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ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE AFRICAINE
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COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
Forty-sixth Ordinary Session
20 - 25 July 1987
Addis Ababa
Ethiopia

CM/DFT/PLEN/RAPT/RPT (XLVI).

DRAFT RAPPORTEUR'S REPORT

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INTRODUCTION

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity held its Forty-sixth Ordinary Session from 20 to 25 July 1987 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

2. Attending the meeting were the Representatives of Member States, Observers from International and Inter-African Organizations and invited guests.

1. (a) Official Opening

3. The official opening took place on 20 July 1987 at 4.10 p.m at Africa Hall, in the presence of the Members of the Government and Workers' Party of Ethiopia, the Diplomatic Corps and the press.

4. The opening ceremony was chaired by : Honourable Dr. G. K. T. Chiepe, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Botswana and Chairman of the Forty-fifth Ordinary Session of the OAU Council of Ministers.

5. After hearing the OAU Anthem, a message from H. E. Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the WPE and Chairman of the PMAC, Commander in Chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Socialist Ethiopia, to the Council of Ministers, was read out by H. E. Berhanu Bayih, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Socialist Ethiopia and Member of the Politbureau of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia.

6. After welcoming the delegations and wishing them a happy stay, the Ethiopian Head of State, in his message, underscored the importance of the Session of the OAU Council of Ministers which had to consider African issues and prepare the Twenty-third OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government. In this connection, Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam gave his opinion on a number of problems of great concern to Africans.

7. The message focussed on the ever worsening situation in Southern Africa. In order to further its selfish interests, the racist Pretoria regime continued to increase and intensify its acts of aggression and atrocity accompanied by a series of illegal measures such as prolonging the state of emergency, organizing an all-whites election and occupying Namibia, an act unanimously condemned by the International Community. Besides, many gallant freedom fighters were detained and acts of destabilization perpetrated against neighbouring and Front Line States. While denouncing and condemning the heinous system of Apartheid, the Ethiopian Head of State blamed the United States and Great Britain for supporting Pretoria. Those States through the abuse of their veto power, prevented the adoption of economic sanctions against Pretoria, thus delaying Namibia's independence. Comrade Mengistu appealed to democratic forces to support the armed struggle and isolate South Africa. He reaffirmed his commitment to the Liberation struggle waged by SWAPO, ANC, PAC and the Front Line States.

8. With regard to the economic situation prevailing in the Continent, Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam expressed concern over the serious crisis facing agriculture, despite the recent improvement in the climatic conditions. He urged Member States to promote trade among themselves and appealed to African regional and sub-regional Organizations to intensify their cooperation.

9. In conclusion, the Head of State of Ethiopia urged Member States to pursue their efforts for the implementation of the Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery and the UN Programme of Action. He deplored the heavy external debt burden which was paralysing Africa's development and expressed the hope that an international Conference would be held on the debt.

10. In reply to that message, two statements were made.

11. On behalf of Member States, H. E. Mr. P. MOLUMBI, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Mozambique, thanked the Head of State, the people and Government of Socialist Ethiopia for their fraternal and warm welcome. He sincerely appreciated the message of President Mengistu Haile Mariam and suggested that it should be adopted as a reference document.

12. The Minister of Mozambique, referring to the situation in his country, gave the meeting vital information on the ignoble acts of the Apartheid regime which continued to defy the UN, OAU and world opinion. The speaker paid glowing tribute to the just and heroic struggle of the people of Southern Africa and the Liberation Movements. He greatly deplored the growing number of refugees and the deterioration of their living conditions. Finally, he made some observations on the economic and social situation prevailing in the Continent.

13. The National Liberation Movements chose Mr. William Amagulu of SWAPO to speak on their behalf. He then paid tribute to Socialist Ethiopia for the warm welcome accorded to the delegations and also for the commitment which this country always made to the liberation of Africa. He also expressed satisfaction at the high political importance of the contents of the message of President Mengistu Haile Mariam, which was rich in ideas. The various thoughts which it contained constituted a constructive approach to the challenge of Africa.

14. The Representative of the Liberation Movements highlighted to the Council of Ministers, the disturbing situation facing the people of South Africa. The intensification of terror indicated that the racist regime in Pretoria was becoming increasingly desperate. Mr. Amagulu described in detail the numerous barbarous acts perpetrated against the peaceful people: murders, arbitrary detentions ... He strongly condemned the recent vote of the American Senate aimed at forcing the Front Line states to stop helping the Liberation Movements. He critisized the criminal attacks of the racist regime of Pretoria and the terrorists which it armed against Mozambique and Angola. He expressed satisfaction at the new development in the liberation struggle, characterized by support from Member States and the action of the Liberation Committee. He appealed for increased assistance and support to the Liberation Movements.

15. The Chairman of the 45th Session of the Council of Ministers, Honourable Dr. Chiepe, made a closing statement. She eloquently hailed President Mengistu Haile Mariam's message which she said, had set the tone for deliberations.

16. She then informed the meeting of the development of certain problems which had been considered by the previous Session, namely:

(a) the situation in Southern Africa;

(b) the Palestinian question;

(c) the conflict between Chad and Libya;

(d) the economic situation in Africa.

17. Honourable Dr. Chiepe commended the efforts made by Member States for their economic recovery and to establish peace and solidarity in Africa. She also thanked the outgoing officers, Socialist Ethiopia and the General Secretariat of the OAU.

(b) Election of Officers

18. The Council elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chairman	:	Honourable M. B. W. MKAPA, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Tanzania;
1st Vice-Chairman	:	H. E. Mr. L. Bassole, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Burkina Faso;
2nd Vice-Chairman	:	Hon. Mr. L. B. Monyake, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Lesotho;
3rd Vice-Chairman	:	H. E. Mr. T. Sahbani, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of Tunisia;
Rapporteur	:	H. E. Mr. François Ngarukiyintwali, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Rwanda.

19. The Drafting Committee comprised: Mauritania, Sierra Leone, Guinea, The Gambia, Tanzania, Sudan, Kenya, Zaire, Cameroon, Burundi, Egypt, the Great Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi and Lesotho. The Committee was chaired by the Rapporteur.

20. Honourable MKAPA, Chairman of the Forty-sixth Session addressed the Council on assuming his function. He also expressed his thanks to his predecessor, congratulated the Secretary General of the OAU and expressed his appreciation for the tireless efforts made by President Mengistu Haile Mariam and his people on behalf of the OAU and towards the liberation of the Continent.

21. He deplored some situations which hampered the development and liberation of Africa. He pointed out, among others, the lack of contributions to the Liberation Fund, the declining national support for Liberation Movements ... He expressed his concern about the difficulties confronting Afro-Arab cooperation. Regarding the economic situation, Honourable MKAPA pointed out that the external debt, the fall in commodity prices and external assistance constituted a major handicap to development efforts of Member States. He urged the Council not to lose sight of the objectives of the Charter of the Organization.

(c) Organization of work

22. The Council decided to meet from 10 a.m to 1 p.m and from 4 p.m to 7 p.m. The discussions were held in the Plenary and in Committees A and B. A Nominating Committee was also established.

(d) Consideration of the Draft Agenda

23. The draft agenda (Document CM/1426 (XLVI) Rev. 1) was submitted to the Council. At the request of some delegations, it was amended and adopted.

24. The various agenda items were allotted to the Plenary and the Committees.

II. ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL FOR THE PERIOD FEBRUARY TO JULY 1987.

25. This report was contained in three documents under code CM/1427 (XLVI). Part II covers activities undertaken at the OAU Headquarters; Part III outlines activities of regional and sub-regional offices; Part IV concerns those of the specialized institutions. During the session of 21 July, the OAU Secretary-General, H.E. Mr. IDE OUMAROU, took the floor at 10.20 a.m. and presented to the Council, an overview of these activities.

26. He congratulated the new Chairman and thanked the Out-going Chairman. He renewed his gratitude to the Ethiopian Government for the facilities placed at the disposal of the OAU Headquarters as well as for the welcome accorded the delegations. He also expressed appreciation for the brilliant message of President Mengistu Haile Mariam, and extended a hearty welcome to members of the Council.

27. The OAU Secretary General described relations among Member States as quite satisfactory, except for some minor problems, which had been speedily resolved. He recalled the conflicts in Chad and Western Sahara which were still sources of grave concern.

28. Concerning the situation in South Africa, the Secretary General was of the opinion that the racist regime of Pretoria was defiant towards us. He condemned all acts of terror carried out in that regard and the acts of aggressions perpetrated against the Front-line States. Faced with such a situation, he emphasised the need for the OAU to intensify its activity, by sensitizing and keeping world opinion better informed. He

suggested that the OAU should find other ways of encouraging and coordinating the various initiatives undertaken in that area. He informed the Council of the happy results of the activities of the OAU Offices in New York and Brussels, as well as of the mission he undertook to the United States, at the invitation of the "Black Corpus". All that proved that the struggle against South Africa had taken on international dimensions. H.H. Mr. IDE OUMAROU took the opportunity :

a) to appeal to Member States to increase their assistance to the liberation movements and Front-line States.

b) to hail their heroic sacrifices.

29. As regards the economic situation, the OAU Secretary General said in his analysis that it had hardly changed. However, he noted that there were some improvements thanks to the efforts deployed by Member States. He informed the Council of the activities undertaken by the Secretariat in the economic field in accordance with the decisions of the Permanent Steering Committee. He then spoke successively on activities in the fields of Culture, Science, Labour and Social Affairs, Health and Environment. He went on to say that the African Charter on Human and People's Rights had entered into force on 29 October 1986. In that connection, he drew attention to the tragic problem of refugees.

30. With regard to Afro-Arab Co-operation, H.E. Mr. IDE OUMAROU informed the Council of the postponement of the Ninth Session of the Standing Commission. He assured the Palestinian people and PLO of OAU's support.

31. To conclude, the OAU Secretary General made certain observations to the Council of Ministers on :

a) the need to negotiate new working relations with non-African intergovernmental institutions likely to assist the OAU;

b) expenditure involved in running the office of the Current Chairman of the OAU;

c) the preparation of the OAU budget;

d) the refurbishing a conference hall at the OAU headquarters and the contacts made with the League of Arab States to obtain funding for the project.

The statement of the Secretary General is contained in document CM/1427(XLVI) Part I.

32. During the same session, the Council of Ministers heard a statement from Prof. Adebayo Adedeji, Under-Secretary of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).

33. Prof. Adedeji expressed his extreme pleasure at addressing the session, one year after the thirteenth Special Session of the UN General Assembly which adopted the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development. He stressed the need for all African states to take the necessary measures for the implementation of this programme.

34. The speaker reviewed the progress of development activities of member states as observed by the ECA over the past twelve months. He made reference to recent publications of the ECA and ADB on the 1985/86 assessment and the 1987 projections.

35. The first part of his statement brought out the positive and encouraging aspects. He mentioned three of these as: increase in agricultural production, in the manufacturing sector and the rate of growth in some states.

36. On the other side of the coin were four striking negative aspects. The Executive Secretary listed these and elaborated on them quoting supporting figures and statistics. These related particularly to the mining sector, the fall in external trade especially in 1986, the external trade especially in 1986, the obstacles in the manufacturing sector and the external debt burden.

37. Prof. Adedeji reported on the first twelve months of the implementation of the UN Programme of Action.

He highlighted the brave recovery efforts made by African states. He deplored the fact that the reaction of the International Community was so disappointing. He then pointed out the deterioration in the international economic environment and the very heavy obligations of the debt service.

38. The Executive Secretary underscored the encouraging results of two recent initiatives taken by Member States. One such initiative was the African Symposium on Grass Roots Development held from 8 to 14 June 1987 in Niamey, Niger. The Declaration adopted at the end of the deliberations was served as basis for the International Conference on the theme "Africa: The challenge of economic recovery and accelerated development", held from 15 to 19 June 1987 in Abuja, Nigeria. He paid tribute to the Heads of State of these two countries. In this way, Prof. Adedeji emphasized, they succeeded in drawing the attention of the International Community to the fact that Africa's problems did not disappear with the Special Session of the UN General Assembly on Africa.

39. In conclusion, the speaker underscored the strong determination of Member States which expected a better understanding from the International Community.

40. The Chairman of the Council made the following proposals to the delegations, which were accepted:

a) to thank the Executie Secretary of the ECA for his statement;

b) to thank and commend the OAU Secretary-General for his Activity Report and to take note of it with satisfaction;

c) to consider at its future sessions the points made by the Secretary-General in concluding his report.

Agenda Item II : POLITICAL MATTERS

41. Under this item, the Council decided to consider sub-items (a), (b) and (c) together because of the bearing each had on the other.

Sub-Item (a) : Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Southern Africa - Doc. CM/1428 (XLVI) Rev. 1

42. Introducing the Report, the Assistant Secretary-General in charge of Political Matters, Mr. Brownson N. Dede recalled the discussions that took place when the Assembly of Heads of State and Government reviewed the critical situation in Southern Africa at its last Session in July 1986. He pointed out that the situation had further deteriorated during the period under review.

43. He referred in particular to the intensified acts of brutal repression in the form of cold-blooded murder, increasing arrests and detention of even children and the renewal of the State of Emergency as well as the enactment of other draconian measures by the racist Pretoria regime. The period, he said, had also witnessed increased acts of aggression against the Frontline States including flagrant violations of the territorial integrity of other States in the region.

44. The Assistant Secretary-General drew attention of the Council to the devastating effects of South Africa's acts of aggression and destabilization on children in Angola and Mozambique as revealed by the UNICEF study on the issue. He urged the Council to carefully reflect on the implications of that aspect of the problem in Southern Africa.

45. The speaker stated that the report before the Council was an analysis of all the multi-faceted problems in Southern Africa as well as new developments that had taken place within the reporting period. He drew attention to the set of recommendations contained in the Report and commended them for the approval of the Council.

Sub-Item (b) Report of the Forty-eighth Ordinary Session of the OAU Coordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa - Doc. CM/1429 (XLVI)

46. H.E. Mr. Luke J. Mwananshiku, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Zambia and Chairman of the Forty-eighth Ordinary Session of the OAU Liberation Committee, introduced Doc. CM/1429 (XLVI) to the Forty-sixth Session of the Council of Ministers.

47. In his introductory remarks, the Minister informed the Council that the Forty-eighth Ordinary Session of the Liberation Committee was held in Arusha, Tanzania, from 13 - 14 July 1987. The Minister said that the Session was officially opened by H.E. Ndugu Salim A. Salim, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence and National Service of Tanzania, whose inaugural address was unanimously adopted as a working document.

48. Responses to the inspiring keynote address, he said, were given by the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and leader of the delegation of Uganda, on behalf of participating Member States, and by the Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) of Namibia on behalf of the National Liberation Movements recognized by the Organization of African Unity.

49. Further, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Zambia pointed out that 20 out of the 22 Member States of the Liberation Committee participated but Liberia and Mauritania were absent at the Session. He added that 14 other OAU Member States attended the meeting as observers. The three National Liberation Movements namely: African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa, Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) of Azania and the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) of Namibia were also represented as observers.

50. The Council of Ministers was also informed that Representatives of the UN Council for Namibia and the UN Special Committee on Decolonization made statements to the Session as invited guests.

51. The Liberation Committee then discussed political issues stressed in the Reports of the Executive Secretary and the Standing Committee on General Policy, Information and Defence. The Report of the Standing Committee on Administration and Finance was also considered. The Chairman of the Liberation Committee then referred to paragraph 63 of Document CM/1429(XLVI) which contained recommendations on political issues and paragraphs 81-83 which spelt out the Committee's decisions on financial matters.

52. In conclusion, the Chairman of the Liberation Committee drew the attention of the Council to two important subjects which had preoccupied the Forty-eighth Session namely the poor attendance at Ministerial level and non-payment of contributions to the Special Fund for the Liberation of Africa. He pointed out that in spite of the pertinent appeal made by the Forty-fifth Council of Ministers to Member States of the Liberation Committee, only four Foreign Ministers from Ghana, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia attended the Session while Guinea-Bissau, Uganda and Zaire sent their Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs. Kenya was the only observer Member State represented by an Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs. The Chairman recalled that since the Liberation Committee was created as a vital organ of the Organization of African Unity to deal with serious political issues on the liberation of Africa, it was imperative that Member States should ensure participation at the appropriate level.

53. On the perennial issue of arrears in contribution to the Special Fund of the Liberation Committee, the Chairman of the Committee observed that some Member States had not even paid their assessments to the Fund for periods ranging from 10 - 20 years. He concluded that the question of non-payment of contributions required the attention of the Council of Ministers since the National Liberation Movements ought to be given the resources to prosecute the liberation struggle to the logical end.

Item II (c): REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA (Doc. CM/1430 (XLVI)

54. The report on sanctions against South Africa was introduced by the Assistant Secretary General in charge of Political Department. He informed the Council that the report of the Secretary General contained measures taken by the Members of the International Community against South Africa. He added that the anti-apartheid Movement continued to consolidate its position throughout the World and to influence other decisions in favour of other sanctions, inspite of the opposition of the Governments of the United States and Great Britain to global mandatory sanctions in the United Nations Security Council.

55. The Council was informed that sanctions adopted by the American Congress and measures taken by the Scandinavian countries, particularly, Sweden, Norway and Holland were commendable. Regarding actions taken by Member States, the Council was also informed that a limited number of countries had responded to the appeal of the General Secretariat concerning information on the measures taken to:

- isolate South Africa;
- intensify the anti-apartheid campaign;
- increase assistance to Front-line and neighbouring countries of South Africa;
- contribute to the "AFRICA" Fund and National Solidarity Funds.

56. The representative of the General Secretariat finally pointed out that a more detailed report on the measures taken by Member States would be submitted to the next Session after the required information had been communicated to the Secretariat by Member States.

57. After the introduction of the three reports, the Council was addressed by the Representatives of the UN Special Committee of 24 and the UN Council for Namibia.

58, They briefed the Council on the activities of their respective UN bodies and assured the Council of the relentless efforts of the UN to eliminate Apartheid in South Africa and bring independence to Namibia.

General Debate

59. The discussion that ensued following the introductions and the addresses was as extensive as it was enriching, and it was characterised by frankness.

60. Some delegations that addressed the issue admitted the fact that while the situation in Southern Africa had continued to deteriorate as a result of South Africa's increased acts of reppression, intimidation and brazen acts of repeated aggression, the performance of most Member States in terms of their commitment to the liberation struggle had not kept pace with the resolutions and declarations of the OAU. Not even the grave economic situation facing all the Member States of the OAU could justify the non-payment of contributions to the Special Fund of the Liberation Committee.

61. Participants stressed the need for each Member State to reckon and react as the realities of the time demanded a new attitude and a new approach to the burning issues in Southern Africa. In that connection, all delegations that spoke on the issue reaffirmed the absolute commitment and dedication of their countries to the liberation struggle and pledged to render all round support for the National Liberation Movements and the frontline states. Member States that are arrears to the Special Fund also assured the Council that every effort would be made to reduce or clear the arrears in due course.

62. Over and above their mandatory contributions to the Special Fund, some delegations informed the Council about certain activities undertaken at the national level to sensitize the people on the evils of Apartheid and the funds raised to help the National Liberation Movements even by school children. The said delegation pointed out that such activities, if embarked upon in all Member States would not only ensure substantial financial flow but would also directly involve the people of Africa in the Liberation struggle.

63. Apart from the mobilization of the African people, Member States were also urged to redouble their efforts in mobilizing the international community. The results of the "whites only" elections in South Africa justified the urgent need to intensify the international campaign for the complete isolation of the racist regime and for imposition of Comprehensive, Mandatory Sanctions against South Africa in accordance with Chapter VII of the UN Charter. In that connection, the Secretary-General's sensitization efforts in Washington D.C. were highly commended and was requested to extend it to cover other capitals in Europe.

64. Other specific measures recommended included the following:

a) direct assistance to the Front Line States, the exact nature of that assistance should be determined by the Committee of Heads of State and Government on Southern Africa;

b) deployment of efforts to broaden contacts with whites in South Africa and adoption of a declaration reaffirming the Lusaka Manifesto so as to capture the spirit of Dakar.

65. On the issue of non-attendance of Liberation Committee Meetings by Ministers, it was generally conceded to be regrettable and a source of concern. Neverthless some delegations partly explained the problem in terms of other meetings coinciding with the meetings of the Liberation Committee as well as the uncertain schedules of Ministers. In that connection, it was suggested that the meetings of the Liberation Committee be held in Addis Ababa, a few days before the meetings of the Council of Ministers. It was however pointed out that both the regularity and venues of the meetings of the Liberation Committee could not be altered without changing the Rules of Procedure of the Committee.

66. The voting pattern of Member States at the UN once again became an issue of grave concern to most delegations. Member States were urged to maintain the same position on resolutions that had been unanimously adopted by the OAU.

SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA

67. With regard to sanctions, the Council of Ministers lauded the efforts deployed by the OAU Current Chairman H.E. Mr. Dennis SASSOU NGUESSO, President of the People's Republic of the Congo, to sensitize the world public opinion on Sanctions when he was on tour in certain Western European countries and the United States of America. The Council also commended the Secretary-General for his initiatives aimed at intensifying the campaign for sanctions, particularly his contact with the American Congress and meetings with representatives of the Congressional Black Caucus and the National Black Round Table. The Council issued directives for pursuing and increasing those initiatives with respect to other international Anti-Apartheid Organizations.

68. The Council then took note of steps taken by other Members of the International Community. It hailed those taken by the Scandinavian countries and Non-governmental Organizations (NGO's) to provide increased assistance to the people struggling against Apartheid and to the Frontline States. It also expressed satisfaction at the law on Sanctions passed by the American Congress. The Council further expressed its gratitude to the BLACK CAUCUS for taking all the measures to ensure the adoption of that law and its effective enforcement.

69. The Council expressed its grave concern about the uncompromising attitude of the Reagan Administration, the Governments of Great Britain and the Federal Republic of Germany which continued to oppose the imposition of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions at the United Nations Security Council or in the provisions of national legislations. The Council then urged the Secretariat to step up its activities with a view to sensitizing further the world public opinion. An urgent appeal was made to all Member States to approach those Governments and persuade them to change their stand on Sanctions. African Ambassadors to the EEC were requested to make further efforts so that

individual EEC Member States respect sanctions and ensure that they did not serve as the centre for terrorist groups in the pay of Pretoria. To that end, it was recommended that all countries undertake, collectively and individually and without complacency, large-scale diplomatic actions, aimed at all powers, which in one way or the other, constitute the mainstay of the Apartheid policy and in particular all those which maintain excellent relations with South Africa and which were likely to exert some influence on the latter. The idea of partial sanctions was rejected by the Council, since they could only strengthen the Pretoria regime.

70. With regard to measures taken at the national level, the Council noted that there was much to be done to mobilize the peoples of Africa. The Council was informed of measures taken by some Member States and called upon the Secretariat to maintain its contacts with each & every-one with a view to ensuring a wider dissemination of those measures taken by these States and inform the Council thereon. The Council was informed of the measures already taken by some Member States and which proved edifying and encouraging in focussing public opinion in those countries on Apartheid. Examples cited included, amongst others, the following:

- the first lesson in schools devoted to the theme of Apartheid which was a crime against humanity;
- establishment of national organizations and associations of solidarity with the people of South Africa;
- mobilization of the people through the organization of competitions and sporting activities for the benefit of the peoples of South Africa and Namibia;
- collection of funds from trade unions and other organizations for National Solidarity Funds;
- organization of symposia and seminars at the national level, to sensitize African youths and other members of the African society.

71. As regards the steps taken by the Member States to assist the Frontline States, the Council noted that certain Member States had already contributed to the "AFRICA FUND" and that National Solidarity Funds were already operational. It made an urgent appeal to other Member States to pay in their contributions to that Fund, as Africa should not lag behind non-African countries. Efforts to open up certain countries of the sub-region were brought to the attention of the Council. Contacts at the highest level had been made between the Heads of State of Zaire, Angola, Zambia and Mozambique to consider ways and means of rehabilitating the Benguela railway.

72. The Council laid particular emphasis on collective solidarity efforts which should be increased. It reiterated its conviction that the commitment solemnly undertaken by Member States would be respected and that words would be translated into deeds.

Chairman's Summary

73. At the conclusion of the general discussions on political matters the Chairman of the Council of Ministers summarized the deliberations of Council as follows :

a) Assistance to National Liberation Movements

(i) That the National Liberation Movements expected and deserved increased assistance and support by way of funding through the Liberation Committee which should be given the resources to render financial and material support to the Movements;

(ii) That the National Liberation Movements deserve support at national level through the mobilization of jublie opinion to understand the situation in Southern Africa;

(iii) That the citizens of Member States, including students, civil servants, workers etc. should be involved in the process of providing resources in support of the struggle through fund-raising activities and other contributions;

(iv) That the National Liberation Movements needed educational and professional training to prepare them for nationhood and that such facilities should be extended to refugees and displaced persons from South Africa and Namibia;

(v) That cognizance shall be taken of and encouragement given to white opposition to apartheid and the illegal occupation of Namibia by racist South Africa while all efforts be made to avoid a wrong interpretation of the liberation struggle through the prism of East-West confrontation.

b) Action by Member States

(i) That Member States should regularly pay their assessed contributions to the Special Fund of the Liberation Committee as concrete evidence of or support and solidarity. In this regard, Member States which default the payment of their contributions should be obliged to explain the failure to meet their obligations;

(ii) That Member States respond to the plea to contribute to the Fund for Assistance to the Frontline States created by the Non-Aligned Movement aimed at increasing their defence capacity;

(iii) That the racist Pretoria regime be condemned for its repeated acts of oppression inside South Africa and destablisation of its neighbours and the Front-line States;

(iv) That appropriate caveat be found for our undertakings to support the National Movements;

(v) That Ambassadors of the key capitals take joint steps to keep their host governments informed of the situation in Southern Africa and to establish contacts with anti-Apartheid organizations;

(vi) That Member States be practically consistent in voting behaviour at the OAU and at the United Nations on matters on which consensus had been reached at OAU level;

(vii) That the Liberation Committee deal with the question of frequency and venue of its meetings in accordance with its Rules of Procedure and Regulations.

c) International Phase

(i) That concerted efforts be made to press for recognition and legitmacy of the National Liberation Movements;

(ii) That Member States press for increased political and diplomatic sympathy particularly in the Western countries;

(iii) That pressure be increased for humanitarian support for refugees and displaced persons by the international community.

d) Sanctions

(i) That Member States press for comprehensive, effective and mandatory sanctions against South Africa;

(ii) That Member States mobilize support for the Front-line and neighbouring states to enable them withstand the effects of international sanction and repraisal sanctions by Apartheid South Africa;

(iii) That Member States encourage efforts by countries in Southern Africa to establish reliable outlets for their trade with the outside world;

(iv) That Member States redouble efforts at international level to isolate racist South Africa.

74. Finally, Council took note of the three Reports in Doc.CM/1428 (XLVI) Rev.1, CM/1429 (XLVI) and CM/1430 (XLVI). Council further endorsed recommendations and decisions of the Liberation Committee as enumerated in the paragraphs 63 and 81-83 of Document CM/1429 (XLVI).

AGENDA ITEMS No. : II(c) and (d)

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST - DOC. CM/1431 (XLVI) Rev. 1

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION - DOC.CM/1451(XLVI)

75. The two reports were jointly introduced, as they were inextricably inter-related, by the Assistant Secretary-General in-charge-of Political Affairs. In his brief remarks, he stated that the two reports basically reviewed the developments in the Middle East and the new elements that had emerged in connection with the Palestinian Question. The reports dealt with the escalation of the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Israeli policy of repression in the occupied territories and aggression against sovereign Arab countries and with the internecine factional fighting in the area. The Assistant Secretary-General noted that only with the resolution of the Palestine Question, the reinstatement of the usurped rights of the Palestinian People and the return of occupied Arab territories could peace be attained in the Middle East. He expressed his gratification that with the Eighteenth Ordinary Session in Algiers of the Palestinian National Council the various factions had come to agreement and that the PLO was more united and much stronger than before. The Assistant Secretary-General stressed that the convening of an International Conference on Peace in the Middle East would greatly enhance the attainment of a just and equitable solution to the conflict in the area.

76. On taking the floor, the Head of the Palestine Liberation Organization Delegation gave a comprehensive account of developments related to the Palestinian Question and the Middle East. He landed the efforts deployed by the Algerian authorities under the leadership of President Chadi Ben Jedid as well as those of the leader of the Fatah Revolution of September Brother Colonel Moumer Ali Gaddafi, whose bringing together of the leadership of various factions in Tripoli had resulted directly in the convocation of the Palestine National Council in Algeria.

77. He dewlt on the atrocities and genocide that are being perpetrated on the Palestinian People. He reaffirmed PLO's position on the International Conference of Peace in the Middle East when he asserted that real and just peace in the Middle East could only be attained when the root causes of the problems namely the Palestinian Question had been addressed. He stressed that the International Conference should have as its participants the Permanent Members of the UN Security Council, the concerned parties to the conflict as well as the PLO on equal footing with the other participants. He added that the conference must be endowed with Internationally effective instruments and guarantees. He reaffirmed the PLO's staunch support for the Liberation Movements in South Africa and Namibia as well as for the Frontline States.

78. In the ensuing discussion, the various delegates commended the Secretariat on the comprehensive and analytical reports it submitted and reiterated their principled stand on the Palestinian Question and on the restitution of the Palestinian inalienable rights. They welcomed the Unity among the Palestinian factions and expressed the hope that the Arab states would also close ranks as that would be an important negotiating factor in any International Conference in the Middle East. The delegates stressed that there could be no settlement in the Middle East without the direct and active participation of the PLO. The UN sponsored International Conference of Peace in the Middle East should have the PLO as a full-member inter locutor in the deliberations.

79. Some delegations expressed their anguish over the plight of Lebanon, with its territorial integrity being violated and called on all foreign troops to withdraw from that country, as that could lead to national reconciliation and end to the fratricidal war.

80. On the Iran-Iraq War, some delegations deplored this seemingly pointless and mutually-suicidal wa and called on both countries to effect an immediate cease-fire. They pointed our that Africa cannot be indifferent to events in the third world that could have reprcussions, indirect as they may be, on the continent. They noted that attempts to bring an end to the conflict had to date been to no avail and suggested that the Council should adopt a resolution supportive of the recently passed one by the UN Security Council on the situation.

Agenda Item II (f) Report of the Secretary-General on a Mission to Washington D.C. Doc. CM/1450(XLVI)

81. The report was introduced by the Assistant Secretary-General in charge-of-Politcal Matters, Mr. Brownson N. Dede. At the invitation of the Congressional Black Caucus and the National Leadership Roundtable, the Secretary-General and a Team of officials visited Washington D.C. from 12 to 15 May 1987. The visit, he said, was also in response to and within the framework of the call by the Council to sensitize the international community on the need for sanctions against South Africa.

82. During the visit, he continued, the Secretary-General held wide-range of consultations not only with the Congressional Black Caucus, the National Leadership Roundtable and Black Businessmen, but also with the US Administration Officials, in particular with the Secretary-of State, Mr. George Schultz. At all the meetings, the Secretary-General highlighted two issues of utmost and immediate concern to Africa, namely, the critical situation in Southern Africa and the critical economic situation facing Africa.

83. The Assistant Secretary-General concluded his introductory remarks by referring the Council to the proposals contained in the Report and invited the Council to pronounce on them.

General Discussion

84. Almsot all delegations that spoke on the issue welcomed and commended the Secretary-General on his timely initiative and urged him to deepen the links forged and also to broaden his contacts with other communities.

85. The proposals contained in the Report received varied comments and observations as follows:

Proposal on the opening of an OAU office in Washington D.C. Opinion on this proposal was divided. Those who had difficulty in accepting the proposal argued on the basis of the economic hardships facing the Member States. It was pointed out that as a result of the economic problems facing the Member States and the financial crisis facing the Organization which prompted the Secretary General to recommend the closure of some regional offices, it was difficult for them, for the same reason, to accept the opening of new offices. It was however suggested that if indeed there was the need to set up such an office, then there was the need for a serious study on the nature and functions of that office as well as the financial implications arising therefrom.

86. Probably as a way of meeting the proposal halfway, those who had difficulty in accepting the proposal in its entirety, were however prepared to accept the strengthening of the New York Office to perform those same functions.

87. Those delegations which supported the proposal argued on the basis of contemporary realities as well as on the realities of American political scene. It was pointed out that since America held the key to some of the problems facing Africa and since pressure groups were important determinant factors for policy formulation in American political life, the OAU cold not afford to be absent from Washington any longer. To reject the proposal purely on the economic hardships facing the Member States was to ignore the immense advantages that the presence of OAU in Washington would produce. The example of the Jewish Lobby and the substantial financial flows to Israel were cited. Another reason for OAU's presence in Washington was historical and cultural. The psychological impact that would be produced by the profile of the OAU, would far outweigh any immediate financial cost.

88. At the end of the debate, the Chairman made the following summary debate, as constituting the consensus:

(a) That the proposal for the setting up of an OAU Office in Washington D.C. be deferred because of the financial problems facing Member States of the OAU. The New York Office however should be strengthened to perform those tasks. This however, was subject to the submission of the Report on studies being conducted by the Secretary-General on the regional offices.

(b) The proposal for observer status: Most delegations were of the view that the criteria for observer status were very clear and specific. The Congressional Black Caucus and the National Leadership Roundtable could always be invited to the meetings of the Council and the Assembly as Special Guests. It was so decided.

(c) Proposal on the "Telethon".
The Secretariat was requested to secure more information on the project relating to both content of the project as well as the identities of the sponsors. Such information should be submitted to the next Session of the Council of Minsiters. The sponsors should also be prevailed upon to beam the programme to coincide with the 25th Anniversary of the OAU.

Item III

(a) REPORT OF THE EIGHTH SESSION OF THE OAU PERMANENT STEERING COMMITTEE

89. The Report of the Eighth Session of the Permanent Steering Committee was introduced by H.E. Mr. Antoine NDINGA OBA, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the People's Republic of Congo and Chairman of the Permanent Steering Committee. In his introductory remarks, he underscored the importance of the issues discussed by the Permanent Steering Committee, namely:

1. Implementation of APPER and UNPA
2. Report of the First Congress of African Scientists
3. Consideration of the Project on the Establishment of the African Economic Community
4. Progress Report, on the International Economic Negotiations
5. Sanctions Against South Africa

90. He then guided Council through the report by emphasising the salient recommendations made by the Permanent Steering Committee on each of the items, and informed Council that the recommendations were made after thorough and exhaustive discussions. After explaining to Council the rationale behind each of the recommendations he recommended them to Council for endorsement and onward transmission to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government.

91. Council discussed in detail the Report of the Eighth Session of the Permanent Steering Committee, and commended the Committee for a job well done. Council then made the following observations on each issue discussed by the Permanent Steering Committee.

1) Implementation of APPER and UNPAAERD

92. The discussion on this item centered on the role the Permanent Steering Committee must continue to play in preparing an analytical evaluation of the implementation of Africa's Priority

Programme for Economic Recovery. To this end, Council insisted on the absolute need for co-ordination and endorsed the recommendation of the Permanent Steering Committee that all conferences and seminars aiming at defining the stand of Africa should be properly prepared and coordinated through the OAU Permanent Steering Committee.

93. Many delegations took the floor to point out that while the surveys carried out by OAU and ECA Secretariats indicate that African countries have taken positive steps in the implementation of APPER and UNPAAERD, the international community doesn't seem to have lived up to its commitments. They underscored the fact that despite these efforts and promises from the international community, the African economic situation has continued to worsen. Council agreed that while efforts to convince the international community to fulfil their commitment should be pursued, Africa must re-double her efforts in implementing the Plan. Council once more appealed to all Member States as a matter of priority to respond to the questionnaires from the Secretariat so as to enable the Secretariat to prepare the necessary documents for the work of the Permanent Steering Committee. Council deplored the present trend in which only few Member States respond to these questionnaires. Council finally endorsed the following recommendations of the Permanent Steering Committee:-

(i) A meeting of the Permanent Steering Committee should be held in New York from 21 to 25 September 1987, specifically to prepare for the Forty-second UN General Assembly session. This meeting could be attended by the present members of the Permanent Steering Committee and members from end of July 1987. In this respect, the Committee appealed to all its members to ensure that the same delegates who usually participate in its sessions should participate in the New York session.

(ii) Request the forthcoming Council of Ministers and Assembly of Heads of State and Government to urge Member States and African Institutions to provide all available information on the implementation of APPER and UNPAAERD, especially the outcome of bilateral and multilateral negotiations.

(iii) Keep the African Group in New York fully informed of the work of the Permanent Steering Committee on one hand and on the other hand the Permanent Steering Committee should be informed of the activities of the African Group in New York.

(iv) Request the country assuming chairmanship of OAU to be the spokesman for Africa at the next session of the UN General Assembly.

2) First Congress of African Scientists

94. With regard to the First Congress of African Scientists held in Brazzaville 25 - 30 June 1987, Council commended Congo for its laudable initiative for organising the Conference and reaffirmed the Council's role of Science and Technology as an engine of development. In this connection, African Scientist were urged to heed the appeal of the Permanent Steering Committee to make proposals on their contribution to the creation of African Economic Community as well as established the practical modalities for the award of Cheikh Anta Diop Prize.

3) Progress Report on International Negotiations

(a) International Conference on Africa's External Indebtedness

95. The discussion of this item emphasized certain key facts, raised some basic issues and came up with concrete suggestions. It was the general feeling that the well-known resistance to the idea of international conference would continue, but African countries should neither be discouraged nor lose hope. Preparations for the conference should therefore be pursued and Africa should maintain its solidarity in pressing for the conference and for effective measures to deal with the debt problem.

96. The discussion also underscored the fact that there was a gradual change of attitude on the part of the creditor countries, at least with regard to increasing concessional resource flows to Africa, though not on the proposed international conference. The statements of the Summit Conference of the seven most industrialized countries in Venice was an indication of a gradual change of attitude. So also were the actions of the World Bank in spearheading a 12 billion dollar IDA resources, with 45% earmarked for Africa; the IMF Structural Adjustment Facility and the Group of Eminent Persons established by the United Nations Secretary General.

97. The Council took note of and endorsed the proposals of the Permanent Steering Committee, and complemented them with the following:

i) measures to tackle the external indebtedness of African countries should include lower interest rates, longer loan repayment periods;

ii) debt rescheduling should not only be limited to official bilateral debt, but should be extended to debts from the international financial institutions like the World Bank and IMF. African countries should coordinate their positions and consult before and after negotiating debt rescheduling;

iii) detailed study should be prepared on the proposed African Debt Club in order to enable the PSC consider the proposal indepth and formulate concrete recommendations to the Council of Ministers;

iv) discussions of Africa's debt at the international arena should ensure that a link in established debt-service payments on the one hand and increased commodity prices and export earnings on the other, because an enduring solution lay in discussing these issues together. In this connection, debt service should not exceed 20% of export earnings;

v) the technical studies under preparation by the Secretariats of OAU, ECA, ADB and ACMS should be completed to enable the PSC review them in September 1987.

(b) <u>Preparation for UNCTAD VII</u>

98. The Council took note and endorsed the recommendation of the permanent Steering Committee as follows:

(i) That a comprehensive report should be prepared on the outcome of UNCTAD VII including an evaluation of its contribution to the implementation of APPER/ UNPA be presented to it in a minimum delay possible;

(ii) That for preparation of future UNCTAD major meetings the joint OAU/ECA Secretariat should prepare the working documents. Documents coming from other sources should be used as background documents;

(iii) Member States representation, especially those elected to represent Africa should participate fully and effectively in all meetings of UNCTAD.

(c) Preparations for UNIDO II

99. The Council took note of and endorsed the recommendations of the Permanent Steering Committee as follows:

(i) The Council took note of progress report on the preparations for UNIDO II, and of the major decisions that were taken by the UNIDO Industrial Development Board in relation to the IDDA and UNIDO II;

(ii) Urged that all African countries should attend the UNIDO II Conference in view of the importance of the issues and decisions to be taken, especially in relation to the budget of UNIDO which includes a substantial portion for the IDDA, membership of the UNIDO Policy organs and institutional arrangement for UNIDO; and

(iii) The Joint Committee was urged to proceed with the technical preparations for the Conference.

(iv) Decided to take up the issue of lead agency in organisation of future sessions of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry under the appropriate agenda item on the agenda.

(d) Conference to review the Convention on Code of Conduct for Liner Conference

100. On this item, Council agreed on the need for Member States to prepare adequately for the above Conference which is of cardinal importance to the development of Maritime Transport in Africa. In this regard, it endorsed the recommendation of the Permanent Steering Committee that the General Secretariat of the OAU should convene a preparatory meeting of African Inter-governmental Experts in co-operation with the organisations concerned such as ECA, UNCTAD and MINCOMAR to formulate a common African position.

4). Sanctions against South Africa

101. Council took note and endorsed the recommendations made by the Permanent Steering Committee as follows:

1. To intensify the sensitization campaign against apartheid;
2. To isolate South Africa;
3. To establish National Funds for assistance to Frontline Countries and Liberation Movements;
4. To contribute to the Africa Fund;
5. To establish anti-apartheid committees and to organise Nelson Mandela competitive sporting events at national, regional and continental levels.

102. Council also discussed matters relatint to the composition and timing of the meetings of the Permanent Steering Committee. The

delegation of Zaire made specific proposals with regard to the composition of the Committee, to the effect that it should be composed of three Member States from Central, four from West, three from East, two from North and two from South as well as the original seven countries that constituted the first Steering Committee and those countries that have so far assumed the Chairmanship of the Committee. The same delegation suggested that the membership of the Committee should be for a period of three years. Council took note of the proposal and agreed that this was a matter for the Assembly of Heads of State and Government. Council also insisted on the need for Ministers to personally attend the meetings of the Committee, and agreed that in many instances there is need for meetings of the Committee to be held just before the meetings of Council so as to minimize the frequency of travel for ministers.

5) AFRICAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

103. All those who spoke on the item relating to the proposed establishment of the African Economic Community recognised and stressed that the proposal was of political, economic and strategic importance to the continent. They therefore recommended that realistic, pragmatic and prudent measures be taken to ensure its successful establishment. In that connection, they underscored the need for all member states to take every necessary step to strengthen existing sub-regional and regional groupings and to create others where they did not exist, in keeping with the spirit of the final act of Lagos. They further emphasized the urgent need for Members States, parties to specific conventions within the framework of existing or future groupings to do everything possible to enable these groupings to attain the objectives for which they were created, namely genuine cooperation and effective integration. Those objectives could only be achieved if there were genuine will amongst all partners, at the bilateral, sub-regional and/or regional levels, to cope with and find solutions to the major obstacles impeding cooperation and integeration in Africa, in particular;
free movement of persons, goods and services and the right to settlement; promotion of trade which constituted a sound basis, in other words the life blood of any community project, within the framework of individual and collective self-reliance of African countries; inter-state conflicts which was a drain on human and material sources.

104. Considering the complex nature of the problem and the enormous obstacles to be surmounted, some delegations suggested that, as an initial step, inter-african meltilateral trade negotiations should be undertaken, in to grant preferential treatment to african products.

105. Drawing from the experiences of African sub-regional and regional groupings over the past Twenty-five years; other delegations observed that whilst agreeing with the prescribed measures for strengthening existing sub-regional and regional groupings, that approach could not serve as an alternative to the global and continental vision recommended by the Final Act, for the establishment of the Community. Both approaches should be complimentary and not exclusive.

106. All those who spoke on the deadline of the year 2000 fixed by the Final Act of Lagos for the establishment of the Community, emphasized that the deadline in question was merely indicative and as such, could only serve as a target date for organizing the collective action. They therefore appealed to all states to take the necessary steps to creat the favourable conditions for that enlarged co-operation and integration, starting from the base, i.e. at bi-lateral, sub-regional, regional levels.

107. Following a lengthy discussion, the Council endorsed the recommendations of the Steering Committee on the issue and reached a consensus on the following points:

a) The project was of political, economic and strategic importance for the Continent. All Member States should, indivdually or collectively, take the necessary measures, at all levels, to ensure its success and encourage the Permanent Steering Committee to continue its efforts to initiate the propitions under more propious conditions;

b) In the light of sub-regional and regional experiences in Africa since 1960s, the sub-regional and/or regional action, that is the strengthening of existing groupings and the establishment of others where they did not exist could not constitute on alternative

approach to the continental action spelled out in the Final Act of Lagos. It should rather be perceived as parallel and complementary to the strengthening and promotion of the desired cooperation and integration and to cultivate and further community spirit from the grass roots.

c) The realisation of that all important and ambitious project could be hamstrung if Member States did not show proof of increased determination and political will to seek solutions to serious obstacles which were manifest at all levels, namely: free movement of goods, persons and the right to settlement, organization of trade, inter-state conflicts, payment of contributions to the established organizations and so on.

d) The year 2000 target for the establishment of the Community was merely an indicative period, i.e. a time span for organizing and planning the process.

To that end, the permanent Steering Committee was mandated to prepare a calander and the modalities for setting up the Community, taking into account current experiences of integration on the continent.

ITEM III (b) ECONOMIC MATTERS

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

ON THE SPECIAL EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

FUND FOR DROUGHT AND FAMINE IN AFRICA

(Document CM/1447(XLVI)Rev.1)

108. The report, which was presented to Council by Dr. S. Nsanzimana, Assistant Secretary-General in charge of Coordination and Missions, highlighted the financial position of the Fund and activities undertaken by the Secretariat since the last Session of the Council of Ministers in February 1987.

109. In reviewing the financial position of the Fund, he informed Council of the state of contributions, disbursements made to Member States, the utilization of the Yugoslav donation and the need for further replenishments of the Fund's financial resources. The Fund's credit balance as at 30 April 1987 stood at US$ 14,463,594.86 but dropped to US$ 13,531,951.32 by 31 May, 1987 as a result of disbursements, and climbed again to US$ 14,215,633.94 by 30 June, 1987. As a result of additional contributions received from four member States during the period under review, those from Extra-African countries, groups and individuals, total contributions to the Fund as at 30 June, 1987 were in the sum of US$ 17,555,427.52, since its establishment. However, out of the sum of US$ 29 million that was initially pledged by Member States, the sum of US$ 16,184,572.49 had been received by 30 June 1987; which therefore leaves an outstanding balance of just over US$ 13 million.

110. With regard to grants awarded by the Policy Committee of the Fund, Council was informed that since its second Session in June, 1986, the Committee has now approved a total sum of US$ 12,603,000 to Member States. Of that amount, the sum of US$ 4,674,008.26 has already been disbursed to ten out of fifteen Beneficiary states; which leaves an outstanding balance of US$ 7,928,991.74. The actual credit balance of the Fund as at 30 June, 1987 is, therefore, only US$ 6,286,642.20.

111. Apart from the financial position of the Fund, the Secretariat also undertook various activities in the implementation of resolutions and directives of both the Council of Ministers and the Policy Committee of the Fund. Consultations were held with Beneficiary States with a view to signing agreements and thus speed up disbursement of funds for the execution of the various projects approved by the Policy Committee. Furthermore, in the campaign for the mobilization of financial resources, the Secretariat utilized all African and International fora to sensitize the public on the need to support the Fund.

112. During the period under review, the Policy Committee of the Fund also met in its Fourth Session, in Addis Ababa, from 17 to 18 June, 1987, with the active participation of both the African Development Bank (ADB) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). Initially, the Session was seized with the question of the renewal of the membership of the Committee. However, it was subsequently decided that proposals on the procedure to be adopted in the application of the relevant provisions of the rules of procedure of the Committee, be submitted by the Secretariat for consideration at the Fifth Session of the Committee, in December, 1987.

113. The Secretariat further informed the Council that the main issue that took the attention of the Committee during that Session, was the consideration of new requests for assistance from Member States. The requests, which were in two categories, comprised of those by the seven member States of CILSS within the regional programme of the fight against locusts and others by individual Member States on drought-related projects. At the conclusion of its work, the Policy Committee approved grants in the total sum of US$ 3,530,000; which amount included US$ 1.43 million for requests by the seven Member States under the CILSS regional programme, and US$ 2.1 million for three Member States for projects relating to food security, water resources and generally drought-related projects.

114. On the question of the utilization of the Yugoslav donation of 290 million dinars in equipment, approximately US$ 1 million, offered to the Fund since November, 1985, the Council was informed that two countries namely, Ethiopia and Burkina Faso had submitted

requests to the Committee. The Committee recommended equipment, equivalent to US$ 500,000 and US$ 150,000 for Ethiopia and Burkina Faso respectively. T The utilization of the balance of the Yugoslav donation will be considered during the next Session of the Committee.

115. Finally, the Secretariat once again transmitted the Policy Committee's request for the Council to further appeal to all Member States to honour their obligations to the Fund, in order to enable it continue its operations. The Secretariat also informed Council that the next Session of the Committee will be held in Addis Ababa, in December, 1987.

116. During the general debate, delegates who took the floor expressed satisfaction for the work done by both the Policy Committee and the Secretariat, during the period under review. They noted that although the Fund's activities have been limited by its resources, it had nontheless achieved a great deal since it became operational.

117. On the question of the criteria and conditions for the award of grants to Member States, it was observed that there was need to further reflect on the aims and objectives of the Fund. The Council noted that almost every country today was in one way or the other, affected by drought, famine or other calamities. There were those worse off than others, and therefore much more in need of assistance from the Fund.

118. It was in that regard and in order to ensure the continued operations of the Fund that it was proposed that the Council also seriously examine the possibilities of approving soft term loans for certain Member States, as only grants have been awarded to Member States since the Fund was established. It should be noted however, that the Secretariat with assistance of the ADB was in the process of engaging the services of an expert to conduct a study on the matter of loans by the Fund, for submission to the policy Committee.

119. The question of the submission of detailed information on the projects financed by the Fund was raised by certain delegations during the debate. Although details of all projects are compiled and submitted to the Policy Committee, all efforts will be made to include as much details of the projects as possible, in the report to the Council.

120. Some delegations who took the floor also addressed themselves to the precarioul financial position of the Fund. They noted that whereas the Fund has rendered temporary assistance to Member States in financing various drought-related projects, yet, at the same time, its financial resources have been gradually reduced to just over US$ 6 million as at 30 June, 1987. The Council, therefore, while thanking the countries that have contributed to the Fund, once again appealed to Member States to pay their pledged contributions to the Fund and moreover sensitize public opinion on the aims and objectives of the Fund in order to attract donations/contributions both within the continent and elsewhere.

121. Thereafter the Council took note of the report.

Item IV (c): Report of the Eighth Conference of African Ministers of Industry - (Document CM/1436 (XLVI)

122. The agenda item and the supporting documents were introduced by the Assitant Secretary General in charge of EDECO department. He informed the Council of the objectives of the Eighth Conference of African Ministers of Industry held in Bujumbura in September 1986, as well as the outcome of the Conference. The main issues discussed at the conference were the progress in the implementation of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA) and the preparatory arrangements for UNIDO II. The major decisions adopted by the Conference on these and other issues were brought to the attention of Council, including in particular the comprehensive resolution RES. 1 (VIII).

123. The Assistant Secretary General (EDECO) then invited the Council to examine the issues referred to it by the Eighth Conference, especially that relating to the lead agency among the three Secretariats namely, OAU, ECA and UNIDO in the organisation of future sessions of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry. We briefly recounted the origin and history of the Conference since its establishment by OAU/ECA in 1971; the close cooperation of the three Organizations within the framework of their Joint Committee for the IDDA; and the exchange of letters between the Secretay General and ECA Executive Secretary on the issue. In conclusion, he urged Council to settle once and for all the issue of lead agency, and emphasized that the OAU had the capacity to assume the role, with the assistance from ECA and UNIDO, which Council should request.

124. The introduction was complemented by the Statement of the Deputy Director General of UNIDO, who paid tribute to the African States Members of the UNIDO policy organs for their role in securing approval for the 1988/89 UNIDO programme budget in which 8.6 million US Dollars have been allocated to IDDA. The amount would be supplemented with voluntary contributions. The Deputy Director General expressed his satisfaction with the excellent cooperation that existed with OAU and ECA within the framework of the Joint Committee of the three Secretariats for IDDA.

125. With the adoption of the agenda for UNIDO II, the stage was set for that important conference in Bangkok in November 1987. It was necessary for Africa to adopt a common negotiating position covering all the agenda items, along the lines approved by the Eighth Conference in Bujumbura. He was confident that the Council's decision on the issue of lead agency would facilitate the organisation of the special session of CAMI with a view to adopting a common African position.

126. In the discussion that followed, a delegation emphasized the need for technical Ministerial Conferences to concentrate on the sectoral issues within APPER in order to facilitate the implementation of that Programme.

127. Although political advantages in those sectoral conferences were universely proportional to economic advantages, it was necessary that none of those advantages should be sacrificed. The solution to the complex situation should draw on the accumulated experience over the years.

128. The approach suggested was that the special session of CAMI as well as all future sessions of sectoral Ministerial Conferences, should be convened and organised in two phases; one phase under the auspices of the OAU and the other phase under the auspices of the ECA.

129. Another delegation referred to the excellent relations among OAU, ECA and UNIDO, but stressed that attempts by ECA and UNIDO to place OAU in a certain context could have serious implications for the future of the OAU. As offshoots of the UN System, UNIDO and ECA were to support and help Africa rather than raise issues that detracted from that basic objective. The delegation emphasized that the 1971 resolution of CAMI was still valid in terms of inviting UNIDO cooperate and assist in the Oorganisation of sessions of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry.

130. Finally the porposal that the Conference should be organised in two phases under different auspices was supported by that delegation.

131. In his summing up, the Chairman called on the Council to take note of the report of the Eighth Conference of African Ministers of Industry and endorsed all the recommendations and resolutions contained in the report of the Conference (Annex I - Document CM/1436 (XLVI). The Council also approved that the special session and all future sessions of the CAMI should be organised in two phases respectively under OAU and ECA auspices.

Agenda item iv(d): Report of the Secretary-General on the Ninth Conference of African Ministers of Trade

132. Presenting this item, the representative of the Secretariat drew the attention of the Council to the fact that the Conference of African Ministers of Trade which met in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 19 to 20 March 1987 was a specialized agency of the OAU.

133. He emphasized that the Conference considered important issues pertaining to the development of inter-African and international trade; namely:

1. Obstacles impeding the development of domestic and inter-African trade and measures to be taken to overcome those obstacles;

2. Markets surveys, trade information and promotion;

3. Problems of landlocked, semi-locked and island African countries, and the seriousness of those problems for the development of inter-African trade;

4. Report on the evaluation of the Fourth African Trade Fair, which was held in Lome,,Togo, from 18 November to 8 December 1985, and preparations for the Fifth Trade Fair, to be held in Kinshasa, Zaire in July 1988;

5. Consideration of the document on African position on the preparations for UNCTAD VII.

134. The Representative of the Secretariat informed the Council that the economic crisis facing Africa and impeding the development of African trade, was also the subject of in-depth study by the Ninth Conference of African Ministers of Trade.

135. He also drew the attention of the Council to the difficulties of ratifying the treaty on the Common Fund for Basic Products, and indicated that three ratification were still needed for the Accord to enter into force.

136. The Council took note of that report and appealed to African countries which had not yet ratified the Agreement, to do so as early as possible, to enable the Fund to become finally operational.

Item IV

(a) REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECOND ORDINARY SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN MINISTERS OF HEALTH

137. The Assistant Secretary General in charge of ESCAS Department introduced the report by recalling that the OAU Health, Sanitation and Nutrition Commission established under Article XX of the OAU Charter held its First Ministerial Conference in Alexandria, Egypt, in January 1964 at the end of which it adopted its Rules of procedures and a number of resolutions one of which called for the establishment, at OAU Headquarters of the OAU Health Bureau.

138. He explained that for reasons beyond the control of the General Secretariat, it was not possible to hold the Second Ministerial Health Conference for more than 23 years, until the Assembly of Heads of State and Government in its resolution CM/984 (XLI) directed that the Conference of African Ministers of Health must be reinstitutionalised.

139. He informed the Council that the Second Ordinary Session of the Conference of the African Ministers of Health which was attended by 41 Member States, international organisations and Liberation Movement was preceeded by an experts group meeting which met from 26 -28 April 1987.

140. The Assistant Secretary General indicated that the Conference called upon the international community, international organisations and, in particular, Member States to intensify their efforts and cooperation in the field of health development and to put into operation all the relevant recommendations contained in the Lagos Plan of Action, (LPA) Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery ((APPER), UN Programme of Action of Africa's Economic Recovery and Development and Mardel Plate Action Plan. It also requested the Secretary General of OAU, in collaboration with international organisations, in particular WHO, to foster their multi-sectoral and multidisciplinary efforts with a view to promoting health development in Africa.

141. Following this introduction, one delegate congratulated the OAU Secretariat for its comprehensive report and reiterated the support of his government to the Declaration, Health as a foundation for development, and the resolutions adopted by the African Ministers of Health. He focused on technical cooperation among African countries, particularly in pharmaceutical industries and pledged the support of his Government for joint ventures with other countries in this area and any other relevant areas of health development. He concluded by proposing that the 46th Ordinary Session of the OAU Council of Ministers takes note of the report, resolutions and Declaration of the 2nd Conference of African Ministers of Health of Cairo and recommends them to the Twenty-third Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government for endorsement.

142. The Council accepted this proposal, took note of the report and decided to recommend the Declaration and resolutions to the Twenty-third Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government for approval.

Item IV (b) Report of the Secretary-General on the Proceedings of the First Extra-Ordinary Session and the Tenth Ordinary Session of the OAU Labour Commission - Document CM/1443(XLVI)

143. The agenda item was presented by the Assistant Secretary-General of ESCAS Department who informed the Council that in conformity with Rule 8 of its Rules, the Tenth Ordinary Session of the OAU Labour Commission was held in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania from 6 to 14 April, 1987 on the kind invitation of the Government of Tanzania. In this connection, he expressed profound thanks to the Government, Party and people of Tanzania for the warm hospitality, reception and facilities put at the disposal of the Meeting all of which had contributed to the success of the Session.

144. The Assistant Secretary-General further informed the Council that the Report on the outcome of the Tenth Session of the Commission was being submitted for discussion, observation, noting and onward transmittal to the Assembly of Heads' of State and Government, pursuant to Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure of the Commission.

145. In order to handle its work more expeditiously, he stated that the Commission accomplished its work in three stages, namely:

(i) The Meeting of Experts from 6 to 10 April, 1987;

(ii) First Extra-Ordinary Session of the OAU Labour Commission in Solidarity with the people and Workers under the Apartheid Regime of South Africa from 12 to 13 April, 1987; and

(iii) The Ministerial Meeting of the Commission from 13 to 14 April, 1987.

146. The Assistant Secretary-General indicated that having accomplished its work, the Tenth Ordinary Session of the Commission adopted altogether Eleven (11) Resolutions. He drew the attention of the Council to the following distinctive features of the First Extra-ordinary and Tenth Session of the OAU Labour Commission:

(i) the adoption of a Declaration of Solidarity with the People and Workers under the Aparhied Regime of South Africa;

(ii) adoption of resolution underlining the imperative need of ensuing that the resolutions adopted by the OAU Labour Commission are implemented by the OAU General Secretariat as well as by Member States themselves;

(iii) the appeal to the OATUU, as newly resuscitated, to safeguard its unity and independence as well as to contribute to the socio-economic development and the liberation struggle in the continent;

(iv) the urgency of restructuring Ministries of Labour and of giving them adequate financial human and material resources to enable them carry out their work more efficiently. The Ministries were also called upon to add employment promotion and creation to their traditional function of labour protection and welfare;

(v) the need for further exploration of the employment potential of the modern and informal sectors;

(vi) employment promotion and creation in the rural sector;

(vii) the election of the African Members of the ILO Governing Body for the period 1987/1990; and

(viii) the establishment of a Pan-African Employers Confederation.

147. After this introduction the delegation of Gabon withdrew its reservation on Resolution LC/Res.119(X), on Plaestinian Workers. There being no debate on the Report, the Council took note of it and decided to submit it to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government for endorsement.

Item V : REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON AFRO-ARAB COOPERATION

Doc. CM/1446 (XLVI) Rev. 1

148. The report was introduced by Dr. S. Nsanzimana, Assistant Secretary-General in charge of Coordination and Special Duties. In his statement, the Assistant Secretary-General reported on the consultations undertaken by the OAU General Secretariat with the host country, Burkina Faso, as well as with the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States for the holding of the Ninth Session of the Standing Commission for Afro-Arab Cooperation which, after two successive reports, was unable to convene as agreed (9-11 July 1978) in Ouagadougou owing to other commitments mentioned in the Programme of the League of Arab States.

149. The Assistant Secretary General pointed out that the document under consideration recounted the events which led to the postponement sine die of the Ninth Session of the Standing Commission for Afro Arab Cooperation, as well as the circumstances which had made it impossible for the two Secretariats (OAU/LAS) to meet to finalize the working documents for the session.

150. He added that while efforts were being made to convene the Ninth Session of the Standing Commission, the Secretariat was maintaining contact with the Government of the Republic of Sudan to prepare the First Ordinary Session of the Joint Afro-Arab Ministerial Conference scheduled to take place in Khartoum possibly before the end of 1987.

151. In conclusion the Assistant Secretary General informed the Council that, at the invitation of the Arab League, the Secretariat had taken part in the deliberations of the 87th Ordinary Session of the Council of the League held in Tunis from 4 - 6 April 1987 and had reported on the decisions taken by the Council concerning the OAU.

152. To conclude, Dr. Nsanzimana assured the Council that despite all the difficulties encountered in re-activating the bodies of Afro-Arab co-operation, the Secretariat continued to make efforts to ensure the holding of Afro-Arab meetings.

153. Following this introduction, the representative of the League of Arab States took the floor. In his speech the representative of the League of Arab States declared that Afro-Arab co-operation was not based on calaculations, but on a multidimensional development strategy that was advantageous to both regions: Africa and the Arab world which were united by a number of objective factors! geographical, historical and cultural links among others.

154. With regard to functioning difficulties in the bodies of Afro-Arab co-operation, the representative of the Arab League recalled the message sent by the Secretary General of the Arab League to the OAU Secretary General proposing a meeting of the outgoing and incoming Chairmen and the two Secretaries General of the two Organizations and to eliminate the obstacles that impeded the functioning of those bodies.

155. following this statement, many delegations intervened to underscore the vital importance of Afro-Arab co-operation in the struggle waged by African and Arab peoples for their political and economic liberation, and stressed the historical and cultural ties that existed between the two regions. These delegations observed that Afro-Arab co-operation should not be viewed solely from the economic and financial angle, but rather through a multi-sectoral approach, politcal, cultural technical and social. They further declared that Afro-Arab Co-operation remained within the potentialities and aspirations of the two regions.

156. One delegation explained that owing to the stagnation at the institutional level, Afro-Arab Co-operation was passing through a confidence crisis and it was essential to rekindle the flame to meet the expectations raised by the first Afro-Arab Summit held in Cairo, in March 1977.

It then analysed the reasons for this crisis of confidence which was of a political, institutional and psycho-diplomatic nature certain forces external to the African and Arab groups were helping to sabotage the efforts being made. In conclusion, the delegation suggested that Group of Eminent Persons should be formed like the one set up in the past by the Commonwealth to consider the Southern African issue. Accerding to that delegation, this group would be requested to submit scientific and objective appraisal of the last ten years of Afro-Arab Co-operation, gather all the information needed from African and Arab officials on the exact amount of and granted, the difficulties encountered in the area of Afro-ARab Co-operation and the prospects for improving that cooperation.

157. Following that proposal, many delegations took the floor. Some of them supported the idea of the setting up of a Committee of Wisemen. Others emphasized that there already existed institutions dealing with the issues raised and there was no need to set up additional ones.

158. Several delegations recalled the principles to guide the cooperation namely;mutual respect, the sovereignty of states, a climate of understanding frankness and fairness. They therefore emphsized that Afro-Arab Co-operation should be viewed as a mutually, benficial endeavour for all the partners with equal rights and duties.

159. During the discussions, the delegations from Burkina Faso and the Sudan reaffirmed their readiness to host the 9th Session of the Standing Commission for Afro-Arab Co-operation and the First Session of the Joint Afro-Arab Conference of Ministers respectively. They added that their respective Governments had already taken the necessary steps to host the two major conferences on the dates to be decided upon.

160. Summing up the debates, the Chairman stated that the Council attached utmost importance to Afro-Arab Cooperation which had its origins in history and transcended the economic and financial dimensions to include the political, cultural, technical, social and scientific sectors. The Council reaffirmed its will to pursue actions to strengthen Afro-Arab Cooperation. He emphasized that the present diffculties paralyzing the functioning of the established organs

could not dampen their mutual confidence but should, on the contrary, call for greater determination to overcome those difficulties.

161. As regards the setting up of the Committee of wisemen, the Council recalled that at the Forty-third Ordinary Session, it had already accepted the proposal of the 8th Session of the Standing Commission for Afro-Arab Cooperation (Damascus, January 1986) to set up an Ad-Hoc Committee to examine the question of convening the Joint Afro Arab Conference of Ministers. That Committee was to reflect on the ways and means of removing the obstacles impeding the smooth operation of Afro-Arab Cooperation.

162. Having noted that the proposal for the setting up of a Committee of Wisemen was not unanimously accepted, and taking into account the existence of an Ad-Hoc Committee charged to consider the over all questions, the Council decided to urge the Secretary General to continue his efforts with all the parties concerned in close cooperation with the Secretary General of the League of Arab States so that the dates for the 9th Session of the Standing Commission for Afro-Arab Cooperation scheduled for Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, and the First Session of the Joint Afro-Arab Conference of Ministers scheduled in Khartoum, the Sudan, could be finally fixed as early as possible.

Item VIII

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

I. The Problem of Mayotte

Recent Developments

163. The Representative of the Federal Republic of the Comoros informed Council of the following developments regarding the problem of the Island of Mayotte:

a) That there have been six meetings between the French Prime Minister and the Comoran Government since the last meeting of the OAU Ad Hoc Committee on Mayotte.

b) These meetings between the Government of the Federal Republic of the Comoros and the French Prime Minister have led to the postponement of the referendum in Mayotte that was anticipated by the French Government to determine the Status of the Island. This positive development, the Representative of the Comoros informed Council, is a victory for not only the Comoros but for Africa as a whole since the Comoros had all along been opposed to the referendum.

c) The problem of the Island of Mayotte has nevertheless been complicated by the statement of the French Prime Minister to the effect that the inhabitants of the Island will remain French as long as they wished to remain so.

d) In March, 1987, the Government of the Comoros learnt of the French Government's intention to organize youth games in the Island of LaRevmai involving Seychelles, Mauritius, Madagascar, Comoros and Mayotte. The Government of the Comoros raised an objection to the invitation of Mayotte as a separate delegation to the games. This objection was formally made to the French Embassy in Moroni. Despite this objection, the French Secretary of State for Sports reaffirmed his government's intention to go ahead with the games with Mayotte invited as a separate delegation. Invitations have, in fact, been sent out to the countries concerned. The Comoros Government has already stated its decision to boycott the games in these circumstances.

164. In conclusion, the Representative appealed to the OAU to condemn the French action which seeks to impore Mayotte, as a separate entity, in the international community. Council should also express its support and solidarity to the Government of the Federal Republic of the Comoros.

165. On the same issue, the Representative of Mauritius took the floor to express his delegation's support for the sentiments expressed by the delegate of the Comoros. The Mauritius delegate reaffirmed his country's commitment to sub-regional co-operation and condemns any attempt to bring division among the countries of the sub-region. He reiterated that sub-regional co-operation was vital to economic and trade links and to the attainment of long-term objectives.

II. AWARD OF NOBLE PRIZE TO MR. WOLE SOYINKA FOR LITERATURE

166. One delegation stated that award of the Nobel Prize to Prof. Wole Soyinka of Nigeria for Literature early this year is an honour not only for his country but for the whole of Africa. In this connection, it was proposed that Africa should express its pride in this event by way of an appropriate resolution.

III. BUDGET FOR 1987/88

167. The delegation of Nigeria stated that its Government had received a notice from the Secretariat which had indicated an increase on the approved budget for 1987/88 as decided by the Forty-fifth Ordinary Session of the Council in February, 1987. The delegation, therefore, sought to know whether in the first place there had been an authorized increase over the approved budget and how that came about. The delegation of Ethiopia also raised a similar observation.

168. The Secretariat explained that there had not been any increase on the approved budget for 1987/88 as decided by Council vide Resolution 1975. Secretariat confirmed that the approved budget still stood at US$23,211,575. The Secretariat apologized that the assessment figures notified to Member States under cover of Secretariat's Note dated June 1, 1987, reflected an error in the sum total figure which had a direct additional effect on the individual Member States assessed figures. Consequently, the Secretariat explained that new figures would be distributed to Member States showing not only the correct assessment for Nigeria and Socialist Ethiopia but for all Member States of the Organization.

169. The Secretariat, however, explained that there would still be a necessity to adjust even the new figures to be issued due to the fact that by Council's decision contained in Resolution 1076, to maintain the 1981 Scale of Assessment which was made when Morocco was still a member of the Organization, the total contribution by the present membership of the Organization on the basis of that Scale would only amount to 94.61 per cent of the approved budget for 1987/88.

170. On the basis of this explanation, the Chairman put it to Council as to whether to peg the 1987/88 budget to the 94.61 per cent of the expected contribution from the present membership of the Organization or redistribute the shortfall percentage so as to realize the approved budget of US$23,211,575.

171. The Foreign Minister of Botswana, in her capacity as the Chairman of the Forty-fifth Session of Council which considered and approved the budget, recalled that in approving the budget at US$23,211,575 and deciding to maintain the Nairobi Scale of Assessment, the Secretariat would adjust the Nairobi Scale of Assessment to take into account Morocco's withdrawal from the Organization. This recollection was confirmed by the Foreign Minister of Côte d'Ivoire. Consequently, the Chairman, in summing up, reaffirmed Council's decision made during the Forty-fifth Session that the budget for 1987/88 would be US$23,211,575.00 to be contributed by Member States on the basis of the Nairobi Scale of Assessment adjusted to take into account Morocco's withdrawal.