

AFRICAN UNION
الاتحاد الأفريقي



UNION AFRICAINE
UNIÃO AFRICANA

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Assembly/AU/Decl. 1 - 5

AU DECLARATIONS

DECLARATION ON THE FIFTH WTO MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

We, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union meeting in our Second Ordinary Session in Maputo, Mozambique,

Having considered the Report of the Conference of Ministers of Trade of AU Member States in Mauritius, June 2003 the Mauritius Ministerial Declaration on the Fifth Ministerial Conference of the WTO; and its Annex the “African Common Position” on the Fifth WTO Ministerial Conference, Cancun, Mexico, 10 to 14 September 2003; as well as the Report of the Third Ordinary Session of the Executive Council on this issue,

Recalling the high expectations raised by the adoption of the Doha Development Agenda (DDA) and its subsequent work programme,

Recognizing the efforts deployed by the Negotiators of our Member States in the various bodies of the WTO,

Noting that the Fifth Ministerial Conference of the WTO is scheduled to take place in Cancun, Mexico, from 10 to 14 September 2003,

Deeply concerned about the general lack of progress in the on-going Round of multilateral trade negotiations, as evidenced by the missed deadlines in respect of key issues of importance to African countries in the negotiations,

- 1. ENDORSE** the Mauritius Declaration on the Fifth Ministerial Conference of WTO and its annex: the African Common Position on the WTO issues;
- 2. DEPLORE** the lack of substantial progress registered in the negotiations on Agriculture, TRIPS and Public Health, Special and Differential Treatment, and Implementation-Related issues;
- 3. STRONGLY URGE** WTO members to fulfil the commitments undertaken in Doha, as contained in the mandate for the agricultural negotiations, including through less than full reciprocity in tariff reduction commitments, having due regard to the principle of special and differential treatment;
- 4. EXPRESS** our full solidarity with our Member States that are affected by subsidies on cotton provided by developed countries and strongly support actions initiated by some of them in the WTO to urgently remedy the negative consequences of those subsidies that affect millions of Africa's farmers;
- 5. STRONGLY WELCOME** proposals on preferences as contained in the Harbinson text and **CALL UPON** the WTO Members to address the issue of erosion of preferences;
- 6. AFFIRM** that the objectives of the negotiations on non-agricultural market access are to facilitate the development and industrialization processes in our countries; to that end, the modalities for the actual negotiations must reflect these goals appropriately by addressing tariff peaks and tariff escalation, taking fully into account the special needs and interests of developing and least-developed countries;
- 7. REITERATE** that our sub-regional and regional integration organizations are pillars of the African Economic Community (AEC), and are essential for the promotion of Africa's socio-economic

development and serve as the dynamic building blocks of our effective integration into the Multilateral Trading System (MTS);

- 8. CALL** for development-friendly WTO disciplines, arising from the Doha work programme pertaining to the clarification and improvement of the WTO disciplines applied to regional trade agreements;
- 9. EXPRESS GRAVE CONCERN** about the lack of transparency and inclusiveness in the WTO negotiations and decision-making processes. To that end, **CALL** for measures to ensure the effective participation of our countries in the processes leading to the Fifth WTO Ministerial Conference in Cancun and beyond;
- 10. REGRET** the deadlock over the issue of granting observer status to the African Union in the WTO and, in this regard, **CALL UPON** all other WTO Member States to support us in effort to secure Observer Status for the African Union.

DECLARATION ON THE EPA NEGOTIATIONS

We, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, meeting in Maputo, Mozambique from 10 to 12 July 2003 in our Second Ordinary Session,

Having considered the Report of the Ministerial Sub-Committee on Trade under the Specialized Technical Committee on Trade, Customs and Immigration; the Mauritius Declaration on Preparations for Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) Negotiations; and the Report of the Third Ordinary Session of the Executive Council on this issue,

Reaffirming our determination to take up the multifaceted challenges that confront our continent and people in the light of the social, economic and political changes taking place in the world,

Determined to promote and defend African common positions on issues of interest to our continent and peoples,

Concerned over the slow evolution of Phase I of the EPA negotiations and the persistent divergence of views between the EU and ACP in the context of and the preparations underway for the commencement of Phase II of the negotiations which is scheduled for September 2003,

Noting that some Regional Economic Communities have indicated to the European Union their readiness to negotiate the EPAs, as from September 2003,

Aware of the various activities undertaken by some of the Member States within the context of the Regional Economic Communities in preparation for the Phase II of the negotiations,

- 1. REAFFIRM** the negotiating Guidelines of the ACP and the need to preserve the unity and solidarity of the Group;
- 2. ENDORSE** the Mauritius Declaration on Preparations for EPA negotiations and the report of the Third Ordinary Session of the Executive Council on this issue;
- 3. REGRET** the deadlock and lack of progress registered in Phase I of the EPA negotiations and **URGE** quickening of the pace of the negotiations;

4. **REITERATE** that Phase I of the ACP-EU negotiations should be expeditiously concluded with an agreement covering the principles, objectives and cross-cutting issues in EPAs as provided for in the Guidelines;
5. **FURTHER REAFFIRM** the unity and solidarity of Africa throughout the EPA negotiations;
6. **FURTHER REITERATE** that the development dimensions, with emphasis on the provision of additional resources for the removal of production, supply and trade constraints, must be adequately addressed in the negotiations to make EPAs truly development-oriented;
7. **DIRECT** African negotiators to ensure that EPAs are compatible with the objectives and principles of the Constitutive Act, the Abuja Treaty and the African Union Programme-NEPAD;
8. **MANDATE** the Commission of the African Union to coordinate, monitor and harmonise the efforts of the concerned RECs and Member States in the negotiations of EPAs with the EU; and establish an appropriate mechanism for cooperation and coordination between the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) in Addis Ababa, the African Group of Ambassadors and Negotiators in Brussels and Geneva, as well as with the capitals of concerned Member States;
9. **CALL ON** all Member States of the AU and EU to intensify cooperation in WTO to achieve development-friendly rules in that Organisation in order to promote the sustainable development of African/ACP States, contribute to poverty eradication and facilitate the smooth integration of African countries into the world economy, with due regard to their political choices and development priorities so as to enable our continent to respond to the challenges of globalization;
10. **FURTHER DIRECT** the establishment of a joint AU/EU Monitoring Mechanism to include the various African regional negotiating groups/RECs with a view to:
 - a) monitoring the entire process of the EPAs;
 - b) facilitating the implementation of the regional integration programmes under the ACP/EU Cotonou Agreement, the Ninth EDF, including capacity-building programmes; and

- c) ensuring the coherence of these programmes with the priorities and objectives of the African Union.

**MAPUTO DECLARATION ON HIV/AIDS,
TUBERCULOSIS, MALARIA AND OTHER
RELATED INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

We, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, meeting at the Second Ordinary Session of our Assembly in Maputo, Mozambique, 10 -12 July 2003, devoted a special session to review and debate the current status of the HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis (TB), Malaria and Other Related Infectious Diseases (ORID) in our continent. We held a Video Conference with relevant experts and international agencies concerned with the prevention and fight against these diseases, to exchange views and discuss further concrete actions which should be taken to curtail their spread in our countries;

We remain deeply concerned about the continuing spread of HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria and ORID, despite the efforts that member states have exerted to operationalise the commitments made at the Abuja Summits on Roll Back Malaria (April 2000) and on HIV/AIDS, TB and ORID (April 2001);

We commend the role being played by the African Union (AU), in collaboration with UNAIDS and its co-sponsoring UN Agencies, the ECA and other international institutions in coordinating and monitoring the implementation of these Declarations and Plans of Action. We urge that these efforts be further developed and strengthened until the scourges are brought under effective control;

We have analysed the progress achieved so far in prevention and fight against HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria and ORID, which are the major causes of morbidity and mortality and constrain the socio-economic development of our region, accentuating poverty, disrupting family and social fabric and putting millions of our people in despair. We acknowledge the successes achieved in some sub-regions in reducing HIV incidence. We note that this was possible because of political commitment, resource mobilization, collective social action and a high level of awareness among our citizens in face of these threats. We urge that these positive steps and measures be intensified in all our states to achieve greater success against these diseases;

We note that the majority of those infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS in our continent are women, children and young people; especially the poor who have limited access to effective care and support. This reflects their vulnerability particularly in societies marked by gender inequality, where the burden of care for the sick and for the children orphaned by AIDS falls overwhelmingly on women. In this connection, we recognise the need to redouble efforts in giving particular attention to women and young people's participation and access to information, life skills and services;

We also recognise the inclusion of the HIV/AIDS as a cross-cutting issue in the New Partnership of Africa's Development (NEPAD), and the establishment of other initiatives such as AIDS Watch Africa (AWA), the Commission for HIV/AIDS and Governance in Africa (CHGA) and the Millennium Development Goals, all of which represent milestones of progress in the fight against HIV/AIDS. We acknowledge the progress made in some of our countries in mainstreaming HIV/AIDS into relevant development frameworks such as Poverty Reduction Strategies Papers (PRSPs). We urge that these efforts be sustained, strengthened and extended to all countries;

We note that many Member States have mobilized internal resources and taken bold leadership steps to confront HIV/AIDS and other health challenges. We also acknowledge the response by the international community to the efforts to combat HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria and ORID. The establishment of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria (GFATM), provided a renewed impetus to the programmes and interventions that Member States designed to combat these diseases. However considering the gravity of the impact of these diseases which have together already been declared an emergency, we note that in a relatively short period of time the GFATM has made significant financial commitments to concrete programs to fight these diseases in Africa and disbursements are already underway. However, we underscore the need for major new and sustainable financing (3 billion US dollars by the end of 2004) for the Fund from donor nations. These will ensure that resources made available to fight the diseases rise to a new and more realistic level given the scale of the epidemics;

We recognize that health systems in our region need to be strengthened, adequately equipped and financed to provide quality and effective care against diseases and particularly against HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria and ORID in view of their devastating effects on society;

We reaffirm our commitment to achieving the goals we set concerning health sector financing in our states and recommit ourselves to meet the target of 15% of national budget to be allocated to health. We reiterate our readiness to mobilize more internal resources for this struggle, in partnership with the private sector, civil society and all other stakeholders. We are convinced that the scaling up of health interventions for HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria and ORID prevention, care treatment and support can significantly contribute to the overall reduction of morbidity and mortality and to the improvement of the quality of life of those infected and affected by these diseases;

We warmly welcome the recent announcement by President George W. Bush of the United States of America, to provide US dollar 15 billion within the next five years for the combating of HIV/AIDS in Africa. We express the hope that the funds will be released in due time to enable the realization of the set goals and objectives. We call on the US government to appropriate 3 billion US dollars in 2004, some of which should be allocated to the Global Fund;

We are aware that provision of quality care, support and treatment to HIV/AIDS patients are important aspects of prevention and control, and require coordination and harmonization of policies, strategies and programs to obtain maximum efficiency and cost-effectiveness. We are convinced that HIV/AIDS care, support and treatment are essential components of prevention and control and can help address the stigma and discrimination associated with this disease and thus significantly contribute to the reduction of its spread and to the survival of those infected and affected.

We recognise the urgent need to alleviate the impact of the HIV/AIDS on the lives of orphans and their long-term development prospects. In this regard, appropriate policies including legal and programmatic frameworks, as well as essential services for the most vulnerable children, should be adopted and applied at all levels. The challenge is to keep parents alive through effective treatment and prevention as a first vital step;

WE, THEREFORE, SOLEMNLY:

- 1. REAFFIRM** the commitments enshrined in the Abuja Declaration and Plan of Action on Roll Back Malaria, and the Abuja Declaration and Framework Plan of Action on HIV/AIDS, TB and ORID and

- REITERATE** our commitment to intensify and consolidate efforts for their implementation;
- 2. URGE** the international community to honour their pledges by disbursing the funds needed to fully execute the programs for prevention, care, support and treatment of HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria and ORID, especially through the Global Fund, the World Bank Multi-country AIDS Programmes and other initiatives, including removing conditionalities associated with debt relief and others that contribute to constraining health sector spending;
 - 3. ALSO URGE** the Global Fund and recipients of its funding, to work together to develop simpler and expeditious mechanisms to ensure that these large additional financial flows are quickly and easily available to institutions in Africa that can utilize them effectively in the fight against the diseases. We further urge the Global Fund, UNAIDS family and the recipient countries to work together to ensure the realization of our common objectives;
 - 4. EXPRESS OUR DETERMINATION** to ensure that all opportunities for scaling up treatment for HIV/AIDS are pursued energetically and creatively, and in this connection, seek diverse and effective partnerships with international donors, civil society, business sector and people living with HIV/AIDS, in order to extend effective care, support and treatment to the maximum number of people, particularly women, orphaned children and others made vulnerable by HIV/AIDS, in conformity with the principles of equal access and gender equity;
 - 5. COMMIT OURSELVES** to promote partnerships with the private sector and relevant UN Specialised Agencies, pharmaceutical companies and other partners to increase local and regional capacity for production and distribution of affordable generic pharmaceuticals for the management of HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria and ORID - the diseases with the highest impact on Africa's socio-economic development;
 - 6. RESOLVE** to continue to support the implementation of the Plan of Action for the AU Decade for African Traditional Medicine (2000 – 2010), especially research in the area of treatment for HIV/AIDS, TB, Malaria and ORID;

7. **REQUEST** the Chairperson of the AU in collaboration with UNAIDS and its joint UN Co-sponsoring Agencies, ECA and other partners, to coordinate and intensify efforts among Member States, monitor implementation of this Declaration and report regularly to our Assembly.

“WE BELIEVE THAT HIV/AIDS, TB, MALARIA AND ORID CAN, MUST AND WILL BE DEFEATED!”

**DECLARATION ON AGRICULTURE
AND FOOD SECURITY IN AFRICA**

We, the Heads of State and Government of the African Union (AU), assembled in Maputo at the Second Ordinary Session of the Assembly, 10 to 12 July, 2003;

Concerned that 30 percent of the population of Africa is chronically and severely undernourished; that the Continent has become a net importer of food; and that it is currently the largest recipient of food aid in the world,

Convinced of the need for Africa to utilize its full potential to increase its food and agricultural production so as to guarantee sustainable food security and ensure economic prosperity for its peoples,

Noting with satisfaction the collaborative effort of the African Union Commission, the NEPAD Secretariat, Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and FAO, with member Governments and other partners in the preparation of the CAADP,

Recalling the Declaration of the Heads of State and Government, in their capacity of Chairpersons of the Regional Economic Communities in Abuja, Nigeria, December 2002,

Convinced of the need to address the root causes of agricultural crises in Africa, aggravated in particular by inadequate funding, the lack of adequate water control and management, poor rural infrastructure and neglect of agricultural research, as well as the threat of HIV/AIDS,

Recognizing that it is Africa's responsibility to reinvigorate its food and agriculture sector for the economic prosperity and welfare of its people,

Resolve to:

1. **REVITALIZE** the agricultural sector including livestock, forestry and fisheries through special policies and strategies targeted at small scale and traditional farmers in rural areas and the creation of enabling conditions for private sector participation, with emphasis on human capacity development and the removal of constraints to agricultural production and marketing, including soil fertility, poor water management, inadequate infrastructure, pests and diseases;
2. **IMPLEMENT**, as a matter of urgency, the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) and flagship projects and evolving Action Plans for agricultural development, at the national, regional and continental levels. To this end, we agree to adopt sound policies for agricultural and rural development, and commit ourselves to allocating at least 10% of national budgetary resources for their implementation within five years;
3. **CALL UPON** the African Union Commission, the Steering Committee of NEPAD, the FAO and other partners to continue their cooperation providing effective support to African countries and the RECs in the implementation of the CAADP;
4. **ENGAGE** in consultations at national and regional levels with civil society organizations and other key stakeholders, including the small-scale and traditional farmers, private sector, women and youth associations, etc., aimed at promoting their active participation in all aspects of agricultural and food production;
5. **ENSURE**, through collaborative efforts at the national and regional levels, the preparation of bankable projects under CAADP for the mobilization of resources for investment in agricultural growth and rural development;
6. **ENSURE** the establishment of regional food reserve systems, including food stocks, linked to Africa's own production, and the development of policies and strategies under the African Union and the RECs, to fight hunger and poverty in Africa.
7. **ACCELERATE** the process of establishing the African Investment Bank, as provided for in the Constitutive Act of the African Union, which should give priority to investment in agricultural production.
8. **INTENSIFY** cooperation with our development partners to address the effect of their subsidies, to ensure their support to market access for Africa's exports, and to realize the African Union's vision of a

prosperous and viable agricultural sector as envisaged under the NEPAD framework and Millennium Development Goals.

**MOTION OF THANKS TO H.E. JOAQUIM CHISSANO,
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE**

The Conference of Ministers of Agriculture of the African Union, meeting at its 2nd Ordinary Session in Maputo, Republic of Mozambique on 2 July 2003,

Conscious of the tremendous effort deployed by the Government and People of Mozambique to organize the 1st Meeting of the Ministers of Agriculture of the Member States of the African Union and the excellent facilities provided for the meeting:

1. **Expresses its profound** gratitude and appreciation to H.E. Joaquim Chissano, President of the Republic of Mozambique, his Government and People for the warm African hospitality and cordial reception extended to all Ministers and their delegations as well as for the excellent facilities provided and arrangements made for the meeting;
2. **Pays special tribute** to H.E. President Chissano, for his dynamic leadership and contribution to the achievement of the objectives of the African Union;
3. **Congratulates** H.E. President Chissano for his inspiring keynote address at the opening of the meeting.

Done in Maputo, Mozambique, on 2 July 2003.

**Recommendation to the AU Heads of State and Government to
commend and decorate H.E. Dr. Jacques Diouf, Director-General of
the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**

We, African Ministers of Agriculture, meeting at the Second Ordinary Session of the Conference of Ministers of Agriculture of the African Union, on the 2nd day of July 2003;

Having considered the immense contributions of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), under the dynamic and purposeful leadership of H.E. Dr. Jacques Diouf;

Having noted with satisfaction the unreserved commitment of Dr. Jacques Diouf to the full development of the agricultural potentials of Africa, and through, that to the eradication of hunger and poverty in the continent;

Aware of the invaluable support given by the FAO to the African Union's Programme of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) in the formulation and elaboration of the comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) and its Action Plans;

Resolved and decided as follows:

- (a) to pay special tribute to H.E. Dr. Jacques Diouf ;
- (b) to thank Dr. Jacques Diouf for ably facilitating the First Ordinary Session of the Conference of Ministers of Agriculture of the African Union;
- (c) to recommend to the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, at their Second Ordinary Session in Maputo in July 2003, to commend and decorate H.E. Dr. Jacques Diouf for his unwavering belief in, support for, commitment to, and pioneering concrete actions towards the development and improvement of agriculture, enhancement of food security and eradication of poverty in Africa.

**DECLARATION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW
PARTNERSHIP FOR AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT (NEPAD)**

- 1. WE**, the Heads of State and Government of Member States of the African Union, meeting at the 2nd Ordinary Session of our Assembly in Maputo, Mozambique from 10 to 12 July 2003;
- 2. RECALLING** our decision regarding the then New African Initiative, now the *New Partnership for Africa's Development* [NEPAD], taken at the 37th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government of the Organisation of African Unity in July 2001 in Lusaka, Zambia [AHG/Decl.1 (XXXVII)] where we adopted the Strategic Policy Framework and a new vision for the revival and development of Africa;
- 3. RECALLING FURTHER** our decision on the Implementation of the *New Partnership for Africa's Development* [NEPAD] made at the Inaugural Session of the African Union Assembly in Durban, South Africa from 8 to 10 July 2002 [Assembly/AU/Decl. 1(I)], mandating the Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee [HSGIC] and its supporting structures to ensure the implementation of the NEPAD Initial Action;
- 4. REITERATING** our commitment to the principles and objectives set out in the Constitutive Act of the African Union and our common conviction that peace, security, democracy, good governance, political and social stability as well as sound economic policies are essential conditions for the sustainable socio-economic development of the African continent;
- 5. RE-EMPHASISING** our common resolve to eradicate poverty, confront underdevelopment and arrest the marginalisation of the African continent;
- 6. NOTING** that the challenges and problems that prompted us to develop NEPAD as the socio-economic development programme of the African Union aimed at regenerating and reviving the African continent, have not changed;
- 7. NOTING WITH APPRECIATION** the Progress Report presented to us by the Chairperson of the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee, H.E. President O. Obasanjo of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, describing the developments in the NEPAD

programmes and activities since our last meeting in July 2002 in Durban, South Africa;

8. NOTING ALSO the progress made in the areas of agriculture, especially in the preparation of detailed and costed country and region-specific agriculture projects for implementation under the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP), and also in the implementation of infrastructure high priority projects in energy, transport, water and sanitation, and information and communication technology (ICT) identified under the revised NEPAD Infrastructure Short-Term Action Plan [STAP], as well as progress in developing the Medium to Long-Term Infrastructure Action Plan;

9. RECOGNISING the high-level political will and involvement of African Heads of State and Government in creating conditions for sustainable development and implementing Africa's socio-economic development programmes and the crucial role played by the HSGIC and its supporting structures in ensuring the implementation of the NEPAD programmes;

10. RECOGNISING FURTHER that the primary purpose of the *African Peer Review Mechanism* [APRM] is to foster the adoption of policies, standards and practices leading to political stability, high economic growth, sustainable development and accelerated regional and continental economic integration;

11. TAKING COGNISANCE of the need for the formal integration of NEPAD into the African Union structures and processes and the need to sustain the momentum, genuine interest, support and solidarity created by NEPAD;

12. NOTING WITH APPRECIATION the strong support of the international community, especially as expressed in the United Nations General Assembly Declaration (A/RES/57/2) and Resolution on the NEPAD (A/RES/57/7) affirming the United Nations system's support for the implementation of the NEPAD and recommending that the NEPAD be used as the framework for supporting Africa's development by the international community, including the United Nations system;

13. WELCOMING the United Nations General Assembly Resolution on "Strengthening of the United Nations: an Agenda for Change" (RES/A/57/300) wherein, amongst others, the Assembly endorsed the

decision of the Secretary-General to establish the Office of the Special Advisor on Africa [OSAA] with the responsibilities to coordinate the United Nations support to Africa, guide reporting on Africa and coordinate global advocacy in support of NEPAD;

14. NOTING WITH SATISFACTION the work-in-progress in the five Clusters of UN Agencies established by the United Nations system with a view to operationalising the renewed interaction, collaboration and co-operation with Africa on the established Clusters (Infrastructure Development: Water and Sanitation, Energy, Transport, and ICTs; Governance, Peace and Security; Agriculture, Trade and Market Access; Environment, Population and Urbanization; and Human Resource Development, Employment and HIV/AIDS);

15. WELCOMING FURTHER the continued support by the international community and the structured engagement and dialogue by the African leaders with the leaders of the Group of Eight Most Industrialised Countries [G8] at their last Summit held from 1 to 3 June 2003 in Evian, France where the implementation of NEPAD as well as the G8 Africa Action Plan were reviewed and, amongst others, the issues of international trade and debt relief for African countries were highlighted to G8 leaders;

16. NOTING WITH ENCOURAGEMENT the building of linkages by NEPAD, on behalf of the African Union, with other partners, initiatives and organisations such as the European Union, Nordic countries, the Tokyo International Conference on African Development process [TICAD], Association of South-East Asian Nations [ASEAN], the *Economic Community of the Southern Cone* [MERCOSUR] amongst others;

17. RE-EMPHASISING the long term nature of the NEPAD programme and our determination to use all available resources to ensure its successful implementation and to sustain the interest and momentum created by the NEPAD process in the African continent and internationally and the need to retain the leadership and co-ordination role of the HSGIC, as a sub-committee of our Assembly, dedicated to the implementation of NEPAD;

18. RECOGNISING the need to provide sustainable financing for the NEPAD programmes;

Progress Report

19. ENDORSE the Progress Report and **COMMEND** the HSGIC and its supporting structures for their co-ordination and catalytic role in facilitating the implementation of NEPAD priority programmes and projects across the African regions and more specifically through co-operation and collaboration with the Regional Economic Communities [RECs];

African Peer Review Mechanism

20. WELCOME the progress made with respect to the APRM in particular the accession of a number of Member States of the African Union to the APRM as well as the appointment of the Panel of Eminent Persons and **ENCOURAGE** other Member States of the African Union to accede to the APRM as well;

Programmes Implementation

21. URGE that the programmes identified in each priority area, such as infrastructure and agriculture, be urgently implemented and that each region and Member State, through the RECs, provide assistance in the further development and implementation of these programmes and in the continued popularisation of NEPAD amongst all sectors of society, including and in particular the youth, women, private sector and the civil society at large, on the African continent;

22. ACKNOWLEDGE the linkage between the work of the Committee of African Ministers of Public Service and the programmatic thrust of NEPAD and **REQUEST** the incorporation of their work as an important element of the overall AU programme.

23. CALL UPON Member States and the RECs to promote and implement these priority programmes and projects as well as to develop detailed and costed action plans in the areas of health, education, culture, science and technology, environment and tourism;

24. DECIDE that the co-ordination of all NEPAD sectoral programmes, initiatives and related activities continue to be undertaken through the NEPAD HSGIC and its supporting structures;

25. ENCOURAGE the NEPAD Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee to explore adequate funding mechanisms for sustainable financing of NEPAD programmes and projects, including the possibility of a NEPAD Trust Fund;

Integration of NEPAD into the AU Structures and Processes

26. MANDATE the Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee of NEPAD, supported by the NEPAD Steering Committee and the NEPAD Secretariat, to continue their vital work of ensuring the implementation of NEPAD programmes;

27. MANDATE the Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union, in consultation with the Chairperson of the HSGIC, to operationalise the following, with the flexibilities as may be required:

- (i) establish appropriate linkages between the NEPAD Steering Committee with the relevant organs of the African Union including the Permanent Representatives Committee and the Executive Council in order to ensure integrated inputs into the work of the HSGIC;
- (ii) enter into a temporary host agreement with the Government of the Republic South Africa with a view to providing the NEPAD Secretariat with a legal status of an AU office operating outside the African Union Headquarters for a *transitional period* of three (3) years as from July 2003, or until such time the relevant structures of the African Union are fully operational, whichever comes first;
- (iii) formalise the working relations between the AU Commission and the NEPAD Secretariat, especially for programme co-ordination and harmonisation;
- (iv) align and harmonise the conditions of service, rules of recruitment and accountability with those of the AU Commission; and
- (v) develop a sustainable funding mechanism for NEPAD after its complete integration into the AU structures and processes.

28. MANDATE the Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union, in consultation with *the Chairperson of the HSGIC*, to appoint the Executive Head of the NEPAD Secretariat during the *transitional period*

29. ENCOURAGE voluntary contributions from all Member States of the African Union towards the operational budget of NEPAD and its structures during the *transitional period*;

International Support

30. CALL UPON the international community to continue its enhanced support towards the implementation of NEPAD, and on the HSGIC to further intensify its efforts in engaging Africa's development partners in both developed and developing countries.

