISSION, ITS ORGANS AND PARTNERS ON THE STATUS OF INTEGRATION IN AFRICA

5. **CALL UPON** the Commission, RECs and RMs, in collaboration with UNECA and AfDB, to publish the Integration Report every two years, starting from 2025, on the basis of the new African Synthesized Regional Integration Index (ASRII);
6. **RECALL** the need to continue improving the level of integration within the RECs as well as at the continental level and **CALL UPON** Member States, the AU Commission, the RECs, the RMs and the AUDA-NEPAD to strengthen their collaboration towards the implementation of the African Integration Agenda;
7. **REQUEST** the Commission to continue advocating the promotion of inter-REC co-operation with a view to speeding up the African integration agenda and **CALL UPON** Member States to allocate adequate financial resources that will ensure the effective implementation of the integration agenda; and
8. **URGE** the Commission, in collaboration with UNECA, RECs and AU relevant institutions, to pursue the development of a single comprehensive and harmonized approach as well as a unique index of assessing African integration that leverages the strengths of existing indexes at the AU Commission (AMRII) and UNECA (ARII). The Unified Index should be aligned with the objectives of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community (the Abuja Treaty) and Agenda 2063.

DIVISION OF LABOUR BETWEEN THE AFRICAN UNION, REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES/REGIONAL MECHANISMS AND MEMBER STATES

9. **TAKE NOTE** of the report by H.E Pierre Mbonjo Moukoko, Head of the Reform Implementation Unit of the Commission, and **ENDORSE** the recommendations contained therein; and
10. **REQUEST** the Coordination Committee (comprising the Chairperson of the AU MYCM/AU/Decl(VI) Page 4 Commission, the Chief Executives of the RECs and AUDA-NEPAD) to transmit the finalized report on the Division of Labour to the Executive Council, in line with the established procedures, and for it to be submitted to the 38th Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly for adoption in February 2025.

AU INTER-REGIONAL KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE (I-RECKE) ON EARLY WARNING

11. **WELCOME** the Annual Report on the Activities of the Inter-Regional Knowledge Exchange (I-RECKE) on Early Warning and Conflict Prevention;
12. **ENDORSE** the report of the Third Policy Session of the AU Inter-Regional Knowledge Exchange (I-RECKE) on Early Warning and Conflict Prevention and the activities of the I-RECKE; and **COMMEND** the Commission and RECs/RMs, as members of the I-RECKE platform, for the significant progress made in developing a comprehensive joint strategy to strengthen AU-RECs/RMs cooperation in the harmonization of efforts and amplification of impacts in the area of resource mobilization for regional and continental peace and security initiatives;
13. **UNDERScore** the critical role of the I-RECKE as a strategic platform to enhance the AU Continental Early Warning System; and, in this regard, **CALL UPON** Member States and partners to support I-RECKE activities to enhance coordination and cooperation among the RECs/RMs and with the Member States and the AU Commission to ensure regional integration in the peace and security domain;
14. **COMMEND** the established cooperation of the I-RECKE and the African Union Network of Think Tanks for Peace (AU NeTT4Peace); **WELCOME** the progress made by AUNeTT4Peace as a network of African think tanks bridging the theory policy differential, as part of its vision of a peaceful, secure, and prosperous Africa and mission to provide a strategic interface between knowledge communities and the African Union for effective policy making and impactful implementation towards the Africa We Want; and **FURTHER ENCOURAGE** the role of the Network to address one of the AU's priorities of promoting a knowledge approach to AU peace, security and democracy action and bridging the gap between research, policy and practice; and
15. **REQUEST** the I-RECKE, as an intra-continental platform, to continue to intensify its efforts towards improving cross-regional best practices on early warning,

conflict prevention, resilience and peacebuilding between the AU and RECs/RMs.

AUDA-NEPAD

16. **REAFFIRM** the central coordination role of the AU Commission and AUDA-NEPAD in relation to all priority regional and continental development activities in Africa, in accordance with its mandate as the development agency of the African Union;
17. **TAKE COGNIZANCE** of the Commission and AUDA-NEPAD's lead role in the evaluation report of the First Decade of the Implementation of Agenda 2063 and the subsequent formulation and costing of the Second Ten-Year Implementation Plan (STYIP); **ENCOURAGE** AU Member States, RECs, RMs and partners to adopt domestication and implementation instruments, allocate sufficient technical and financial resources, and collaborate closely with the AU Commission and AUDA-NEPAD to expedite the implementation of Agenda 2063; and **URGE** them to continue enhancing the capacities of RECs and Member States in scenario planning, foresight analysis, monitoring and reporting on Agenda 2063;
18. **TAKE NOTE** of the conceptualisation and development by the AU Commission and AUDA-NEPAD of the Africa Team Flagship initiative, in cooperation with AfCFTA, ACDC, APRM, PAP and RECs, as an AU Flagship Resource Mobilisation Programme to expedite resource mobilisation for a Pipeline of High-Impact Investment Programmes aimed at accelerating the implementation of the STYIP; and **REQUEST** the Commission and AUDA-NEPAD to ensure that the official launch of the Africa Team Programme takes place at the 38th Session of the Assembly of the African Union in February 2025;
19. **WELCOME** the efforts of the Commission and AUDA-NEPAD towards the development of the Agenda 2063 Dashboard to track progress on the implementation of Agenda 2063 by Member States at the Regional and Continental levels; **COMMEND** Member States which have made use of the Dashboard to report on the First Ten-Year Implementation Plan and **ENCOURAGE** all Member States to use the Dashboard to report and track progress on the implementation of the Second Ten-Year Implementation Plan of Agenda 2063; and
20. **URGE** Member States and RECs to support the WorldSkills Africa Desk initiative launched by the AU Commission and the AUDA-NEPAD in February 2024 as a flagship initiative of the African Union 2024 Theme of the Year on Education in order to provide African countries with a dedicated platform to improve skills development, build capacity and reimagine Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) systems across the continent.

CONTINENTAL KEY INITIATIVES OF THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (AfDB)

21. **TAKE NOTE** of the Report by H.E Dr. Akinwumi A. Adesina, President of the African Development Bank Group (AfDB);
22. **COMMEND** the AfDB's efforts at championing and implementing continental initiatives as mandated by the AU Policy Organs to mobilize financing to drive the continent's economic transformation and integration agenda, including institutional support to the African Union and the Regional Economic Communities;
23. **ACKNOWLEDGE** the tremendous progress achieved across the AfDB's High 5s – Light up and Power Africa, Feed Africa, Industrialize Africa, Integrate Africa and Improve the Quality of Life of the People of Africa – as a catalyst for the MYCM/AU/Decl(VI) Page 6 implementation of Agenda 2063, and support towards the attainment of the UN Sustainable Development Goals;
24. **RECALL** decision Assembly/AU/Dec. 817(XXXV) on mobilizing financing for Africa's accelerated economic recovery, development and integration, and **WELCOME** the significant progress in the implementation of key initiatives including the Security-Indexed Investment Bond, the establishment of the African Financial Stability Mechanism and the re-channelling of IMF Special Drawing Rights to Africa through multilateral development institutions like the AfDB;
25. **FURTHER WELCOME** the AfDB's technical support to the club of 12 Heads of State and Government under the leadership of H.E. President Sassou Nguesso, President of the Republic of the Congo, towards the advocacy of "Green" GDP incorporating natural capital;
26. **CALL FOR** a substantial allocation to the 17th replenishment cycle of the African Development Fund in 2025 with a target of mobilizing \$25 billion to enable it to meet the growing needs of the continent; and
27. **URGE** the AfDB to present an update on the progress made towards the implementation of this declaration to the 38th Ordinary Session of the Assembly in February 2025.

APPRECIATION

28. **APPRECIATE** the efforts made by the Government of the Republic of Ghana towards the successful hosting of the Sixth Mid-Year Coordination Meeting between the AU, RECs and RMs.

Done in Accra, Ghana, 21st July 2022

**DECLARATION
ON THE SITUATION IN PALESTINE AND THE MIDDLE EAST REGION
Doc. Assembly/AU/18(XXXVIII)**

WE, the Heads of State and Government of the AU, gathered at the thirty-eighth ordinary session of the African Union Summit in Addis Ababa on 15 to 16 February 2025.

TAKING NOTE of the report on the situation in the State of Palestine and the Middle East.

REAFFIRMING all the resolutions and decisions of the Organization of African Unity and the African Union regarding the situation in Palestine in order to achieve lasting peace and security in the Middle East.

ALSO REAFFIRMING our full support for the Palestinian people in their legitimate struggle against the Israeli occupation, represented by the Palestine Liberation Organization led by President Mahmoud Abbas, to restore their inalienable legitimate rights, including the right to self-determination, independence, and the return of refugees, and to establish an independent sovereign State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital, living in peace alongside the State of Israel.

REITERATING our desire and commitment to support reaching a peaceful and just solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict in accordance with the principles of international law and all relevant United Nations resolutions and in conformity with the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 194.

RENEWING our call to permanently end the military operations in the Gaza Strip as we closely monitor the grave developments in the occupied Palestinian territories and the aggression waged by the Israeli authorities since 07 October 2023.

EXPRESSING our sorrow and condemnation of the humanitarian catastrophe that occurred in the Gaza Strip and Southern Lebanon as a direct result of the operations by the Israeli forces, the huge number of civilian casualties, the destruction of civilian properties, the forced displacement of its residents, and the disrespect for the sanctity of hospitals and places of worship in a clear violation of the International Humanitarian Law.

FURTHER REAFFIRMING the status and centrality of the just cause of Palestine, and our steadfast position supporting, based on the shared principles and values of freedom and liberation from colonialism, oppression, apartheid and injustice.

URGING all AU Member States to continue providing support to the Palestinian cause in a manner that ensures the implementation of the noble values and principles upon which the Organization of African Unity/African Union was founded; among the most important of which are supporting liberation movements and the right of peoples to self-

determination, and refraining from any action or direction that could undermine the constant of solidarity with the Palestinian cause and the rights of the Palestinian people.

REJECTING Israel's violation, as the occupying power, of the basic rights and freedoms of the Palestinian people, and the complete deprivation of the most basic right to life and operating an apartheid system that discriminates based on race and religion, ensuring the sustainability of the Israeli occupation.

We hereby declare the following:

1. **STRONGLY CONDEMN** Israel, the occupying power, for waging a war on the Gaza Strip since 07 October 2023, which targeted 2.2 million Palestinians, and for its excessive and disproportionate use of force against unarmed civilians, targeting churches, mosques, hospitals, civilian homes, infrastructure, imposing collective punishment on civilians, and cutting off humanitarian supplies to the sector, resulting in the death and injuries of thousands of Palestinians.
2. **DENOUNCE** the Israeli policies, manifested in collective punitive measures against civilians and forced displacement of residents being perpetrated by the Israeli aggression against the Gaza Strip, as these practices constitute war crimes that warrant international accountability.
3. **EXPRESS** our unequivocal and utmost rejection of any proposal or attempt to liquidate the Palestinian cause through the displacement of the Palestinian people from their homeland, including the Gaza Strip, which constitute a clear violation of the International Law and the African Union's firm position that call for the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination.
4. **FURTHER EXPRESS** that the establishment of a Palestinian state is a firm and unwavering African Union position.
5. **CALL ON** all African Union Member States to work with the international community for urgent relief to the afflicted Gaza Strip and to stop the humanitarian disaster caused by the recent Israeli war and to diligently work on pressurising Israel, the occupying power, to lift the unjust Israeli blockade on the Strip and accelerating the reconstruction process.
6. **AFFIRM** the political, economic, and financial support for the State of Palestine, and the necessity of enabling geographical and political unity in the Palestinian territories between the West Bank and Gaza Strip.
7. **DEPLORE** the unprecedented support from some countries for the Israeli occupation, and recent unleashing of atrocities by the Israeli military operations that targeted Palestinian citizens and their property, in addition to destroying the infrastructure of the besieged Gaza Strip under the pretext of "Israel's right to defend itself".

8. **REJECT AND CONDEMN** the Israeli violation of the international humanitarian law, specifically the Fourth Geneva Convention, by targeting hospitals, medical centers, media facilities, and the use of internationally prohibited weapons, and support the call for an independent international investigation of these violations.
9. **STRESS** the urgent need to immediately open safe humanitarian corridors to alleviate the sufferings of the Palestinian People and protect the medical institutions and personal.
10. **ALSO CONDEMN** the Israeli administrative policy of detention without trial and **REQUEST** Israeli authorities to immediately release all Palestinian prisoners, especially children, women, elderly and sick, detained in harsh conditions in contravention of all rights guaranteed by applicable laws and international treaties.
11. **REITERATE** our commitment to the steadfastness of the cause of the Palestinian People for their homeland and our continued support for a peaceful and just solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict in accordance with the principles of international law and all relevant United Nations resolutions, which call for the establishment of an independent and sovereign State of Palestine on the borders of 4 June 1967, with East Jerusalem as its capital.
12. **UNDERScore** the necessity of resolving the Palestinian issue to achieve a comprehensive peace in the Middle East region, on the basis of the two-state solution, provisions of international law, all resolutions of international community, the Arab Peace Initiative, decisions by the African Union, and guided by the vision of His Excellency President Mahmoud Abbas and his repeated calls to achieve peace.
13. **SUPPORT** the renewal of the State of Palestine's request for a full membership in the United Nations.
14. **INVITE** all African countries to support the urgent relief campaign in the Gaza Strip in an effort to stop the humanitarian catastrophe resulting from the Israeli war, and to lift the unjust Israeli siege on the Strip.
15. **REQUEST** AU Member States and the international community to observe the provisions of international law and relevant resolutions of the United Nations and the African Union, and to work to end the Israeli occupation, which undermine the basic fundamentals of the international legal order.
16. **CALL ON** the international community to ensure the protection of the Palestinian People in accordance with UN Security Council resolutions 605 of (1987), 673 of (1990), and 904 of (1994), based on the Geneva Conventions as well as

resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, including its emergency special session in July 2018.

17. **APPRECIATE** the ongoing African efforts to support the Palestinian People, especially the submission of its legal inquiry to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) requesting an advisory opinion on the legal implications arising from the Israel's continued violation of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, and the prolonged occupation, settlement and annexation of the Palestinian territories; **THUS, MANDATE** the AU Commission through the Office of the Legal Counsel (OLC) to continue its active engagement in the ICJ advisory opinion process, including the preparation of any representation required to support the African Union's stance in alignment with its long-standing principles and international commitments.
18. **REITERATE** our unflinching support for relevant UN General Assembly resolutions on Palestine and the declared position of the UN Secretary General on the atrocities committed in Gaza despite the recently signed Ceasefire Agreement, which can inevitably lead to serious repercussions on the state of peace and security in the Middle East.
19. **UNDERLINE** the imperative to address the root causes of this protracted conflict, particularly the unjustified and continued Israeli occupation, confiscation of Palestinian land, Israeli settlements, and unchecked violation of international law and the stalled peace process in wanton defiance of international law and UN Security Council's resolutions
20. **FURTHER UNDERLINE** that only a political solution based on the two-state vision, is the most feasible way to guarantee peace, stability and security for the people and States in the region.
21. **REAFFIRM** our position that a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East requires the complete Israeli withdrawal from all Palestinian and Arab territories occupied since June 1967, including the Syrian Golan Heights and the territories still occupied in southern Lebanon, and the embodiment of the independence State of Palestine with East Jerusalem as its capital, and the return of Palestinian refugees to their homes.
22. **REQUEST** the urgent and immediate implementation of the provisional measures ordered by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on 26 January 2024 in the application submitted by the Republic of South Africa against Israel regarding the ongoing conflict in the Gaza strip, which upholds the universal respect for international law and the imperative for Israel to comply immediately with its obligations under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.

**RESOLUTION ON THE LIFTING OF THE ECONOMIC, COMMERCIAL AND
FINANCIAL BLOCKADE IMPOSED ON THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA BY THE UNITED
STATES OF AMERICA**

The Assembly,

1. **EXPRESSES** serious concern about the continuous and illegal economic, commercial and financial blockade imposed on the Cuban government and people;
2. **REAFFIRMS** its full support to the resolution of the UNGA “Necessity to end the economic, commercial and financial blockade imposed by the United States of America against Cuba”;
3. **REGRETS** the regression in the bilateral relations between Cuba and the United States and once again, calls upon the Government of the United States of America to lift the long standing and unjustifiable economic, commercial and financial blockade imposed on the Cuban people;
4. **ALSO REGRETS** the measures implemented by the Government of the United States since 9th November 2017, which strengthen the blockage and **EXPRESSES DEEP CONCERN** over the widening of the extraterritorial nature of the blockade, including the full implementation of Chapter III of the Helms-Burton Act (based on paragraph 394 of the G-77 Ministerial Declaration of 2024, which maintains the same language agreed in 2023);
5. **EXPRESSES** serious concern about the arbitrary inclusion of Cuba in the unilateral list of countries that allegedly sponsor terrorism, which has further exacerbated the financial prohibitions and restrictions to Cuba emanating from the blockade; therefore, **CALLS** for the removal of Cuba from that list;
6. **ACKNOWLEDGES** that the negative impact of the blockade is aggravated and even crueler in the current context, when Cuba is facing the economic and social effects of the COVID-19 pandemic;
7. **ALSO ACKNOWLEDGES** that the blockade is the main obstacle for Cuba’s implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and shares this concern due to the importance that the African Union attaches to the achievements of the objectives on the said Agenda;
8. **ALSO REAFFIRMS** its solidarity with the people of Cuba.

RESOLUTION ON THE IMPACT OF SANCTIONS AND UNILATERAL COERCIVE MEASURES ON AFRICAN UNION MEMBER STATES

WE, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, assembled on 15 and 16 February 2025, at our 38th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;

Recalling the purposes and principles of the AU Constitutive Act, inter alia, affirming the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of the African Union Member States, as well as the commitment to promote sustainable development at the economic, social and cultural levels, for an integrated and prosperous continent;

Reaffirming the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, which states, inter alia, that no State may use or encourage the use of unilateral economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights;

Emphasising that unilateral coercive measures and legislation are contrary to international law, international humanitarian law, the African Union Constitutive Act, the United Nations Charter and the norms and principles governing peaceful relations among States;

Reiterating the pronouncements of the United Nations General Assembly Resolutions 76/161 of 16 December 2021 and 78/135 and 78/202 of 19 December 2023, and the United Nations Human Rights Council Decision 18/120 of 30 September 2011 and Resolutions 24/14 of 27 September 2013, 27/21 of 26 September 2014, 30/2 of 1 October 2015, 36/10 of 28 September 2017, 37/21 of 23 March 2018, 40/3 of 21 March 2019, 43/15 of 22 June 2020, 46/5 of 23 March 2021, 49/6 of 31 March 2022 and 52/13 of 3 April 2023, calling on States not to recognise unilateral coercive economic measures, and not to recognize or apply such measures or legislation imposed by any State across territorial boundaries, which are contrary to recognized principles of international law and stressing that unilateral coercive measures and legislation are contrary to international law, international humanitarian law, the Charter and the norms and principles governing peaceful relations among States;

Noting the Report of the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights, published on 9 August 2024;

Acknowledging that socio-economic sanctions and coercive measures are obstacles impeding the implementation of the African Union Agenda 2063 and the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals;

Expressing our grave concern at the negative impact of sanctions and unilateral coercive measures on the right to development, and promoting cordial international relations, trade, investment, cooperation, as well as peace, security and stability;

Underscore that these measures have negative impacts on socio-economic development and overall national progress and raising humanitarian concerns and crisis in the States targeted;

Alarmed by the double standards and the disproportionate, and indiscriminate human costs of coercive measures, and unilateral sanctions and their negative effects on the civilian population, in particular women and children, of targeted States;

Deeply concerned at the negative impact of sanctions and unilateral coercive measures on post conflict development, reconstruction, peace building and on the African Union 2025 Theme of the Year: “**Justice for Africans and People of African Descent through Reparations**”;

1. **STRONGLY CONDEMN** the continued unilateral application and enforcement by certain countries of such measures as tools of pressure, including political and economic pressure, against any country, particularly against African Union Member States, with a view to preventing these countries from exercising their right of sovereignty and self-determination;
2. **URGE** all States to refrain from imposing unilateral coercive measures, and calls on concerned States to remove such measures, as they are contrary to the African Union Constitutive Act, United Nations Charter and the norms and principles governing peaceful relations among States at all levels, and preventing the full realization of economic and socio-cultural development of nations while also affecting the full realization of human rights;
3. **STRONGLY OBJECT** to the extraterritorial nature of those measures which, in addition, threaten the sovereignty of States;
4. **CALL UPON** all States not to recognise these measures nor to apply them, and to take measures as appropriate, to counteract the extraterritorial application or effects of unilateral coercive measures;
5. **URGE** the Government of the United States of America to lift the long-standing sanctions imposed on the Government and People of Zimbabwe, to facilitate the socio-economic recovery of the country. Calls upon the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to lift all sanctions imposed on Zimbabwe that it inherited when it withdrew from the European Union on 31 January 2020 and all the additional sanctions that it adopted on its own. We acknowledge the steps taken, inter alia, political dialogue and high-level engagements between Zimbabwe and the European Union towards the removal of sanctions. We further urge that the European Union takes the requisite actions to ensure that all remaining sanctions are terminated;

6. **CALL UPON** the United States of America, other Countries, and Institutions to lift all unilateral coercive measures imposed on the Government, Leaders and People of the Republic of South Sudan as they are counterproductive to the efforts of promoting post conflict development, reconstruction and peace building, and call on the United Nations to lift the unjustified Arms Embargo imposed on South Sudan, and all other sanctions and coercive measures by other entities to enable the country to expedite the implementation of Security reform as per Revitalized-Agreement in the Resolutions of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS) signed in 2018;
7. **URGE** the European Union and the United States of America to lift the unilateral coercive sanctions imposed on the State of Eritrea;
8. **MANDATE** the Panel of the Wise, once again, to lobby the Capitals of those countries that have imposed illegal economic and other sanctions against African Union Member States, for their immediate and unconditional removal;
9. **REAFFIRM** its solidarity with the People of Zimbabwe, South Sudan and the State of Eritrea in exercising their sovereign right to determine their own destiny.

**VOTE OF APPRECIATION TO H.E. MOUSSA FAKI MAHAMAT, OUTGOING
CHAIRPERSON OF THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION, AND THE OUTGOING
SENIOR LEADERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION**

The Assembly,

Taking note of the end of the term of H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat as the outgoing Chairperson of the African Union Commission, and **acknowledging** the laudable and significant efforts made by H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat during his chairship of the African Union Commission (AU) for eight years, which contributed to the advancement of the African Union Agenda aimed at meeting the needs of the Continent and positioning Africa on the international stage;

Mindful of the achievements he made along with the outgoing Senior Leadership of the Commission during their term by demonstrating devotion, vision and commitment to the defense of the principles and objectives of the Union, as well as commitment to the ideals of Pan-Africanism and African solidarity; and

Noting in particular his dynamic and efficient management of the Union during the Covid-19 pandemic and the operationalization of the Peace Fund:

1. **EXPRESSES** its profound gratitude to **H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat**, the outgoing Chairperson of the African Union, **H.E. Dr. Monique Nsanzabaganwa**, outgoing Deputy Chairperson of the Commission, and the following outgoing Commissioners: **H.E. Josefa Leonel Correia Sacko**, Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment, **H.E. Albert Muchanga**, Commissioner for Economic Development, Tourism, Trade, Industry, Mining, **H.E. Dr. Amani Abou-Zeid**, Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy, **H.E. Minata Samate Cessouma**, Commissioner for Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development, **H.E. Belhocine Mohammed**, Commissioner for Education, Science, Technology and Innovation, and **H.E. Bankole Adegboyega Adeoye**, Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security for their dynamic, visionary and exemplary leadership of the Union in the course of their term;
2. **CONGRATULATES** H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat for the numerous achievements chalked by the African Union under his leadership, particularly the management and prevention of conflicts in Africa; and
3. **RENEWS** its gratitude to H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat and the outgoing Senior Leadership of the Commission for their important contribution to the process of integration, political, economic and social stability on the Continent.