

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي



UNION AFRICAINE

UNIÃO AFRICANA

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ASSEMBLY OF THE AFRICAN UNION

Fifth Ordinary Session

4 – 5 July 2005

Sirte, LIBYA

Assembly/AU/Dec.73 –90 (V)

Assembly/AU/Decl.1-3 (V)

Assembly/AU/Resolution 1 (V)

DECISIONS, DECLARATIONS
AND RESOLUTION

**SIRTE DECLARATION ON THE REFORM OF
THE UNITED NATIONS**

WE, the Heads of State and Government of Member States of the African Union, meeting in the Fifth (5th) Ordinary Session of our Assembly in Sirte, Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya , from 4 to 5 July 2005;

- **Reaffirming** our strong commitment to the Ezulwini Consensus;
- **Convinced** of the need for a comprehensive reform of the United Nations System which takes into account the principles, objectives and ideals of the United Nations Charter for a fairer world based on universalism, equity and regional balance;
- **Conscious** of the need, within this process of reform, to ensure Africa's legitimate rights to a fair and equitable geographical representation;
- **Recognizing** that all the regions of the world must in this new era of globalization, endeavour in a spirit of solidarity to build a world of peace, security, justice, good governance and sustainable development;
- **Persuaded** that the reform of the United Nations should be all-inclusive and encompass all components of the United Nations System, including the General Assembly and the Security Council;

Are determined to ensure the success of the Ezulwini Consensus that clearly spells out the Common African Position on "sustainable development, collective security, conflict prevention and the conditions for the use of force, as well as the institutional reform of the UN", notably:

- the allocation of two (2) permanent seats to Africa with all the privileges, including the right of veto, and five (5) non-permanent seats on the Security Council;
- strengthening the leadership of the United Nations General Assembly to enable it to fully play its role as the most representative and democratic organ of the United Nations System and world parliament;
- strengthening the UN General Secretariat in the sense of greater efficiency and increased representation for Africa;

- the establishment of a Peace Building Commission for the consolidation of peace as recommended by the Secretary General of the United Nations;
- granting ECOSOC the status of a central coordination mechanism for the activities of the specialized agencies of the United Nations System and its subsidiary organs in the economic, social and cultural domains with a view to enabling it to better discharge its role in attaining the MDGs;
- the establishment of a new Human Rights body, as a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly based in Geneva, to replace the Human Rights Commission with the same composition on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, and with a new non-selective and less politicized mandate, while confirming the universality and indivisibility of human rights;
- the democratization of the Bretton Woods Institutions.

Reiterate, to this end, our commitment to preserve Africa's unity and solidarity in the selection, by the African Union, of its representatives in the Security Council to act in its name and on its behalf.

Authorize consequently, the submission of a draft resolution to the UN General Assembly reflecting the Common African Position.

Done in Sirte, on the 5th of July, 2005