

**LEGAL CONSEQUENCES ARISING FROM THE POLICIES AND
PRACTICES OF ISRAEL IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN
TERRITORY, INCLUDING EAST JERUSALEM**

(REQUEST FOR ADVISORY OPINION)

EXHIBITS OF THE
AFRICAN UNION



25 July 2023

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Exhibit No.	Title	Date
1	Constitutive Act of the African Union	11 July 2000
2	OAU Charter	25 May 1963
3	Solemn Declaration on the 50th Anniversary of the OAU/AU, Assembly/AU/Decl.3(XXI)	May 2013
4	Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Eleventh Ordinary Session in Algiers, Algeria, Resolution on Namibia, CM/Res. 150 (XI)	4 to 12 September 1968
5	Resolutions Adopted by the first Conference of Independent African Heads of State and Government held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, CIAS/PLEN.2/REV.2	22 to 25 May 1963
6	Statement of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission on the Situation in Gaza	7 August 2022
7	Statement of Chairperson of African Union Commission on the American Decision to Recognize Jerusalem as the Capital of Israel	6 December 2017
8	African Union, Declaration on the Situation in Palestine and the Middle East, Assembly/AU/Decl.2(XXXVI), 36 th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	18-19 February 2023
9	OAU, Resolution on the Aggression Against the United Arab Republic, OAU Doc. AHG/Res.53 (V), Fifth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government, Algiers, Algeria	13-16 September 1968
10	OAU, Resolution on the Situation in the United Arab Republic, OAU Doc. AHG/Res.57/Rev.1 (VI), Sixth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	6-10 September 1969
11	OAU, Resolution on the Continued Aggression Against the United Arab Republic, OAU Doc. AHG/Res.63 (VII), Seventh Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia,	1-3 September 1970
12	OAU, Resolution on the Continued Aggression Against the Arab Republic of Egypt, OAU Doc. AHG/Res.67 (IX), Ninth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government, Rabat, Morocco	12-15 June 1972
13	OAU, Resolution on the Continued Occupation by Israel of Part of the Territory of the Arab Republic of Egypt, OAU Doc. AHG/Res.70 (X), Tenth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	27-28 May 1973

**CONSTITUTIVE ACT OF THE
AFRICAN UNION**

The Constitutive Act

We, Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the Organization of African Unity (OAU):

1. The President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
2. The President of the Republic of Angola
3. The President of the Republic of Benin
4. The President of the Republic of Botswana
5. The President of Burkina Faso
6. The President of the Republic of Burundi
7. The President of the Republic of Cameroon
8. The President of the Republic of Cape Verde
9. The President of the Central African Republic
10. The President of the Republic of Chad
11. The President of the Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros
12. The President of the Republic of the Congo
13. The President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire
14. The President of the Democratic Republic of Congo
15. The President of the Republic of Djibouti
16. The President of the Arab Republic of Egypt
17. The President of the State of Eritrea
18. The Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
19. The President of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea
20. The President of the Gabonese Republic
21. The President of the Republic of The Gambia
22. The President of the Republic of Ghana
23. The President of the Republic of Guinea
24. The President of the Republic of Guinea Bissau
25. The President of the Republic of Kenya
26. The Prime Minister of Lesotho
27. The President of the Republic of Liberia
28. The Leader of the 1st of September Revolution of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
29. The President of the Republic of Madagascar

30. The President of the Republic of Malawi
31. The President of the Republic of Mali
32. The President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania
33. The Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius
34. The President of the Republic of Mozambique
35. The President of the Republic of Namibia
36. The President of the Republic of Niger
37. The President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
38. The President of the Republic of Rwanda
39. The President of the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic
40. The President of the Republic of Sao Tome and Principe
41. The President of the Republic of Senegal
42. The President of the Republic of Seychelles
43. The President of the Republic of Sierra Leone
44. The President of the Republic of Somalia
45. The President of the Republic of South Africa
46. The President of the Republic of Sudan
47. The King of Swaziland
48. The President of the United Republic of Tanzania
49. The President of the Togolese Republic
50. The President of the Republic of Tunisia
51. The President of the Republic of Uganda
52. The President of the Republic of Zambia
53. The President of the Republic of Zimbabwe

INSPIRED by the noble ideals which guided the founding fathers of our Continental Organization and generations of Pan-Africanists in their determination to promote unity, solidarity, cohesion and cooperation among the peoples of Africa and African States;

CONSIDERING the principles and objectives stated in the Charter of the Organization of African Unity and the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community;

RECALLING the heroic struggles waged by our peoples and our countries for political independence, human dignity and economic emancipation;

CONSIDERING that since its inception, the Organization of African Unity has played a determining and invaluable role in the liberation of the continent, the affirmation of a common identity and the process of attainment of the unity of our continent and has provided a unique framework for our collective action in Africa and in our relations with the rest of the world.

DETERMINED to take up the multifaceted challenges that confront our continent and peoples in the light of the social, economic and political changes taking place in the world;

CONVINCED of the need to accelerate the process of implementing the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community in order to promote the socio-economic development of Africa and to face more effectively the challenges posed by globalization;

GUIDED by our common vision of a united and strong Africa and by the need to build a partnership between governments and all segments of civil society, in particular women, youth and the private sector, in order to strengthen solidarity and cohesion among our peoples;

CONSCIOUS of the fact that the scourge of conflicts in Africa constitutes a major impediment to the socio-economic development of the continent and of the need to promote peace, security and stability as a prerequisite for the implementation of our development and integration agenda;

DETERMINED to promote and protect human and peoples' rights, consolidate democratic institutions and culture, and to ensure good governance and the rule of law;

FURTHER DETERMINED to take all necessary measures to strengthen our common institutions and provide them with the necessary powers and resources to enable them discharge their respective mandates effectively;

RECALLING the Declaration which we adopted at the Fourth Extraordinary Session of our Assembly in Sirte, the Great Socialist

People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on 9.9. 99, in which we decided to establish an African Union, in conformity with the ultimate objectives of the Charter of our Continental Organization and the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community;

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
Definitions

In this Constitutive Act:

“**Act**” means the present Constitutive Act;

“**AEC**” means the African Economic Community;

“**Assembly**” means the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Union;

“**Charter**” means the Charter of the OAU;

“**Commission**” means the Secretariat of the Union;

“**Committee**” means a Specialized Technical Committee of the Union;

“**Council**” means the Economic, Social and Cultural Council of the Union;

“**Court**” means the Court of Justice of the Union;

“**Executive Council**” means the Executive Council of Ministers of the Union;

“**Member State**” means a Member State of the Union;

“**OAU**” means the Organization of African Unity;

“Parliament” means the Pan-African Parliament of the Union;

“Union” means the African Union established by the present Constitutive Act.

Article 2 *Establishment*

The African Union is hereby established in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

Article 3 *Objectives*

The objectives of the Union shall be to:

- (a) achieve greater unity and solidarity between the African countries and the peoples of Africa;
- (b) defend the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of its Member States;
- (c) accelerate the political and socio-economic integration of the continent;
- (d) promote and defend African common positions on issues of interest to the continent and its peoples;
- (e) encourage international cooperation, taking due account of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- (f) promote peace, security, and stability on the continent;
- (g) promote democratic principles and institutions, popular participation and good governance;

- (h) promote and protect human and peoples' rights in accordance with the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and other relevant human rights instruments;
- (i) establish the necessary conditions which enable the continent to play its rightful role in the global economy and in international negotiations;
- (j) promote sustainable development at the economic, social and cultural levels as well as the integration of African economies;
- (k) promote co-operation in all fields of human activity to raise the living standards of African peoples;
- (l) coordinate and harmonize the policies between the existing and future Regional Economic Communities for the gradual attainment of the objectives of the Union;
- (m) advance the development of the continent by promoting research in all fields, in particular in science and technology;
- (n) work with relevant international partners in the eradication of preventable diseases and the promotion of good health on the continent.

Article 4 ***Principles***

The Union shall function in accordance with the following principles:

- (a) sovereign equality and interdependence among Member States of the Union;
 - (b) respect of borders existing on achievement of independence;
 - (c) participation of the African peoples in the activities of the Union;
 - (d) establishment of a common defence policy for the African Continent;
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- (e) peaceful resolution of conflicts among Member States of the Union through such appropriate means as may be decided upon by the Assembly;
- (f) prohibition of the use of force or threat to use force among Member States of the Union;
- (g) non-interference by any Member State in the internal affairs of another;
- (h) the right of the Union to intervene in a Member State pursuant to a decision of the Assembly in respect of grave circumstances, namely: war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity;
- (i) peaceful co-existence of Member States and their right to live in peace and security;
- (j) the right of Member States to request intervention from the Union in order to restore peace and security;
- (k) promotion of self-reliance within the framework of the Union;
- (l) promotion of gender equality;
- (m) respect for democratic principles, human rights, the rule of law and good governance;
- (n) promotion of social justice to ensure balanced economic development;
- (o) respect for the sanctity of human life, condemnation and rejection of impunity and political assassination, acts of terrorism and subversive activities;
- (p) condemnation and rejection of unconstitutional changes of governments.

Article 5
Organs of the Union

1. The organs of the Union shall be:
 - (a) The Assembly of the Union;
 - (b) The Executive Council;
 - (c) The Pan-African Parliament;
 - (d) The Court of Justice;
 - (e) The Commission;
 - (f) The Permanent Representatives Committee;
 - (g) The Specialized Technical Committees;
 - (h) The Economic, Social and Cultural Council;
 - (i) The Financial Institutions;

2. Other organs that the Assembly may decide to establish.

Article 6
The Assembly

1. The Assembly shall be composed of Heads of States and Government or their duly accredited representatives.
2. The Assembly shall be the supreme organ of the Union.
3. The Assembly shall meet at least once a year in ordinary session. At the request of any Member State and on approval by a two-thirds majority of the Member States, the Assembly shall meet in extraordinary session.
4. The Office of the Chairman of the Assembly shall be held for a period of one year by a Head of State or Government elected after consultations among the Member States.

Article 7
Decisions of the Assembly

1. The Assembly shall take its decisions by consensus or, failing which, by a two-thirds majority of the Member States of the Union.

However, procedural matters, including the question of whether a matter is one of procedure or not, shall be decided by a simple majority.

2. Two-thirds of the total membership of the Union shall form a quorum at any meeting of the Assembly.

Article 8
Rules of Procedure of the Assembly

The Assembly shall adopt its own Rules of Procedure.

Article 9
Powers and Functions of the Assembly

1. The functions of the Assembly shall be to:
 - (a) determine the common policies of the Union;
 - (b) receive, consider and take decisions on reports and recommendations from the other organs of the Union;
 - (c) consider requests for Membership of the Union;
 - (d) establish any organ of the Union;
 - (e) monitor the implementation of policies and decisions of the Union as well ensure compliance by all Member States;
 - (f) adopt the budget of the Union;
 - (g) give directives to the Executive Council on the management of conflicts, war and other emergency situations and the restoration of peace;

- (h) appoint and terminate the appointment of the judges of the Court of Justice;
 - (i) appoint the Chairman of the Commission and his or her deputy or deputies and Commissioners of the Commission and determine their functions and terms of office.
2. The Assembly may delegate any of its powers and functions to any organ of the Union.

Article 10
The Executive Council

1. The Executive Council shall be composed of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs or such other Ministers or Authorities as are designated by the Governments of Member States.
2. The Executive Council shall meet at least twice a year in ordinary session. It shall also meet in an extra-ordinary session at the request of any Member State and upon approval by two-thirds of all Member States.

Article 11
Decisions of the Executive Council

1. The Executive Council shall take its decisions by consensus or, failing which, by a two-thirds majority of the Member States. However, procedural matters, including the question of whether a matter is one of procedure or not, shall be decided by a simple majority.
2. Two-thirds of the total membership of the Union shall form a quorum at any meeting of the Executive Council.

Article 12

Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council

The Executive Council shall adopt its own Rules of Procedure.

Article 13

Functions of the Executive Council

1. The Executive Council shall coordinate and take decisions on policies in areas of common interest to the Member States, including the following:
 - (a) foreign trade;
 - (b) energy, industry and mineral resources;
 - (c) food, agricultural and animal resources, livestock production and forestry;
 - (d) water resources and irrigation;
 - (e) environmental protection, humanitarian action and disaster response and relief;
 - (f) transport and communications;
 - (g) insurance;
 - (h) education, culture, health and human resources development;
 - (i) science and technology;
 - (j) nationality, residency and immigration matters;
 - (k) social security, including the formulation of mother and child care policies, as well as policies relating to the disabled and the handicapped;
 - (l) establishment of a system of African awards, medals and prizes.

2. The Executive Council shall be responsible to the Assembly. It shall consider issues referred to it and monitor the implementation of policies formulated by the Assembly.
3. The Executive Council may delegate any of its powers and functions mentioned in paragraph 1 of this Article to the Specialized Technical Committees established under Article 14 of this Act.

Article 14
The Specialized Technical Committees
Establishment and Composition

1. There is hereby established the following Specialized Technical Committees, which shall be responsible to the Executive Council:
 - (a) The Committee on Rural Economy and Agricultural Matters;
 - (b) The Committee on Monetary and Financial Affairs;
 - (c) The Committee on Trade, Customs and Immigration Matters;
 - (d) The Committee on Industry, Science and Technology, Energy, Natural Resources and Environment;
 - (e) The Committee on Transport, Communications and Tourism;
 - (f) The Committee on Health, Labour and Social Affairs; and
 - (g) The Committee on Education, Culture and Human Resources.
2. The Assembly shall, whenever it deems appropriate, restructure the existing Committees or establish other Committees.
3. The Specialized Technical Committees shall be composed of Ministers or senior officials responsible for sectors falling within their respective areas of competence.

Article 15

Functions of the Specialized Technical Committees

Each Committee shall within its field of competence:

- (a) prepare projects and programmes of the Union and submit it to the Executive Council;
- (b) ensure the supervision, follow-up and the evaluation of the implementation of decisions taken by the organs of the Union;
- (c) ensure the coordination and harmonization of projects and programmes of the Union;
- (d) submit to the Executive Council either on its own initiative or at the request of the Executive Council, reports and recommendations on the implementation of the provisions of this Act; and
- (e) carry out any other functions assigned to it for the purpose of ensuring the implementation of the provisions of this Act.

Article 16

Meetings

Subject to any directives given by the Executive Council, each Committee shall meet as often as necessary and shall prepare its Rules of Procedure and submit them to the Executive Council for approval.

Article 17

The Pan-African Parliament

1. In order to ensure the full participation of African peoples in the development and economic integration of the continent, a Pan-African Parliament shall be established.
2. The composition, powers, functions and organization of the Pan-African Parliament shall be defined in a protocol relating thereto.

Article 18
The Court of Justice

1. A Court of Justice of the Union shall be established;
2. The statute, composition and functions of the Court of Justice shall be defined in a protocol relating thereto.

Article 19
The Financial Institutions

The Union shall have the following financial institutions whose rules and regulations shall be defined in protocols relating thereto:

- (a) The African Central Bank;
- (b) The African Monetary Fund;
- (c) The African Investment Bank.

Article 20
The Commission

1. There shall be established a Commission of the Union, which shall be the Secretariat of the Union.
2. The Commission shall be composed of the Chairman, his or her deputy or deputies and the Commissioners. They shall be assisted by the necessary staff for the smooth functioning of the Commission.
3. The structure, functions and regulations of the Commission shall be determined by the Assembly.

Article 21
The Permanent Representatives Committee

1. There shall be established a Permanent Representatives Committee. It shall be composed of Permanent Representatives to the Union and other Plenipotentiaries of Member States.

2. The Permanent Representatives Committee shall be charged with the responsibility of preparing the work of the Executive Council and acting on the Executive Council's instructions. It may set up such sub-committees or working groups as it may deem necessary.

Article 22

The Economic, Social and Cultural Council

1. The Economic, Social and Cultural Council shall be an advisory organ composed of different social and professional groups of the Member States of the Union.
2. The functions, powers, composition and organization of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council shall be determined by the Assembly.

Article 23

Imposition of Sanctions

1. The Assembly shall determine the appropriate sanctions to be imposed on any Member State that defaults in the payment of its contributions to the budget of the Union in the following manner: denial of the right to speak at meetings, to vote, to present candidates for any position or post within the Union or to benefit from any activity or commitments, therefrom;
2. Furthermore, any Member State that fails to comply with the decisions and policies of the Union may be subjected to other sanctions, such as the denial of transport and communications links with other Member States, and other measures of a political and economic nature to be determined by the Assembly.

Article 24

The Headquarters of the Union

1. The Headquarters of the Union shall be in Addis Ababa in the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

2. There may be established such other offices of the Union as the Assembly may, on the recommendation of the Executive Council, determine.

Article 25
Working Languages

The working languages of the Union and all its institutions shall be, if possible, African languages, Arabic, English, French and Portuguese.

Article 26
Interpretation

The Court shall be seized with matters of interpretation arising from the application or implementation of this Act. Pending its establishment, such matters shall be submitted to the Assembly of the Union, which shall decide by a two-thirds majority.

Article 27
Signature, Ratification and Accession

1. This Act shall be open to signature, ratification and accession by the Member States of the OAU in accordance with their respective constitutional procedures.
2. The instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the OAU.
3. Any Member State of the OAU acceding to this Act after its entry into force shall deposit the instrument of accession with the Chairman of the Commission.

Article 28
Entry into Force

This Act shall enter into force thirty (30) days after the deposit of the instruments of ratification by two-thirds of the Member States of the OAU.

Article 29

Admission to Membership

1. Any African State may, at any time after the entry into force of this Act, notify the Chairman of the Commission of its intention to accede to this Act and to be admitted as a member of the Union.
2. The Chairman of the Commission shall, upon receipt of such notification, transmit copies thereof to all Member States. Admission shall be decided by a simple majority of the Member States. The decision of each Member State shall be transmitted to the Chairman of the Commission who shall, upon receipt of the required number of votes, communicate the decision to the State concerned.

Article 30

Suspension

Governments which shall come to power through unconstitutional means shall not be allowed to participate in the activities of the Union.

Article 31

Cessation of Membership

1. Any State which desires to renounce its membership shall forward a written notification to the Chairman of the Commission, who shall inform Member States thereof. At the end of one year from the date of such notification, if not withdrawn, the Act shall cease to apply with respect to the renouncing State, which shall thereby cease to belong to the Union.
2. During the period of one year referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, any Member State wishing to withdraw from the Union shall comply with the provisions of this Act and shall be bound to discharge its obligations under this Act up to the date of its withdrawal.

Article 32
Amendment and Revision

1. Any Member State may submit proposals for the amendment or revision of this Act.
2. Proposals for amendment or revision shall be submitted to the Chairman of the Commission who shall transmit same to Member States within thirty (30) days of receipt thereof.
3. The Assembly, upon the advice of the Executive Council, shall examine these proposals within a period of one year following notification of Member States, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2 of this Article;
4. Amendments or revisions shall be adopted by the Assembly by consensus or, failing which, by a two-thirds majority and submitted for ratification by all Member States in accordance with their respective constitutional procedures. They shall enter into force thirty (30) days after the deposit of the instruments of ratification with the Chairman of the Commission by a two-thirds majority of the Member States.

Article 33
Transitional Arrangements and Final Provisions

1. This Act shall replace the Charter of the Organization of African Unity. However, the Charter shall remain operative for a transitional period of one year or such further period as may be determined by the Assembly, following the entry into force of the Act, for the purpose of enabling the OAU/AEC to undertake the necessary measures regarding the devolution of its assets and liabilities to the Union and all matters relating thereto.
2. The provisions of this Act shall take precedence over and supersede any inconsistent or contrary provisions of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community.

3. Upon the entry into force of this Act, all necessary measures shall be undertaken to implement its provisions and to ensure the establishment of the organs provided for under the Act in accordance with any directives or decisions which may be adopted in this regard by the Parties thereto within the transitional period stipulated above.
4. Pending the establishment of the Commission, the OAU General Secretariat shall be the interim Secretariat of the Union.
5. This Act, drawn up in four (4) original texts in the Arabic, English, French and Portuguese languages, all four (4) being equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the OAU and, after its entry into force, with the Chairman of the Commission who shall transmit a certified true copy of the Act to the Government of each signatory State. The Secretary-General of the OAU and the Chairman of the Commission shall notify all signatory States of the dates of the deposit of the instruments of ratification or accession and shall upon entry into force of this Act register the same with the Secretariat of the United Nations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, WE have adopted this Act.

Done at Lome, Togo, this 11th day of July, 2000.

**CONSTITUTIVE ACT OF THE AFRICAN UNION
ADOPTED BY THE THIRTY-SIXTH ORDINARY SESSION OF
THE ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT
11 JULY, 2000 - LOME, TOGO**

1. People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
2. Republic of Angola
3. Republic of Benin
4. Republic of Botswana
5. Burkina Faso
6. Republic of Burundi
7. Republic of Cameroon
8. Republic of Cape Verde
9. Central African Republic
10. Republic of Chad
11. Islamic Federal Republic of the Comoros
12. Republic of the Congo
13. Republic of Côte d'Ivoire
14. Democratic Republic of Congo
15. Republic of Djibouti
16. Arab Republic of Egypt
17. State of Eritrea
18. Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
19. Republic of Equatorial Guinea
20. Republic of Gabon
21. Republic of The Gambia
22. Republic of Ghana
23. Republic of Guinea
24. Republic of Guinea Bissau
25. Republic of Kenya
26. Kingdom of Lesotho
27. Republic of Liberia

28. Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
29. Republic of Madagascar
30. Republic of Malawi
31. Republic of Mali
32. Islamic Republic of Mauritania
33. Republic of Mauritius
34. Republic of Mozambique
35. Republic of Namibia
36. Republic of Niger
37. Federal Republic of Nigeria
38. Republic of Rwanda
39. Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic
40. Republic of Sao Tome and Principe
41. Republic of Senegal
42. Republic of Seychelles
43. Republic of Sierra Leone
44. Republic of Somalia
45. Republic of South Africa
46. Republic of Sudan
47. Kingdom of Swaziland
48. United Republic of Tanzania
49. Republic of Togo
50. Republic of Tunisia
51. Republic of Uganda
52. Republic of Zambia
53. Republic of Zimbabwe



OAU CHARTER

We, the Heads of African States and Governments assembled in the City of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia,

Convinced that it is the inalienable right of all people to control their own destiny,

Conscious of the fact that freedom, equality, justice and dignity are essential objectives for the achievement of the legitimate aspirations of the African peoples,

Conscious of our responsibility to harness the natural and human resources of our continent for the total advancement of our peoples in all spheres of human endeavour,

Inspired by a common determination to promote understanding among our peoples and cooperation among our states in response to the aspirations of our peoples for brother-hood and solidarity, in a larger unity transcending ethnic and national differences,

Convinced that, in order to translate this determination into a dynamic force in the cause of human progress, conditions for peace and security must be established and maintained,

Determined to safeguard and consolidate the hard-won independence as well as the sovereignty and territorial integrity of our states, and to fight against neo-colonialism in all its forms,

Dedicated to the general progress of Africa,

Persuaded that the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to the Principles of which we reaffirm our adherence, provide a solid foundation for peaceful and positive cooperation among States,

Desirous that all African States should henceforth unite so that the welfare and well-being of their peoples can be assured,

Resolved to reinforce the links between our states by establishing and strengthening common institutions,

Have agreed to the present Charter.

ESTABLISHMENT

Article I

- 1. The High Contracting Parties do by the present Charter establish an Organization to be known as the ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY.**
- 2. The Organization shall include the Continental African States, Madagascar and other Islands surrounding Africa.**

PURPOSES

Article II

- 1. The Organization shall have the following purposes:**
 - (a) To promote the unity and solidarity of the African States;**
 - (b) To coordinate and intensify their cooperation and efforts to achieve a better life for the peoples of Africa;**
 - (c) To defend their sovereignty, their territorial integrity and independence;**
 - (d) To eradicate all forms of colonialism from Africa; and**
 - (e) To promote international cooperation, having due regard to the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.**
- 2. To these ends, the Member States shall coordinate and harmonize their general policies, especially in the following fields:**
 - (a) Political and diplomatic cooperation;**
 - (b) Economic cooperation, including transport and communications;**
 - (c) Educational and cultural cooperation;**
 - (d) Health, sanitation and nutritional cooperation;**
 - (e) Scientific and technical cooperation; and**
 - (f) Cooperation for defence and security.**

PRINCIPLES

Article III

The Member States, in pursuit of the purposes stated in Article II solemnly affirm and declare their adherence to the following principles:

1. **The sovereign equality of all Member States.**
2. **Non-interference in the internal affairs of States.**
3. **Respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of each State and for its inalienable right to independent existence.**
4. **Peaceful settlement of disputes by negotiation, mediation, conciliation or arbitration.**
5. **Unreserved condemnation, in all its forms, of political assassination as well as of subversive activities on the part of neighbouring States or any other States.**
6. **Absolute dedication to the total emancipation of the African territories which are still dependent.**
7. **Affirmation of a policy of non-alignment with regard to all blocs.**

MEMBERSHIP

Article IV

Each independent sovereign African State shall be entitled to become a Member of the Organization.

RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBER STATES

Article V

All Member States shall enjoy equal rights and have equal duties.

Article VI

The Member States pledge themselves to observe scrupulously the principles enumerated in Article III of the present Charter.

INSTITUTIONS

Article VII

The Organization shall accomplish its purposes through the following principal institutions:

- 1. The Assembly of Heads of State and Government.**
- 2. The Council of Ministers.**
- 3. The General Secretariat.**
- 4. The Commission of Mediation, Conciliation and Arbitration.**

THE ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

Article VIII

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government shall be the supreme organ of the Organization. It shall, subject to the provisions of this Charter, discuss matters of common concern to Africa with a view to coordinating and harmonizing the general policy of the Organization. It may in addition review the structure, functions and acts of all the organs and any specialized agencies which may be created in accordance with the present Charter.

Article IX

The Assembly shall be composed of the Heads of State and Government or their duly accredited representatives and it shall meet at least once a year. At the request of any Member State and on approval by a two-thirds majority of the Member States, the Assembly shall meet in extraordinary session.

Article X

- 1. Each Member State shall have one vote.**
- 2. All resolutions shall be determined by a two-thirds majority of the Members of the Organization.**

3. **Questions of procedure shall require a simple majority. Whether or not a question is one of procedure shall be determined by a simple majority of all Member States of the Organization.**
4. **Two-thirds of the total membership of the Organization shall form a quorum at any meeting of the Assembly.**

Article XI

The Assembly shall have the power to determine its own rules of procedure.

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Article XII

1. **The Council of Ministers shall consist of Foreign Ministers or other Ministers as are designated by the Governments of Member States.**
2. **The Council of Ministers shall meet at least twice a year. When requested by any Member State and approved by two-thirds of all Member States, it shall meet in extraordinary session.**

Article XIII

1. **The Council of Ministers shall be responsible to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government. It shall be entrusted with the responsibility of preparing conferences of the Assembly.**
2. **It shall take cognisance of any matter referred to it by the Assembly. It shall be entrusted with the implementation of the decision of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government. It shall coordinate inter-African cooperation in accordance with the instructions of the Assembly conformity with Article II (2) of the present Charter.**

Article XIV

1. **Each Member State shall have one vote.**
2. **All resolutions shall be determined by a simple majority of the members of the Council of Ministers.**

3. **Two-thirds of the total membership of the Council of Ministers shall form a quorum for any meeting of the Council.**

Article XV

The Council shall have the power to determine its own rules of procedure.

GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Article XVI

There shall be a Secretary-General of the Organization, who shall be appointed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government. The Secretary-General shall direct the affairs of the Secretariat.

Article XVII

There shall be one or more Assistant Secretaries-General of the Organization, who shall be appointed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government.

Article XVIII

The functions and conditions of service of the Secretary-General, of the Assistant Secretaries-General and other employees of the Secretariat shall be governed by the provisions of this Charter and the regulations approved by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government.

1. **In the performance of their duties the Secretary-General and the staff shall not seek or receive instructions from any government or from any other authority external to the Organization. They shall refrain from any action which might reflect on their position as international officials responsible only to the Organization.**
2. **Each member of the Organization undertakes to respect the exclusive character of the responsibilities of the Secretary-General and the staff and not to seek to influence them in the discharge of their responsibilities.**

COMMISSION OF MEDIATION, CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION

Article XIX

Member States pledge to settle all disputes among themselves by peaceful means and, to this end decide to establish a Commission of Mediation, Conciliation and Arbitration, the composition of which and conditions of service shall be defined by a separate Protocol to be approved by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government. Said Protocol shall be regarded as forming an integral part of the present Charter.

SPECIALIZED COMMISSION

Article XX

The Assembly shall establish such Specialized Commissions as it may deem necessary, including the following:

- 1. Economic and Social Commission.**
- 2. Educational, Scientific, Cultural and Health Commission.**
- 3. Defence Commission.**

Article XXI

Each Specialized Commission referred to in Article XX shall be composed of the Ministers concerned or other Ministers or Plenipotentiaries designated by the Governments of the Member States.

Article XXII

The functions of the Specialized Commissions shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the present Charter and of the regulations approved by the Council of Ministers.

THE BUDGET

Article XXIII

The budget of the Organization prepared by the Secretary-General shall be approved by the Council of Ministers. The budget shall be provided by contribution from Member States in accordance with the scale of assessment of the United Nations; provided, however, that no Member State shall be assessed an amount exceeding twenty percent of the yearly regular budget of the Organization. The Member States agree to pay their respective contributions regularly.

SIGNATURE AND RATIFICATION OF CHARTER

Article XXIV

- 1. This Charter shall be open for signature to all independent sovereign African States and shall be ratified by the signatory States in accordance with their respective constitutional processes.**
- 2. The original instrument, done, if possible in African languages, in English and French, all texts being equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Government of Ethiopia which shall transmit certified copies thereof to all independent sovereign African States.**
- 3. Instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Government of Ethiopia, which shall notify all signatories of each such deposit.**

ENTRY INTO FORCE

Article XXV

This Charter shall enter into force immediately upon receipt by the Government of Ethiopia of the instruments of ratification from two-thirds of the signatory States.

REGISTRATION OF CHARTER

Article XXVI

This Charter shall, after due ratification, be registered with the Secretariat of the United Nations through the Government of Ethiopia in conformity with Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

INTERPRETATION OF THE CHARTER

Article XXVII

Any question which may arise concerning the interpretation of this Charter shall be decided by a vote of two-thirds of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization.

ADHESION AND ACCESSION

Article XXVIII

- 1. Any independent sovereign African State may at any time notify the Secretary-General of its intention to adhere or accede to this Charter.**
- 2. The Secretary-General shall, on receipt of such notification, communicate a copy of it to all the Member States. Admission shall be decided by a simple majority of the Member States. The decision of each Member State shall be transmitted to the Secretary-General, who shall, upon receipt of the required number of votes, communicate the decision to the State concerned.**

MISCELLANEOUS

Article XXIX

The working languages of the Organization and all its institutions shall be, if possible African languages, English and French, Arabic and Portuguese.

Article XXX

The Secretary-General may accept, on behalf of the Organization, gifts, bequests and other donations made to the Organization, provided that this is approved by the Council of Ministers.

Article XXXI

The Council of Ministers shall decide on the privileges and immunities to be accorded to the personnel of the Secretariat in the respective territories of the Member States.

CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Article XXXI

Any State which desires to renounce its membership shall forward a written notification to the Secretary-General. At the end of one year from the date of such notification, if not withdrawn, the Charter shall cease to apply with respect to the renouncing State, which shall thereby cease to belong to the Organization.

AMENDMENT OF THE CHARTER

Article XXXII

This Charter may be amended or revised if any Member State makes a written request to the Secretary-General to that effect; provided, however, that the proposed amendment is not submitted to the Assembly for consideration until all the Member States have been duly notified of it and a period of one year has elapsed. Such an amendment shall not be effective unless approved by at least two-thirds of all the Member States.

IN FAITH WHEREOF, We, the Heads of African States and Governments have signed this Charter.

*Done in the City of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia,
25th day of May, 1963*

**SOLEMN DECLARATION ON THE
50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE OAU/AU**

We, Heads of State and Government of the African Union assembled to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the OAU/AU established in the city of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 25 May 1963,

Evoking the uniqueness of the history of Africa as the cradle of humanity and a centre of civilization, and dehumanized by slavery, deportation, dispossession, apartheid and colonialism as well as our struggles against these evils, which shaped our common destiny and enhanced our solidarity with peoples of African descent;

Recalling with pride, the historical role and efforts of the Founders of the Pan-African Movement and the nationalist movements, whose visions, wisdom, solidarity and commitment continue to inspire us;

Reaffirming our commitment to the ideals of Pan-Africanism and Africa's aspiration for greater unity, and paying tribute to the Founders of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) as well as the African peoples on the continent and in the Diaspora for their glorious and successful struggles against all forms of oppression, colonialism and apartheid;

Mindful that the OAU/AU have been relentlessly championing for the complete decolonization of the African continent and that one of the fundamental objectives is unconditional respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of each of its Member States;

Stressing our commitment to build a united and integrated Africa;

Guided by the vision of our Union and affirming our determination to *"build an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven and managed by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the international arena"*;

Determined to take full responsibility for the realisation of this vision;

Guided by the principles enshrined in the Constitutive Act of our Union and our Shared Values, in particular our commitment to ensure gender equality and a people centred approach in all our endeavours as well as respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of our countries.

ACKNOWLEDGE THAT:

- I. **The Organisation of African Unity (OAU)** overcame internal and external challenges, persevered in the quest for continental unity and solidarity; contributed actively to the liberation of Africa from colonialism and apartheid; provided a political and diplomatic platform to generations of leaders on

continental and international matters; and elaborated frameworks for Africa's development and integration agenda through programmes such as NEPAD and APRM.

- II. ***The African Union (AU)*** carried forward our struggle for self-determination and drive for development and integration; formulated a clear vision for our Union; agreed that the ultimate goal of the Union is the construction of a united and integrated Africa; instituted the principle of non-indifference by authorizing the right of the Union to intervene in Member States in conformity with the Constitutive Act; and laid the groundwork for the entrenchment of the rule of law, democracy, respect for human rights, solidarity, promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of Women and Youth in Africa.
- III. The implementation of the integration agenda; the involvement of people, including our Diaspora in the affairs of the Union; the quest for peace and security and preventing wars and genocide such as the 1994 Rwandan genocide; the alignment between our institutional framework and the vision of the Union; the fight against poverty; inequality and underdevelopment; and, assuring Africa's rightful place in the world, remain challenges.

WE HEREBY DECLARE:

A. *On the African Identity and Renaissance*

- i) Our strong commitment to accelerate the African Renaissance by ensuring the integration of the principles of Pan Africanism in all our policies and initiatives;
- ii) Our unflinching belief in our common destiny, our Shared Values and the affirmation of the African identity; the celebration of unity in diversity and the institution of the African citizenship;
- iii) Our commitment to strengthen AU programmes and Member States institutions aimed at reviving our cultural identity, heritage, history and Shared values, as well as undertake, henceforth, to fly the AU flag and sing the AU anthem along with our national flags and anthems;
- iv) Promote and harmonize the teaching of African history, values and Pan Africanism in all our schools and educational institutions as part of advancing our African identity and Renaissance;
- v) Promote people to people engagements including Youth and civil society exchanges in order to strengthen Pan Africanism.

B. *The struggle against colonialism and the right to self-determination of people still under colonial rule*

- i) The completion of the decolonization process in Africa; to protect the right to self-determination of African peoples still under colonial rule; solidarity with people of African descent and in the Diaspora in their struggles against racial discrimination; and resist all forms of influences contrary to the interests of the continent;
- ii) The reaffirmation of our call to end expeditiously the unlawful occupation of the Chagos Archipelago, the Comorian Island of Mayotte and also reaffirm the right to self-determination of the people of Western Sahara, with a view to enable these countries and peoples, to effectively exercise sovereignty over their respective territories.

C. On the integration agenda

Our commitment to Africa's political, social and economic integration agenda, and in this regard, speed up the process of attaining the objectives of the African Economic Community and take steps towards the construction of a united and integrated Africa. Consolidating existing commitments and instruments, we undertake, in particular, to:

- i) Speedily implement the Continental Free Trade Area; ensure free movement of goods, with focus on integrating local and regional markets as well as facilitate African citizenship to allow free movement of people through the gradual removal of visa requirements;
- ii) Accelerate action on the ultimate establishment of a united and integrated Africa, through the implementation of our common continental governance, democracy and human rights frameworks. Move with speed towards the integration and merger of the Regional Economic Communities as the building blocks of the Union.

D. On the agenda for social and economic development

Our commitment to place the African people, in particular women, children and the youth, as well as persons with disabilities, at the centre of our endeavours and to eradicate poverty. In this regard, we undertake to:

- i) Develop our human capital as our most important resource, through education and training, especially in science, technology and innovation, and ensure that Africa takes its place and contributes to humanity, including in the field of space sciences and explorations;
- ii) Eradicate disease, especially HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis, ensure that no African woman dies while giving life, address maternal, infant and child mortality as well as provide universal health care services to our citizens;
- iii) Accelerate Africa's infrastructural development, to link African peoples, countries and economies; and help to drive social, cultural and economic


development. In this regard, we commit to meet our strategic targets in transport, ICT, energy and other social infrastructure by committing national, regional and continental resources to this end;

- iv) Create an enabling environment for the effective development of the African private sector through meaningful public-private sector dialogue at all levels, in order to foster socially responsive business, good corporate governance and inclusive economic growth;
- v) Take ownership of, use and develop, our natural endowments and resources, through value addition, as the basis for industrialization; promote intra-Africa trade and tourism, in order to foster economic integration, development, employment and inclusive growth to the benefit of the African people;
- vi) Also take ownership, preserve, protect and use our oceanic spaces and resources, improve our maritime and transport industries to the benefit of the continent and its peoples, including by contributing to food security;
- vii) Preserve our arable land for current and future generations, develop our rural economies, our agricultural production and agro-processing to eradicate hunger and malnutrition, as well as achieve food security and self-sufficiency;
- viii) Expand and develop urban infrastructure and develop planned approaches to rapid urbanization and the emergence of new cities;
- ix) Make our development agenda responsive to the needs of our peoples, anchored on the preservation of our environment for current and future generations, including in the fight against desertification and mitigation of the effects of climate change, especially with regards to island states and land-locked countries.

E. On peace and security

Our determination to achieve the goal of a conflict-free Africa, to make peace a reality for all our people and to rid the continent of wars, civil conflicts, human rights violations, humanitarian disasters and violent conflicts, and to prevent genocide. We pledge not to bequeath the burden of conflicts to the next generation of Africans and undertake to end all wars in Africa by 2020. In this regard, we undertake to:

- i) Address the root causes of conflicts including economic and social disparities; put an end to impunity by strengthening national and continental judicial institutions, and ensure accountability in line with our collective responsibility to the principle of non-indifference;
- ii) Eradicate recurrent and address emerging sources of conflict including piracy, trafficking in narcotics and humans, all forms of extremism, armed rebellions, terrorism, transnational organized crime and new crimes such as cybercrime.

- 
- iii) Push forward the agenda of conflict prevention, peacemaking, peace support, national reconciliation and post-conflict reconstruction and development through the African Peace and Security Architecture; as well as, ensure enforcement of and compliance with peace agreements and build Africa's peace-keeping and enforcement capacities through the African Standby Force;
 - iv) Maintain a nuclear-free Africa and call for global nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy;
 - v) Ensure the effective implementation of agreements on landmines and the non-proliferation of small arms and light weapons;
 - vi) Address the plight of internally displaced persons and refugees and eliminate the root causes of this phenomenon by fully implementing continental and universal frameworks.

F. On democratic governance

Our determination to anchor our societies, governments and institutions on respect for the rule of law, human rights and dignity, popular participation, the management of diversity, as well as inclusion and democracy. In this regard, we undertake to:

- i) Strengthen democratic governance including through decentralized systems, the rule of law and the capacities of our institutions to meet the aspirations of our people;
- ii) Reiterate our rejection of unconstitutional change of government, including through any attempts to seize power by force but recognize the right of our people to peacefully express their will against oppressive systems;
- iii) Promote integrity, fight corruption in the management of public affairs and promote leadership that is committed to the interests of the people;
- iv) Foster the participation of our people through democratic elections and ensure accountability and transparency.

G. On Determining Africa's Destiny

Our determination to take responsibility for our destiny. We pledge to foster self-reliance and self-sufficiency. In this regard, we undertake to:

- i) Take ownership of African issues and provide African solutions to African problems;

- ii) Mobilize our domestic resources, on a predictable and sustainable basis to strengthen institutions and advance our continental agenda;
- iii) Take all necessary measures, using our rich natural endowments and human resources, to transform Africa and make it a leading continent in the area of innovation and creativity;

H. Africa's place in the world

Our endeavour for Africa to take its rightful place in the political, security, economic, and social systems of global governance towards the realization of its Renaissance and establishing Africa as a leading continent. We undertake to:

- i) Continue the global struggle against all forms of racism and discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerances;
- ii) Act in solidarity with oppressed countries and peoples;
- iii) Advance international cooperation that promotes and defends Africa's interests, is mutually beneficial and aligned to our Pan Africanist vision;
- iv) Continue to speak with one voice and act collectively to promote our common interests and positions in the international arena;
- v) Reiterate our commitment to Africa's active role in the globalization process and international forums including in Financial and Economic Institutions;
- vi) Advocate for our common position for reform of the United Nations (UN) and other global institutions with particular reference to the UN Security Council, in order to correct the historical injustice with Africa as the only region without a permanent seat.

We pledge to articulate the above ideals and goals in our national development plans and in the development of the Continental Agenda 2063, through a people-driven process for the realization of our vision for an integrated, people-centred, prosperous Africa at peace with itself.

As Heads of State and Government, mindful of our responsibility and commitment, we pledge to act together with our Peoples and the African Diaspora to realize our vision of Pan Africanism and African Renaissance.

Adopted by the 21st Ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, at Addis Ababa, on 26 May 2013.



CM/Res.149-174

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE ELEVENTH ORDINARY SESSION
OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HELD IN ALGIERS, ALGERIA,
FROM 4 TO 12 SEPTEMBER 1968

RESOLUTION ON NAMIBIA

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Eleventh Ordinary Session in Algiers, Algeria, from 4 to 12 September 1968,

Recalling its resolutions AHG/Res.87 (VII), AHG/Res. 97 (VIII), CM/Res. 109 (XX) and CM/Res. 139 (X) on the question of South West Africa, as well as the United Nations General Assembly resolutions 1515 (XVI), 2145 (XXI), 2248 (S-V), 2324 (XXII), 2335 (XXII) and especially 2372 (XXII) of June 1968, which among other things changed the name of South West Africa to Namibia,

Taking note of the Report of the Administrative Secretary General on the question of Namibia,

1. AGAIN STRONGLY REAFFIRMS the right of the people of Namibia to freedom and independence in conformity with the Charter of the Organization of African Unity, the United Nations Charter, and the relevant resolutions of the OAU, and of the United Nations;
2. PLEDGES AGAIN its total and unconditional support to the people of Namibia in their legitimate struggle;
3. STRONGLY CONDEMNS the South African regime for its persistent refusal to implement the United Nations resolution terminating its mandate in Namibia and for its continued defiance of world public opinion;
4. CONDEMNS FURTHER the South African regime for its forceful imposition of Apartheid on the inhabitants of Namibia, a territory under the responsibility of the United Nations;

5. CALLS UPON the Security Council once again, to give effective assistance to the United Nations Council for Namibia in carrying out its mandate in conformity with the United Nations General Assembly resolution 2145 (XXI) and resolution 2248 (S-V)
6. FURTHER CALLS UPON the Security Council to meet without delay in accordance with operative paragraph 13 of General Assembly resolution 2372 (XXII) to invoke the necessary provisions of Chapter VII of its Charter against the South African regime for its persistent refusal to hand over the administration of Namibia to the UN;
7. CALLS UPON all States dedicated to the ideal of peace, freedom and independence to co-operate fully with the United Nations Council for Namibia in the carrying out of its mandate;
8. CALLS UPON the international community to render all moral and material assistance directly or through the OAU or the UN to those who are struggling against oppression in Namibia;
9. REITERATES its earlier recommendation to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government contained in resolutions CM/Res. 139 (X), to nominate an African for the post of United Nations High Commissioner for Namibia;
10. DECIDES to follow up developments on the question of Namibia.



ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

Secretariat
Addis Ababa

CIAS/PLEN.2/REV.2
A - F
CIAS/Plen.3
A - C
CIAS/RES.1/REV.1
CIAS/Res.1/Rev.1
CIAS/Res.2

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE FIRST CONFERENCE
OF INDEPENDENT AFRICAN HEADS OF STATE AND
GOVERNMENT HELD IN ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA,
FROM 22 TO 25 MAY 1963

- A -

Agenda Item II: DECOLONIZATION

The Summit Conference of Independent African States meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 22 to 25 May 1963,

Having considered all aspects of the questions of decolonization,

Unanimously convinced of the imperious and urgent necessity of co-ordinating and intensifying their efforts to accelerate the unconditional attainment of national independence of all African territories still under foreign domination,

Reaffirming that it is the duty of all African Independent States to support dependent peoples in Africa in their struggle for freedom and independence,

Noting with deep concern that most of the remaining dependent territories in Africa are dominated by foreign settlers,

Convinced that the colonial powers, by their forcible imposition of the settlers to control the governments and administrations of those territories, are thus establishing colonial bases in the heart of Africa,

Have agreed unanimously to concert and co-ordinate their efforts and actions in this field, and to this end have decided on the following measures:

- 1. DECLARES that the forcible imposition by the colonial powers of the settlers to control the governments and administrations of the dependent territories is a flagrant violation of the inalienable rights of the legitimate inhabitants of the territories concerned;**
- 2. INVITES the colonial powers to take the necessary measures for the immediate application of the declaration of the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples; and INSISTS that their determination to**

- maintain colonies or semi-colonies in Africa constitutes a menace to the peace of the continent;**
- 3. INVITES, further, the colonial powers, particularly the United Kingdom with regard to Southern Rhodesia, not to transfer the powers and attributes of sovereignty to foreign minority governments imposed on African peoples by the use of force and under cover of racial legislation; and INSISTS that the transfer of power to settler minorities would amount to the provision of United Nations resolution 1514(XV) on violations of Independence;**
 - 4. REAFFIRMS its support of African nationalists of Southern Rhodesia and solemnly declares that if power in Southern Rhodesia were to be usurped by a racial white minority government, State Members of the Conference would lend their effective moral and practical support to any legitimate measures which the African nationalist leaders may devise for the purpose of recovering such power and restoring it to the African majority; the Conference also UNDERTAKES henceforth to concert the efforts of its Members to take such measures as the situation demands against any State according recognition to the minority government;**
 - 5. REAFFIRMS, further, that the territory of South-West Africa is an African territory under international mandate and that any attempt by the Republic of South Africa to annex it would be regarded as an act of aggression; REAFFIRMS also its determination to render all necessary support to the second phase of the South-West Africa case before the International Court of Justice; REAFFIRMS STILL FURTHER, the inalienable right of the people of South-West Africa to self-determination and independence;**
 - 6. INTERVENES EXPRESSLY with the Great Powers so that they cease, without exception, to lend direct or indirect support or assistance to all those colonialist governments which might use such assistance to suppress national liberation movements, particularly the Portuguese Government which is conducting a real war of genocide in Africa; INFORMS the allies of colonial powers that they must choose between their friendship for the African people and their support of powers that oppress African peoples;**
 - 7. DECIDES to send a delegation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs to speak on behalf of all African States in the meetings of the Security Council which will be called to examine the report of the United Nations Committee of 24 on the situation in African territories under Portuguese domination; (The Conference has decided the members of the Delegation to be Liberia, Tunisia, Madagascar and Sierra Leone);**

- 8. DECIDES further the breaking off of diplomatic and consular relations between all African States and Governments of Portugal and South Africa so long as they persist in their present attitude towards decolonization;**
- 9. ASKS FOR AN EFFECTIVE BOYCOTT of the foreign trade of Portugal and South Africa by:**
 - (a) prohibiting the import of goods from those two countries;**
 - (b) closing African ports and airports to their ships and planes;**
 - (c) forbidding the planes of those two countries to overfly the territories or all African States;**
- 10. EARNESTLY INVITES all national liberation movements to co-ordinate their efforts by establishing common action fronts wherever necessary so as to strengthen the effectiveness of their struggle and the rational use of the concerted assistance given them;**
- 11. ESTABLISHES a Co-ordinating Committee consisting of Algeria, Ethiopia, Guinea, Congo (Leopoldville), Nigeria, Senegal, Tanganyika, United Arab Republic and Uganda, with Headquarters in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanganyika, responsible for harmonizing the assistance from African States and for managing the Special Fund to be set up for that purpose;**
- 12. ESTABLISHES a Special Fund to be raised by voluntary contribution of Member States for the current year, the deadline for such contribution being 15 July 1963; REQUESTS the Co-ordinating Committee to propose the necessary fund and apportionment among Member States to the Council of Ministers so as to supply the necessary practical and financial aid to the various African national liberation movements;**
- 13. APPOINTS the day of 25 May as African Liberation Day so as to organize popular demonstrations on that day to disseminate the recommendations of the Summit Conference and to collect sums over and above the national contributions for the Special Fund; (The Conference has decided that this year it will be the opening day of the 18th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations);**
- 14. DECIDES to receive on the territories of independent African States, nationalists from liberation movements in order to give them training in all sectors and afford young people all the assistance they need for their education and vocational training;**
- 15. DECIDES further to promote, in each State, the transit of all material aid and the establishment of a body of volunteers in various fields, with a view to providing the various African national liberation movements with the assistance they need in the various sectors.**

- B -

Agenda Item II: APARTHEID AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

The Summit Conference of Independent African States meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 22 to 25 May 1963,

Having considered ALL ASPECTS of the questions of apartheid and racial discrimination,

Unanimously convinced of the imperious and urgent necessity of co-ordinating and intensifying their efforts to put an end to the South African Government's criminal policy of apartheid and wipe out racial discrimination in all its forms,

Have agreed unanimously to concert and co-ordinate their efforts and actions in this field, and to this end have decided on the following measures:

- (a) To grant scholarships, educational facilities and possibilities of employment in African government services to refugees from South Africa;**
 - (b) To support the recommendations [presented to the Security Council and the General Assembly by the Special Committee of the United Nations on the apartheid policies of the South African Government;**
 - (c) To despatch a delegation of Foreign Ministers to inform the Security Council of the explosive situation existing in South Africa; (The Conference has decided the Members of the Delegation to be: Liberia, Tunisia, Madagascar and Sierra Leone);**
 - (d) To co-ordinate concerted measures of sanction against the Government of South Africa;**
- 1. APPEALS to all States, and more particularly to those which have traditional relations and co-operate with the Government of South Africa, to apply strictly UN resolution 1761 (XVII) of 6 November 1962 concerning apartheid;**
 - 2. APPEALS to all governments who still have diplomatic, consular and economic relations with the Government of South Africa to break off those relations and to cease any other form of encouragement for the policy of apartheid;**
 - 3. STRESSES the great responsibility incurred by the colonial authorities administering territories neighboring South Africa in the pursuit of the policy of apartheid;**
 - 4. CONDEMNS racial discrimination in all its forms in Africa and all over the world;**

5. EXPRESS the deep concern aroused in all African peoples and governments by the measures of racial discrimination taken against communities of African origin living outside the continent and particularly in the United States of America; **EXPRESSES** appreciation for the efforts of the Federal Government of the United States of America to put an end to those intolerable malpractices which are likely seriously to deteriorate relations between the African peoples and governments on the one hand and the people and Government of the United States of America on the other.

- C -

Agenda Item III: AFRICA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

The Summit Conference of Independent African states meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 22 to 25 May 1963,

Believing that the United Nations is an important instrument for the maintenance of peace and security among nations and for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

Reiterating its desire to strengthen and support the United Nations,

Noting with regret that Africa as a region is not equitably represented in the principal organs of the United Nations,

Convinced of the need for closer co-operation and co-ordination among the African Member States of the United Nations,

1. REAFFIRMS its dedication to the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter and its acceptance of all obligations contained in the Charter, including financial obligations;

2. INSISTS that Africa as a geographical region should have equitable representation in the principal organs of the United Nations, particularly the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council and its specialized agencies;

3. INVITES African Governments to instruct their representatives in the United Nations to take all possible steps to achieve a more equitable representation of the African region;

4. FURTHER INVITES African Governments to instruct their representatives in the United Nations, without prejudice to their membership in and collaboration with the African-Asian Group, to constitute a more effective African Group with a permanent secretariat so as to bring about closer co-operation and better co-ordination in matters of common concern.

- D -

Agenda Item III: GENERAL DISARMAMENT

The Summit Conference of Independent African States meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 22 to 25 May 1963,

Having considered all aspects of the questions of general disarmament,

Unanimously convinced of the imperious and urgent necessity of co-ordinating and intensifying their efforts to contribute to the achievement of a realistic disarmament programme through the signing, by all States concerned, of a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Have agreed unanimously to concert and co-ordinate their efforts and actions in this field, and to this end have decided on the following measures:

- 1. To affirm and respect the principle of declaring Africa a Denuclearized Zone to oppose all nuclear and thermonuclear tests, as well as the manufacture of nuclear weapons and to promote the peaceful uses of nuclear energy;**
- 2. The destruction of existing nuclear weapons;**
- 3. To undertake to bring about, by means of negotiation, the end of military occupation of the African continent and the elimination of military bases and nuclear tests, which elimination constitutes a basic element of African Independence and Unity;**
- 4. To appeal to the Great Powers to:**
 - (a) reduce conventional weapons;**
 - (b) put an end to the arms race; and**
 - (c) sign a general and complete disarmament agreement under strict and effective international control;**
- 5. To appeal to the Great Powers, in particular to the Soviet Union and the United States of America, to use their best endeavors to secure the objectives stated above.**

- E -

Agenda Item IV: AREAS OF CO-OPERATION IN ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

The Summit Conference of Independent African States meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 22 to 25 May 1963,

Concerned with the active share of the developing countries in world trade and at the persistent deterioration of the terms of trade in their external commercial relationships,

Conscious of the fact that owing to its extreme dependence on the export of primary products, Africa, more than any other developing region, is adversely affected by persistent deteriorations in export earnings,

Convinced of the necessity for concerted action by the African countries in order to ensure a much more remunerative price from the sale of their primary products,

Mindful of the need to eliminate the barriers to trade among the African countries and thereby to strengthen their economies,

Considering that economic development, including the expansion of trade on the basis of fair and remunerative prices, should tend to eliminate the need for external economic aid and that such external economic aid should be unconditional and should not prejudice the independence of African States,

Considering the imperative necessity for African countries to pool their resources and harmonize their activities in the economic field,

Aware of the necessity for the joint utilization of river basin resources, the study of the use of Sahara Zone, the co-ordination of means of transport and communication systems, and the provision of research facilities, all of which serve to stimulate economic growth and expansion of trade, both regionally and inter-regionally,

Convinced that the acceleration of the rate of economic and social development of the various African countries lies in the industrialization of these countries and the diversification of their production,

Considering the serious problems arising from the great shortage of trained and skilled personnel, the lack of qualified staff, scarce capital resources, grossly inadequate infrastructure, limited outlets for industrial products and the far too inadequate participation of all Africans in the economic construction of their countries,

Desiring to explore the effects of regional economic groupings on the African economy,

Noting with satisfaction that the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa has decided to convene a Conference of African Ministers of Finance, to be held in Khartoum (Sudan) in July 1963, with a view to settling up an African Development Bank,

RESOLVES TO:

APPOINT, pending the establishment of the Economic Commission of the Organization, a preparatory economic committee to study, in collaboration with governments and in consultation with the Economic Commission for Africa, inter alia, the following questions and submit their findings to Member States;

- (a) the possibility of establishing a free trade area between the various African countries;**
 - (b) the establishment of a common external tariff to protect the emergent industries and the setting up of a raw material price stabilization fund;**
 - (c) the restructuralization of international trade;**
 - (d) the means for developing trade among African countries by the organization and participation in African trade fairs and exhibitions and by the granting of transport and transit facilities;**
 - (e) the co-ordination of means of transport and the establishment of road, air and maritime companies;**
 - (f) the establishment of an African Payments and Clearing Union;**
 - (g) a progressive freeing of national currencies from all non-technical external attachments and the establishment of a Pan-African monetary zone; and;**
 - (h) the ways and means of effecting the harmonization of existing and future national development plans;**
- 2. INVITES ECA to request its Executive Secretary to give the Commission of Experts all the necessary support and assistance which it may require in the fulfillment of its assignment;**
- 3. WELCOMES the forthcoming Conference of African Ministers of Finance and to give the respective Ministers of Finance instructions to take the necessary measures for the rapid establishment of the African Development Bank;**
- 4. NOTES with satisfaction the progress achieved by the Economic Commission for Africa in establishing the Dakar Institute of Economic Development and Planning and to affirm their profound interest in that institute and their intention of giving it appropriate financial and other support;**

5. WELCOMES the forthcoming World Conference on Trade and Development which is to examine international trade problems in relation to the economic development of emerging countries;

6. URGES all States concerned to conduct negotiations, in concert, with a view to obtaining from the consumer countries real price stabilization and guaranteed outlets on the world market so that the developing countries may derive considerably greater revenue from international trade.

- F -

Agenda Item IV: AREAS OF CO-OPERATION - THE FUTURE OF CCTA

The Summit Conference of Independent African States meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 22 to 25 May 1963,

Considering that at the last C.C.T.A. session in Dar-es-Salaam in January to February 1963, the final adoption of the new CCTA convention was deferred until the Heads of African States had had an opportunity to consider the role and direction of the CCTA within the overall context of Pan-African Co-operation,

And in view of the fact that Article 23 of this new convention lays down as follows:

"Pending the signature and the ratification of this convention as provided in article 16, the Parties having initialed this convention agree to apply it provisionally as if it had entered into force as from the date of initialing, subject to any decision which may be taken by the Heads of African and Malagasy States at the Conference at Addis Ababa or at any subsequent conference on the role of the CCTA within the overall context of Pan-African Co-operation",

DECIDES to maintain C.C.T.A. and to reconsider its role in order to bring it eventually within the scope of the Organization of African States, which will have, as one of its arms, an organ for technical, scientific and cultural co-operation.

CIAS/Plen.3

- A -

SOCIAL AND LABOUR MATTERS

The Summit Conference of Independent African States meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from the 22 to 25 May 1963,

Realizing the importance of social standard for the African peoples and the urgent need for raising such standard,

Considering that co-operation amongst the African States in the social and labour fields is vital and will contribute to the realization of a sound solidarity amongst their peoples,

Believing that the coming together of youth from African States will create better understanding and contribute to the realization of the desired African Unity,

Believing further that co-operation in the labour field amongst African States is vital for our continent,

DECIDES that a Committee of Experts be called to convene within three months, pending the setting up of the Economic and Social Commission provided for in Article XX of the Charter of the Organization of African Unity, to submit a report to the above Commission;

With regard to social and labour matters;

1. To conduct extensive studies on social and labour problems in the continent;

2. To lay down detailed programmes with a view to raising the social standard and to strengthen inter-African co-operation through:

- (a) The exchange of social and labour legislations;
- (b) The establishment of African Youth Organization;
- (c) The Organization of African Scouts Union and an annual continental jamboree;
- (d) The Organization of an annual African Sports Games;
- (e) The Organization of vocational training courses in which African workers will participate;
- (f) The establishment of an African Trade Union.

- E -

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

The Summit Conference of Independent African States meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from the 22 to 25 May 1963,

Desirous of strengthening educational and cultural ties amongst the peoples of Africa,

Considering that the educational and cultural co-operation amongst African States will break down linguistic barriers and promote understanding amongst the people of the continent,

Believing that once this co-operation in the educational and cultural fields amongst African States has been organized, co-ordinated and harmonized and fully implemented, it will pave the way to the final goal, namely African Unity,

Realizing the lack of information media in various parts of the African continent and the necessity of strengthening exchange of information amongst African States in order to promote better understanding amongst their peoples,

1. DECIDES that a Committee of Experts be called to convene within three months, pending the setting up of the Educational and Cultural Commission provided for in Article XX of the Charter of the Organization of African Unity, to submit a report to the above Commission on educational and cultural matters by taking into account the resolutions which have been adopted by the Conferences of Casablanca and Lagos;

2. PROPOSES:

- (a)** the establishment of an institute of African Studies to be a department of the African University proposed by Ethiopia;
- (b)** the introduction as soon as possible of programmes in the major African languages in the Broadcasting Stations of the various African States and the exchanges of radio and television programmes;
- (c)** the establishment of an African News Agency.

- C -

HEALTH, SANITATION AND NUTRITION

The Summit Conference of Independent African States meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 22 to 25 May 1963,

Realizing the importance of health standard for the African peoples and the urgent need for raising such standard and improving sanitation and nutrition amongst the people,

Considering that the co-operation amongst the African States in health, sanitation and nutrition fields is vital and will contribute to the realization of stronger solidarity amongst their peoples,

DECIDES that a Committee of Experts be called to convene within three months, pending the setting up of the Commission on Health, Sanitation and Nutrition provided for in Article XX of the Charter of the Organization of African Unity, to submit a report to the above Commission:

With regard to health:

- 1. To conduct extensive studies on health problems facing the continent;**

2. To lay down detailed programmes with a view to raising health standards among the peoples and to strengthen inter-African co-operation through:

- (a) The exchange of information about endemic and epidemic diseases and the means to control them;**
- (b) The exchange of health legislations;**
- (c) The exchange of doctors, technicians and nurses;**
- (d) The reciprocal offer of scholarships for medical students and the establishment of training courses on health, sanitation and nutrition;**

3. To conduct, research in all African States on sanitation and nutrition and to study ways and means to improve them.

CIAS/Res.1/Rev.1

SPECIAL RESOLUTION

The Summit Conference of Independent African States meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 22 to 25 May 1963,

Having signed the Charter of the Organization of African Unity:

- 1. ESTABLISES forthwith a Provisional General Secretariat that will operate until the Charter of the Organization of African Unity is applied;**
- 2. This provisional General Secretariat is entrusted to the Ethiopian Government and will essentially perform such common tasks as have been decided by the present Conference; (The expert committee which will assist the provisional Secretariat to be set up by the Ethiopian Government shall be composed of the following countries: Congo (Brazzaville), Ghana, Nigeria, Niger, Uganda and United Arab Republic).**
- 3. DECIDES to establish the Provisional Headquarters of the General Secretariat in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia;**
- 4. DECIDES further, that the first meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, shall take place in Dakar, Senegal.**

CIAS/Res.2

OFFICIAL TEXT

The Summit Conference of Independent African States meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 22 to 25 May 1963,

Considering the notable efforts made by the Imperial Government of Ethiopia in organizing the first historic meeting of Heads of Independent African States and Governments,

Greatly appreciating the warm and cordial welcome extended by the brother people of Ethiopia to its guests,

Expresses its deep gratitude to His Imperial Majesty Haile Selassie I, and to the Government and people of Ethiopia, whose decisive role has helped to consolidate African unity through the inception of the Organization of African Unity.

AFRICAN UNION
الاتحاد الأفريقي



UNION AFRICAINE

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Statement of the Chairperson of the AU Commission on the situation in Gaza

Addis Ababa, 7 August 2022: The Chairperson of the African Union Commission Moussa Faki Mahamat strongly condemns the continued air strike attacks by Israel on Gaza that have killed more than 30 Palestinian civilians, including 6 children.

The Chairperson reiterates that targeting of civilians and the continued illegal occupation by Israeli security forces of the Occupied Territories, are in stark violation of international law, and complicate the search for a just and lasting solution.

The Chairperson reaffirms the unwavering support of the African Union with the Palestinian people in their legitimate quest for an independent and sovereign State with East Jerusalem as its capital.

The Chairperson further calls for the urgent need of renewed and genuine international efforts to find a just and lasting solution based on the right of the existence of two States, Israel and Palestine, within the framework of relevant existing African Union and United Nations commitments.



STATEMENT OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION ON THE AMERICAN DECISION TO RECOGNIZE JERUSALEM AS THE CAPITAL OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

Addis Ababa, 6 December 2017: The Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Moussa Faki Mahamat, notes with deep concern the decision of the United States Government, announced today, to recognize Jerusalem as the capital of the State of Israel. He regrets this decision, which will only increase tensions in the region and beyond and further complicate the search for a solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The Chairperson of the Commission reiterates the solidarity of the African Union with the Palestinian people and its support to their legitimate quest for an independent and sovereign State with East Jerusalem as its capital. In this context, he calls for renewed international efforts to find a just and lasting solution to the conflict, based on the existence of two States, Israel and Palestine, living side-by-side in peace and security, within the framework of relevant African Union and United Nations pronouncements.

**DECLARATION
ON THE SITUATION IN PALESTINE AND THE MIDDLE EAST**

WE, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, meeting at the Thirty Sixth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union held in Addis Ababa on 18 and 19 February 2023.

TAKING NOTE of the report on the situation in the State of Palestine and the Middle East and recalling all previous declarations, decisions and resolutions adopted by the Organization of African Unity and the African Union on the situation in Palestine aimed at achieving a lasting peace and security in the Middle East;

EXPRESSING our full support for the Palestinian people in their legitimate struggle against the Israeli occupation, represented by the Palestine Liberation Organization under the leadership of President Mahmoud Abbas, in order to restore their inalienable rights, including the right to self-determination, return of refugees and independence in their State of Palestine existing side by side with the State of Israel;

REITERATING our desire and commitment to support 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 04 June 1967, with East Jerusalem as its capital, by ending the long-standing Israeli occupation, applying the principle of a two-State solution, finding a just solution to the issue of Palestinian refugees and guaranteeing their right to return in conformity with the United Nations Resolution 194 (III);

RENEWING our call for the launch of a credible political process to end the Israeli occupation and to dismantle the system of apartheid on the territory of the State of Palestine in order to achieve a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East through a multilateral international mechanism, within a specific time frame, in accordance with the international consensus;

NOTES with dismay the unceasing Israeli illegal settlements, a mechanism for gradual annexation of the occupied Palestinian territories and constitutes a major obstacle to ending the occupation and achieving peace in accordance with the international consensus. Also, the continuation of Israel in implementing annexation schemes, imposing control over the Palestinian territories, changing the demographic structure, imposing new realities on the ground and consolidating the apartheid regime.

DISAPPROVING of Israel's continued intransigence in rejecting the repeated initiatives and calls of the Palestinian leadership to engage in peaceful negotiations leading to the granting of an independent State for the Palestinians, in accordance with the principle of a two-State solution;

REAFFIRMING our support for the request of the Palestinian President to the Secretary-General of the United Nations to work vigorously to develop an international plan to end the occupation of the territory of the State of Palestine in order to achieve a just and a comprehensive peace in the region;

FURTHER REAFFIRMING the centrality of the just cause of Palestine and the steadfastness of our supportive position and decisions based on our common values against colonialism, oppression and apartheid and the historically established African solidarity with the Palestinian people in their legitimate quest for freedom and an independent state;

URGING all Member States to continue supporting the Palestinian cause guided by the values and principles of the African Union, and to refrain from any action that would undermine the principles of solidarity with the Palestinian people;

FOLLOWING with concerns the grave developments in the occupied Palestinian territories and the escalation of violations by the Israeli occupation authorities and settlers against the Palestinian civilians and their properties, the confiscation of land and the replacement of settlers, and the continued desecration and attempts to Judaize the Islamic and Christian holy sites;

REJECTING the Israeli violations of the fundamental rights and freedoms of the Palestinian people by continuing the blockade of the Gaza Strip, and the consolidation of an apartheid regime that discriminates on the basis of ethnicity and religion.

WE HEREBY DECLARE THE FOLLOWING:

1. **AFFIRM** the need to resolve the Palestinian issue to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East region by ending the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem, on the basis of the two-state solution in conformity with the international law. Also, the need to launch a credible peace process, in accordance with the agreed international terms of reference, within a specific time frame, leading to the establishment of an independent Palestinian State on the borders of 04 June 1967 with East Jerusalem as its capital.
2. **RENEW** our support for the initiative of His Excellency, the Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas for peace and his repeated calls, including his last speech before the United Nations General Assembly on 23 September 2022, and his call to the Secretary-General of the United Nations to develop an international plan to end the occupation of the State of Palestine in order to achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the region, and the State of Israel is encouraged to seize this opportunity to achieve peace.

3. **SUPPORT** the renewal of the State of Palestine's request for full membership in the United Nations, and **URGE** all Member States to support this request aimed at holding the Israeli occupation accountable for war crimes and crimes against humanity committed and continues to commit against the Palestinian people.
4. **ACKNOWLEDGE** the request for an Advisory Opinion by the UN General Assembly Resolution XX/XXX (2023) on the "*Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem*" to the International Court of Justice (ICJ).
5. **REQUEST** 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. Member States should not recognize the illegal status that Israel has established in the Palestinian and Arab territories, including East Jerusalem, which perpetuates the system of colonialism and apartheid.
6. **FURTHER REQUEST** Member States to end all direct and indirect trade, scientific and cultural exchanges with the State of Israel. Moreover, to take all measures to stop such dealings in accordance with the resolutions of United Nations, in particular resolution 2334 (2016), paragraph 5, and the relevant decisions of the African Union.
7. **ALSO REQUEST** the AU Commission, through the Office of the Legal Counsel, to exert all necessary efforts to make an AU written submission in accordance with Article 66 of the ICJ Statute and to carry out the necessary campaign to bring more AU Member States and other Organizations to support the Palestinian people in their legitimate and legal struggle against occupation as well as to make submissions to the advisory proceedings before the ICJ. Accordingly, **AUTHORIZES** the PRC to adopt the necessary budget for the implementation of these activities,
8. **CALL** on Member States to respect the legal status of East Jerusalem as the occupied capital of the State of Palestine, and reject any actions taken by Israel against the Palestinian people, their rights and their property, that affect the legal status and demographic composition of the city of Jerusalem guided by Security Council Resolutions 476 and 478 of 1980 and the General Assembly Resolution No. 10/19 of 2017.
9. **CONDEMN** the Israeli policies in the Holy City aimed at Judaizing the Islamic and Christian holy sites especially the establishment of the spatial and temporal division in the Holy Mosque, and the forcible displacement of Jerusalemites, replacing them with settlers to create a demographic and geographical reality that

perpetuates the apartheid system, in an effort to create a single racist state that promotes religious intolerance.

10. **ALSO CONDEMN** the Israeli colonialist practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, discriminating between the Palestinian and Israeli people on the basis of race and religion, and giving the Israelis more rights and privileges over the Palestinian landowners. The international community is called on to dismantle and prohibit the Israeli system of colonialism and apartheid in accordance with the International Convention for the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid adopted in 30 November 1973.
11. **FURTHER CONDEMN** the Israel's continued policy of field execution, administrative and arbitrary detention, ill-treatment and medical neglect of Palestinian prisoners, which constitute war crimes under the international humanitarian law. The Israeli occupation authorities are called on to release all Palestinian prisoners, particularly children, women, the elderly and the sick, to ensure their safety. The Israeli authorities are called on to end its policy of keeping the corpses of martyrs and prisoners, which is contrary to the provisions of international laws.
12. **DEPLORE** the brutal and repeated targeting of medical and media personnel, elderly, women, and children in flagrant violation of international humanitarian law, in particular the Fourth Geneva Convention and condemn the assassination of Palestinian journalist Ms. Shirin Abu Aqila while she was reporting, and **SUPPORT** an international and independent investigation to uncover the circumstances of her death.
13. **REJECT** the barbaric and ongoing Israeli aggression against the Gaza Strip, which recently targeted the Strip in August 2022, resulting in more than forty martyrs and the injury of hundreds of civilian victims, in addition to the demolition of civilian homes and properties, and the displacement of thousands of civilians.
14. **REITERATE** the call on the international community to ensure the protection of the Palestinian people in accordance with Security Council resolutions 605 of 1987, 672 and 673 of 1990, and 904 of 1994, and resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, including its emergency special session in July 2018 and we stand ready to support the work of an international mission to provide protection to the Palestinian people.
15. **FURTHER REITERATE** our grave concern at the deterioration of the economic and humanitarian situation in Gaza Strip, which has become an alarming humanitarian catastrophe requiring urgent relief as a result of the Israeli blockade and the repeated military aggression and make efforts to enable geographic and political unity in the Palestinian territories between the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

16. **APPLAUD** the efforts of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria to unify the Palestinian parties and welcome the signing by the Palestinian parties of the "Algiers Declaration", which emanated from the "Conference of Reunion for Palestinian National Unity" held in Algiers on 11-13 October 2022. We look forward to the completion of efforts and noble endeavors to achieve the final steps that will unite the Palestinian parties within the framework of the Palestine Liberation Organization- the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. **FURTHER APPLAUD** the efforts of the Arab Republic of Egypt to promote peace and reconciliation between the Palestinians within the framework of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian Peoples.
17. **WELCOME** the international consensus to extend the legal mandate of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) until 2026. We call on the international community to support and secure the financial resources, contributions enabling this UN Agency to continue playing its role towards the Palestine refugees.
18. **REAFFIRM** that a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East requires the complete Israeli withdrawal from all Palestinian and Arab territories, including the Syrian Golan Heights and the territories still occupied in southern Lebanon. Also, the embodiment of the independence of the sovereign State of Palestine on the borders of 04 June 1967, with East Jerusalem as its capital, and the return of Palestinian refugees to their homes.

AU-9



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**AHG/Res. 53(V)
AHG/Res. 54 (V)**

**RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE FIFTH ORDINARY SESSION OF
THE ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT
HELD IN ALGIERS, FROM 13 TO 16 SEPTEMBER 1968**

RESOLUTION ON THE AGGRESSION
AGAINST THE U.A.R.

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity meeting in its Fifth Ordinary Session, in Algiers, Algeria, from 13 to 16 September 1968,

Having heard the statement of the UAR Minister for Foreign Affairs on the situation on the Middle East in general and the U.A.R. in particular,

1. TAKES NOTE of the statement made by the U.A.R. Minister for Foreign Affairs;
2. REAFFIRMS in this respect its support for the U.A.R.;
3. CALLS FOR the withdrawal of foreign troops from all Arab territories occupied since the 5th June, 1967 in accordance with the Resolution taken by the Security Council on 22 November 1967, and appeals to all Member States of the OAU to use their influence to ensure a strict implementation of this Resolution.

AU-10



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AHG/Res. 55(VI)
AHG/Res. 60 (VI)

**RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE SIXTH ORDINARY SESSION OF
THE ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT
HELD IN ADDIS ABABA FROM 6 TO 10 SEPTEMBER 1969**

RESOLUTION

ON THE SITUATION IN THE UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Sixth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 6 to 10 September 1969,

Having heard the statement by His Excellency the Minister of National Guidance, Head of the UAR Delegation, on the situation prevailing in the Middle East and more particularly in the UAR, having regard to fresh developments and events in that area,

Deeply concerned at the worsening of the situation in the area, owing to the fact that the withdrawal of the occupation forces has not been carried out, despite the resolutions of the Security Council (resolution 242 of 22 November 1967) and of the OAU (AHG/Res.53(V) and AHG/St.2(IV)),

Recalling resolution 242 of 22 November 1967 of the United Nations Security Council,

Reaffirming its opposition to the occupation by forces of any party or the whole of one country by another,

1. **TAKES** formal note of the statement by His Excellency the Minister of National Guidance and of the determination of the U.A.R., which it has reiterated, to implement resolution 242 of the Security Council dated 22 November 1977;
2. **REAFFIRMS** its solidarity with the UAR;
3. **REAFFIRMS** emphatically the contents of resolution AHG/Res.53 (V) adopted at the Fifth Summit Meeting in Algiers, in September 1968, by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU, which reads as follows:-

“The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Fifth Ordinary Session in Algiers, from 13 to 16 September 1968;

Having heard the statement of the UAR Minister for Foreign Affairs on the situation in the Middle East in general and the UAR in particular,

- 1. Takes note of the statement by the UAR Minister for Foreign Affairs;**
- 2. Reaffirms in this respect its support for the UAR;**
- 3. Calls for the withdrawal of foreign troops from all Arab territories occupied since 5 June 1967, in accordance with the resolution taken by the Security Council of 22 November 1967, and appeals to all Member States of the OAU to use their influence to ensure a strict implementation of this Resolution”.**

RESOLUTION
ON THE CONTINUED AGGRESSION
AGAINS U A R

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Seventh Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 1 to 3 September 1970,

Having heard the statement by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Head of the United Arab Republic delegation, on the situation prevailing in the Middle East in general, and in the United Arab Republic in particular.

Recalling its resolution AHG/Res.53(V) of September 1968 calling for the withdrawal of foreign troops from all Arab territories occupied since 5 June 1967 in accordance with the Security Council resolution 242 of November 22nd, 1967, and appealing to all Member States of the Organization of African Unity to use their influence to ensure a strict implementation of that resolution,

Recalling further its resolution AHG/Res. 57 (VI) of September 1969, reaffirming emphatically the contents of its previous resolution AHG/Res.53(V) of September 1968;

Reaffirming its opposition to the occupation by forces of any part or the whole of one country by another;

1. TAKES FORMAL NOTE of the statement by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Head of the United Arab Republic delegation;
2. EXPRESSES its grave concern that for over three years a part of the territory of a sister African State is still under occupation by foreign troops, which will threaten world peace;
3. REAFFIRMS its resolutions AHG/Res. 53 (V) of September 1968 and AHG/Res. 57 (VI) of September 1968 calling for the withdrawal of foreign troops from all occupied Arab territories to the lines of June 5 1967, in

AHG/Res. 63 (VII)

**implementation of the Security Council Resolution 242 of November 22nd,
1967;**

- 4. EXPRESSES its solidarity with the United Arab Republic and appeals to all the Member States of the OAU to support the present efforts of the United Nations special representative to implement the Security Council resolution 242 of November 22nd 1967, taking into account that it cannot be implemented conditionally or partially;**

- 5. REQUESTS all Member States of OAU to use their influence to ensure the full implementation of that resolution.**

RESOLUTION ON THE CONTINUED AGGRESSION
AGAINST THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Ninth Ordinary Session in Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco, from 12 to 15 June 1972,

Having examined the report of the outgoing Chairman of OAU on the implementation of resolution AHG/Res. 66 (VIII) and decision AHG/Des.62(VIII),

Having heard the declaration of the Head of delegation of the Arab Republic of Egypt,

Recalling all the previous resolution relating to the Middle East and in particular resolution AHG/Res.66(VIII) entitled “Continued aggression against the UAR” calling for the immediate withdrawal of Israeli forces from all the Arab territories to the pre-June 5 1967 lines,

Reaffirming its solidarity with the Arab Republic of Egypt,

Taking into consideration the UN General Assembly resolution 2799 (XXVI) of 13 December 1971,

Deploring Israel’s rejection of resolution 2799 (XXVI) of the General Assembly of 13 December 1971, as well as its refusal to respond favorably to the initiative of OAU, in particular OAU’s demand concerning the affirmation of the principle of non-annexation of the occupied Arab territories,

Considering all the efforts exerted by the OAU Committee of Ten for the implementation of resolution AHG/Res. 66(VIII) and decision AHG/Res. 62 (VIII),

Considering the substance of the Egyptian and Israeli replies to the memorandum of the OAU Committee of Ten,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the report of the outgoing Chairman of OAU and keenly appreciates the efforts exerted by the Chairman and members of the Committee of Ten;
2. **CONGRATULATES** Egypt for its co-operation with the Committee of Ten, its positive attitude and its continuous efforts for the restoration of peace in the region;
3. **DEPLORES** Israel's negative and obstructive attitude which prevents the resumption of the Jarring mission;
4. **INVITES** Israel to publicly declare its adherence to the principle of non-annexation of territories through the use of force;
5. **INVITES** Israel to withdraw immediately from all the occupied Arab territories to pre-June 5 1967 lines in accordance with the Security Council resolution 242 of 22 November 1967;
6. **REAFFIRMS** in the name of African solidarity and in pursuance of Article II, paragraph C, of the OAU Charter, its effective support to the Arab Republic of Egypt in its legitimate struggle to recover totally and by every means its territorial integrity;
7. **URGES** all Member States of the OAU to give Egypt every assistance and calls on all members of the United Nations Organization to intensify their action, in both international forums and the UN Security Council and General Assembly, to take all initiatives for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Israel from the Arab territories and the condemnation of Israel's attitude which impedes the implementation of Security Council resolution 242 based on the UN Charter which forbids, under any pretext, the acquisition of territories through the use of force;

- 8. REQUESTS all Member States of the United Nations Organization to refrain from supplying Israel with any weapons, military equipment or moral support likely to enable it to strengthen its military potential and to perpetuate its occupation of Arab and African territories;**

- 9. DECIDES to follow closely the development of the situation in the Middle East.**

RESOLUTION
ON THE CONTINUED OCCUPATION BY ISRAEL OF PART OF
THE TERRITORY OF THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT

The OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government meeting in its Tenth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa from 27 – 28 May 1973,

Having heard the statement of His Excellency Al Shafei Vice President of the Arab Republic of Egypt on the situation in the Middle East in general, and in particular on that resulting from the continued occupation of part of the territory of Egypt since the Israeli aggression of 5 June 1967,

Recalling all OAU resolutions adopted in this respect and especially Resolution AHG/Res.67 (IX) of the Rabat Summit Conference,

Reaffirming Resolution 2949 (XXVII) of the UN General Assembly passed in December 1972,

Aware of the danger emanating from the deterioration of the situation in the North-East of Africa as a result of the continued aggression perpetrated against the territory of Egypt and other Arab territories – a danger which threatens the security, territorial integrity and unity of our continent,

Noting with deep concern that despite the numerous resolutions of the OAU and UN, calling upon it to withdraw from all occupied African and Arab territories, Israel not only persists in refusing to implement these resolutions, but also continues to practice a policy with a view to creating in the said territories a state of **fait accompli** aimed at serving its expansionist designs,

Deploing the systematic obstruction by Israel of all the efforts exerted to reach a peaceful solution to the problem at both the international and African levels,

Recalling in this respect the negative attitude of Israel towards the mission of the ten African Heads of State mandated by the OAU to work for the implementation of Security Council resolution 242 of 22 November 1967, which stipulated in particular, the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all the occupied territories, in conformity with the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territories by force.

Noting with satisfaction that the Arab Republic of Egypt has spared no effort to reach a just and durable solution of the problem, and that these efforts have been characterised by the constructive co-operation of Egypt with international as well as African forums,

Noting further that the intransigence of Israel and its systematic refusal to abide by the will of the international community, constitutes a threat to the security of the Continent,

Fully aware that the massive military, economic and other aids, as well as the political and moral support granted to Israel by certain powers enable it to pursue its aggression and encourage it to commit acts of terrorism especially the tragic act of shooting down the Libyan civilian aircraft which resulted in the loss of innocent lives,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the statement of His excellency H. El Shafei, Vice President of the Arab Republic of Egypt,
2. **STRONGLY CONDEMNS** the negative attitude of Israel, its acts of terrorism and its obstruction of all efforts aimed at a just and equitable solution of the problem in accordance with the Security Council Resolution 242 of 22 November 1967;
3. **CALLS ONCE MORE** for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces from all occupied African and Arab territories;
4. **DECLARES** that all changes effected by Israel in the occupied territories are null and void, **and pledges** not to recognize any changes leading to a **fait**

accompli or likely to jeopardize the territorial integrity of the countries which are victims of the Israeli aggression;

5. **RECOGNIZES** that the respect of the inalienable rights of the people of Palestine is an essential element in any just and equitable solution, besides being an indispensable factor for the establishment of permanent peace in the region;
6. **REAFFIRMS** in the name of African solidarity and by virtue of Article II, paragraph 1(c) of the OAU Charter its active and total support for the Arab Republic of Egypt in her legitimate struggle to recover entirely and by all means her territorial integrity;
7. **DRAWS THE ATTENTION** of Israel to the danger threatening the security and unity of the African continent as a result of its continued aggression and refusal to evacuate the territories of the State victims of that aggression and declares that the attitude of Israel might lead OAU Member States to take, at the African level, individually or collectively, political and economic measures against it, in conformity with the principles contained in the OAU and UN Charters;
8. **EARNESTLY CALLS** upon the big Powers supplying Israel with arms and military equipment of all kinds and granting it moral and political support that enables it to strengthen its military potential, to refrain from doing so;
9. **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** the Egyptian initiative requesting the UN Secretary-General to report to the Security Council on the explosive situation prevailing in the Middle East, and expresses the hope that the Security Council shall take every appropriate measure to implement immediately the relevant resolutions adopted by the UN, so that a just and durable peace may be established in the region;
10. **DESIGNATES** the Foreign Ministers of Nigeria, Chad, Tanzania, Guinea, Algeria, Kenya and the Sudan to be the spokesmen to the OAU on this matter at the Security Council of the UN on the 4th and 5th June 1973;

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11. ENTRUSTS the Current Chairman of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government to present the views of the OAU on the matter at the next session of the General assembly of the UN.