



Distr GENERAL

FSSDD/APC.3/FC.2/97/4
5 May 1997

UNITED NATIONS

Original ENGLISH

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

JOINT ECA/OAU/ADB SECRETARIAT

**Second Meeting of the Follow-up Committee
for the Implementation of the Dakar/Ngor
Declaration and the ICPD-PA**

**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
12 - 13 June 1997**

**DAKAR/NGOR DECLARATION ON POPULATION, FAMILY
AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

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DAKAR/NGOR DECLARATION ON POPULATION, FAMILY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT¹

PREAMBLE

We, the Governments of African countries represented by our Ministers responsible for population matters at the third African Population Conference which met in Dakar, Senegal from 7 to 12 December 1992 on the theme "Population, family and sustainable development", have assessed the demographic situation and future trends in the region. In preparation for the International Conference on Population and Development to be held in Cairo in 1994, we have also assessed the achievements, constraints and implications of population policies; the impact of the economic crisis and structural adjustment programmes on family survival strategies and on the ability of African Governments to make satisfactory progress in population policy formulation and implementation.

We have reviewed the lessons and prospects of implementing the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action which, *inter alia*, was aimed at accelerating self-reliant, social and economic development for the well-being of African peoples. We reaffirm that the KPA remains a valid framework for the development of the region. We have taken note of the Amsterdam Declaration on Better Life for Future Generations, United Nations General Assembly resolution 45/216 on population and development, the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s (UN-NADAF), Agenda 21, the Rio Declaration of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), the deliberations of the ECA Conference of Ministers at its eighteenth meeting as well as preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994.

We are conscious of the social, economic and political difficulties faced by most African countries since the early 1980s, the widening North-South gap, the insufficiency of available resources for implementing national population programmes and the unfavourable outlook of the world economy:

We assert the prime responsibility of African Governments to improve the quality of life of the African peoples and redress their economic and social situation. We are concerned about the persistent high population growth rate and associated high fertility levels, high infant, child and maternal mortality levels, high morbidity, incidence of AIDS, significant imbalance in the geographic distribution of the population in the region, inadequate policies for the improvement of the legal status of women in the family, its integration into the development process, ineffective programmes for children and young people, problems of refugees and displaced persons, inadequate information systems and low level of data utilization. We recognize the need for an increased role of the public and private sectors as well as non-governmental organizations in population and integrated development programmes.

E/ECA/CM.19/12, annex II; adopted by the Third African Population Conference and ratified by Economic Commission for Africa at its twenty-eighth ministerial session (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 3-6 May 1993)

We are mindful of the fact that the family is the basic unit in society and, as such, needs and is entitled to support and protection by society and the state in order to play its role in development.

We have further noted that despite the increased number of explicit population policies formulated, the implementation rate of the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action for African Population and Self-reliant Development (KPA) remains low.

We have also noted that in spite of the efforts made by African Governments to reduce mortality, morbidity and infant mortality to the extent that the regional life expectancy at birth has risen from 49 years in 1984 to 51 years in 1992, fertility and mortality levels remain high in most countries. We consider that this situation is worsened by rural-urban drift and that there are also problems with empowering women to play an effective role in development, in implementing programmes designed to promote children and young people and in particular to remove the causes of unequal treatment of young girls, providing adequate data and information for the formulation of population policies; broadening and deepening the role of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and putting in place needed national focal points to assist in the integration of population factors in the development planning process.

We recognize that population matters are an integral part of the socio-economic development process and as such should be accorded high priority in the allocation of financial resources.

SECTION

PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES

Now, whereas

- (a) African countries affirm their solidarity in dealing with population problems and undertake to formulate population policies respecting the sovereign rights of each country along with the freedom, dignity and intrinsic values of their peoples and taking into account the relevant moral and cultural factors, and bear responsibility for reaffirming the rights and obligations of individuals and couples;
- (b) the successful pursuit of any population policy requires the institution of a stable political and social environment and calls for the elimination of all forms of extremism that breed conflict and instability;
- (c) the family, as an essential component of the economic and social fabric, requires the pursuit of appropriate strategies, adapted to family services, which should, themselves, form an integral part of population and development policies which address the needs of all members, especially adolescents;

in recognition of the critical roles of women in family formation and their major contribution to social economic development, rights, status and needs of women, particularly in the areas of education, employment and health care services should be explicit in all national development planning;

- (e) the countries and peoples of Africa have experienced prolonged periods of economic and social hardships since adoption of the KPA in 1984, stemming from natural and man-made causes such as: rising poverty levels, problems of refugees and displaced persons, internal and international migration, environmental deterioration, natural disasters, growing debt burdens, declining economic trade opportunities, HIV/AIDS and food shortages;
- (f) The formulation and implementation of comprehensive population policies reflecting the realities of each country should be accelerated simultaneously with sustained economic growth to assure the achievement of long-term objectives of food security, and sustainable development;

The provision of training and research (in population and development) are essential ingredients to effective integration of population factors in development planning;

- (h) The success of national and regional efforts in the field of population and development depends to a large extent on a conducive, supportive international economic environment.

We hereby declare that

A. African Governments should

1. Population, sustainable economic growth and sustainable development

- (a) Integrate population policies and programmes in development strategies, focusing on strengthening social sectors with a view to influencing human development and work towards the solution of population problems by setting quantified national objectives for the reduction of population growth with a view to bringing down the regional natural growth rate from 3.0 to 2.5 per cent by the year 2000 and 2 per cent by the year 2010;
- (b) implement measures to tackle the underlying causes of environmental degradation such as poverty, focusing on environmentally sound and appropriate technologies; enhance the quality of the environment by reversing deforestation and soil erosion, checking the spread of deserts and adopting priority programmes aimed at management of water resources, with a view to reducing the impact of recurrent droughts and the resultant food shortages;
- (c) place greater emphasis on such matters as food security, marketing services, appropriate agricultural mechanization, research and extension services, more efficient use of land and farming systems, livestock development and assistance programmes to small farmers;
- (d) strengthen industrial strategies at the country level so as to encourage economic growth;
- (e) exchange experiences in population policy and programme formulation and strengthen national and subnational institutions in charge of their implementation.

2. Family

- (a) Take due account of the rights and responsibilities of all family members and ensure that measures that protect the family from socio-economic distress and disintegration are taken into account in accordance with family well-being and health requirements, bearing in mind the survival strategies designed by the families themselves. Also provide couples and individuals with the facilities and resources for deciding the size of their families;
- (b) integrate family concerns in all development plans, policies and programmes and encourage analytical studies on demographic processes within the family cycle so as to better identify the determinants of small family size.

3. Fertility and family planning

- (a) Create a conducive socio-economic climate and sustained political will for the pursuit of such effective fertility policies as make for: (i) setting fertility and family planning (FP) targets for all people of reproductive age and takes

measures to reduce infertility where needed; (ii) implementing legal measures to improve the status of women and their reproductive health; (iii) establishing strong maternal and child health (MCH) programmes; (iv) ensuring strong management and close collaboration between private and public sectors and communities in the implementation of their MCH and national FP programmes; (v) decentralizing health care delivery systems for urban and rural areas; (vi) strengthening information, education and communication (IEC) in MCH and FP programmes; (vii) strengthening family institutions; (viii) addressing unmet family planning needs of adolescents and others; and (ix) promoting of the education of men and women on joint responsible parenthood;

- (b) ensure the availability and promote the use of all tested available contraceptive and fertility regulation methods, including traditional and natural family planning methods ensuring choice of methods with a view to doubling the regional contraceptive prevalence rate (CPR) from about 10 to about 20 per cent by the year 2000 and 40 per cent by the year 2010;
- (c) study the possibility of production of contraceptives within the region;
- (d) promote national research in human reproduction and increase capabilities through collaboration with the WHO Programme of Research, Development and Training in Human Reproduction (RDTHR) and other internationally recognized research organizations.

4. Mortality, morbidity and AIDS

- (a) Give priority to combating infant, child and maternal morbidity and mortality by giving special attention to primary health care programmes as integral parts of their preventive health policies, such as health education in school curricula at all levels and non-conventional education; enacting legislation to promote clean environment in rural and urban areas; launching national campaigns to increase availability of safe water and sanitation; increasing support to nutrition programmes and giving priority to vulnerable groups for food accessibility in areas of shortage;
- (b) establish and strengthen programmes to combat the spread of AIDS and health problems as part of the overall health programmes with special focus being given to high-risk groups;
- (c) aim, by the year 2000, for the region as a whole, at a life expectancy at birth of at least 55 years, an infant mortality rate of less than 50 per 1000 live births, childhood mortality rate of 70 or less. Develop and implement programmes aimed at reducing maternal mortality by at least 50 per cent from 1990 level by the year 2000. Such programmes should include quality family planning services and studies in order to reduce the increasing problem of unsafe abortion, estimated to cause 30-50 per cent of maternal mortality in parts of Africa;

- (d) implement health programmes such as the African Health Development Framework (AHDF) which was adopted by member States of WHO/Africa region in 1985.

5. Urbanization, migration and physical planning

- (a) Address the urbanization and migration issues from a comprehensive integrated perspective taking into account the underlying causes and impact whether of demographic, social, economic nature, place greater emphasis on regional development planning to achieve, among the regions of the individual countries, a more equitable distribution of all development efforts, as well as a better distribution of their population; improve the management of cities and urban areas; intensify rural development programmes in order to lessen the pressure to out-migrate to the cities; and, make an assessment of urban policies, taking account of the relative role of net migration and natural increase in urban population growth;
- (b) considering the importance of migratory flows of the African population within Africa and between Africa and other continents, a common position should be adopted by the countries concerned within the framework of international conventions regarding the adoption of appropriate measures to protect people's rights and guarantee their security.

6. Refugees and displaced persons

- (a) Exert every effort to tackle the acute problems of refugees and displaced persons by setting up an integrated plan capable of dealing with the root causes and foresee solutions for the immediate, medium and long terms;
- (b) take appropriate measures to protect and assist refugees in terms of paragraph 43 of the KPA²;
- (c) ensure that priority is given in policy making to the elimination of the underlying causes of the refugee situation through negotiation, conflict resolution, democratization, and respect for human rights and that refugees and returnees are included in population-oriented development plans and that the policy of voluntary repatriation should be integrated in development plans;
- (d) ensure that adequate services are provided for refugees and displaced persons as they enter the country of asylum and at the point of their voluntary repatriation with the support of the international community.

2 Governments should take appropriate measures to protect and assist international migrants and refugees and safeguard their culture.

7. Women in development

- (a) Adopt a national policy on improving the role, status and participation of women, taking into account mainstreaming as a means of incorporating women's programmes into all aspects of development, and monitor its implementation at the highest government level in accordance with the Abuja Declaration on Participatory Development: The role of African Women in Development during the 1990s and Beyond; Take necessary steps to eliminate discrimination against women, as well as certain traditional and cultural practices and religious extremism which inhibit their effective advancement and participation in development;
- (b) institute and strengthen programmes for reforming the educational system and vocational training with a view to providing basic education to all those at school age with particular emphasis on the education of girls;
- (c) establish programmes and
 - (i) pass legislation to enhance the legal status of women within the family and the community with a view to enabling women to contribute more directly in decision making, and in the formulation of strategies aimed at upholding family values, providing support to family members and contributing to stability in society;
 - (ii) formulate national policies and initiate measures aimed at ensuring greater participation and assumption of responsibilities by men in the maintenance and nurturing of their families and enacting national legislation that will emphasize the complementary and equal partnership roles that men and women have to play in development;
 - (iii) institutionalize the participation of women in all production sectors particularly in agriculture and provide for them appropriate technology to reduce their work load and maximize their efficiency and effectiveness and better access to credit facilities and farm inputs with a view to enhancing their economic independence and improving the quality of life.

8. Children

Ratify the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child adopted by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in 1990, implement the Declaration and Plan of Action of the World Summit on Children and conclusions and recommendations of the OAU International Conference on assistance to the African Child.

9. Youth

- (a) Ensure that population programmes provide education, counselling and other support services for young people and promote their participation in all development activities;

- (b) formulate national policies aimed at protecting the youth from any form of abuse, economic exploitation, especially child labour, as well as other policies and programmes aimed at curbing drug abuse and alcoholism;
- (c) adopt a comprehensive strategy on youth encompassing (i) the development and implementation of policies for young people, as well as educational, cultural and vocational training programmes; (ii) strengthening MCH and FP services; (iii) improving the role and status and participation of youth in society; (iv) providing employment opportunities for young people; and (v) involving young people in the activities of youth-related non-governmental organizations.

10. Data collection and analysis, information dissemination, training and research

Make determined and sustained efforts to improve population and demographic data, including the establishment of civil registration and vital statistic systems, ensuring the cost effectiveness of censuses without necessarily compromising data quality and encouraging inter-censal socio-demographic sample surveys to be undertaken;

- (b) Carry out qualitative studies to assess the impact of population programmes on the family;
- (c) ensure that training and research in population and development in African universities and research institutes are coordinated and the findings together with their implications effectively disseminated and brought to the attention of all concerned;
- (d) strengthen regional institutes and enhance cooperation among African countries in the area of training, research and data collection;
- (e) carry out studies on the complex inter-relationships between population, environment and sustainable development in order to assist African Governments to formulate and implement relevant policies;
- (f) put in place and strengthen national focal points for collating and disseminating population and development information on the basis of gender together with the provision of adequate resources.

11 Information, education and communication (IEC)

Develop IEC programmes that involve recipients as partners and are research based (including base-line studies), specifically targeted, culturally appropriate, rooted in local languages as far as possible and linked with follow-up activities including the delivery of family planning services;

- (b) implement strong IEC strategies and follow-up studies, ensure greater involvement of and access to the mass media in IEC, undertake follow-up studies on constraints to African media organizations; and train managers and professionals in the interpretation and use of population information.

B. Private and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) should:

- (a) Promote community participation and involve communities in programme planning, implementation and financing; enhance collaboration and coordination with multilateral and bilateral organizations, other organizations and government agencies;
- (b) be strengthened and considered full partners by governments in the implementation of population programmes and in contributing towards the formulation of related policies. They should also be involved in large-scale replication of successful innovative pilot programmes;
- (c) promote popular participation in population-related issues including environmental protection, attitudinal change, health and education.

C. The subregional and regional groupings should:

- (a) Play their role in population-related matters by supporting policies that ease, inter alia, population movements particularly of women, and movement of goods, through flexible migration laws facilitating the voluntary redistribution of population and amelioration of economic conditions through intraregional trade;
- (b) promote technical cooperation including the implementation of joint subregional programmes in the field of research, training and environmental protection.

D. ECA, UNFPA, the World Bank and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system as well as such regional organizations as OAU and ADB should:

Undertake all possible measures to implement, within their respective mandates, the recommendations of this Conference, including, where appropriate, joint activities.

E. The international community should:

- (a) Continue to increase its assistance to African countries in the fields of population and development, long-term perspective development planning including those related to refugees and returnees, training and research; strengthen and expand support to all types and levels of training (in population and development) and help to strengthen the institution-building capacity of African countries; and establish technical structures to support programmes taking into account problems related to liaison and communication;
- (b) consider conversion of African debt into grants to be used in financing social programmes including population activities;

- (c) strengthen South-South cooperation with regard to training, exchange of information, sharing of experiences, know-how, and technical expertise.

SECTION II

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

In this endeavour, we strongly appeal to the African Governments to ensure that adequate planning and budget allocations should be made in tandem with the nationally proclaimed prioritisation of population development programmes to avoid paying lip-service to this very important program. We also appeal to them to ensure that budget appropriations are devoted to national population and socio-economic development programmes that further their objectives and make selective use of fees and other forms of cost recovery, cost sharing and accessing local resources of philanthropy to generate domestic resources to support service delivery programmes and the provision of contraceptives, as well as traditional fertility regulation and natural family planning methods.

We also appeal to donors to respond positively and increasingly to requests for population assistance and activities and improve their coordination of population assistance with other bilateral and multilateral donors to ensure that population needs and requirements of African countries are properly addressed out of the 4 per cent target of official development assistance (ODA) to be devoted to population programmes to achieve the goals of the Amsterdam Declaration.

We appeal to UNFPA to consider Africa as a priority region and accordingly increase the resources allocated to the development of population policies and programmes.

SECTION III

FOLLOW-UP AND IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM

In adopting this Declaration, we, the African Governments participating in the third African Population Conference, hereby express our full commitment to implement the aforesaid recommendations and, in this context, urge all member States and all concerned institutions to establish appropriate joint follow-up and evaluation mechanisms.

Considering the importance of a follow-up mechanism for the implementation of this Declaration, we recommend that the ECA regional multidisciplinary expertise be reinforced to play its role in the monitoring and evaluation of its implementation.

We express our profound appreciation to the Government and the people of Senegal, especially His Excellency Abdou Diouf, President of the Republic of Senegal, Chairman both of the Organization of African Unity and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, who has consistently been at the forefront of economic cooperation among African countries and North-South cooperation. We are most grateful for having had the occasion to hold this historic meeting of our Conference in this beautiful city of Dakar under the most conducive atmosphere of cordiality and warm hospitality.

ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY
ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT
Thirtieth Ordinary Session, 13-15 June 1994
Tunis, Tunisia

AHG/Decl.4 (XXX)

DECLARATION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

PREAMBLE

1. We, the Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), assembled in Tunis from 13-15 June 1994, for the Thirtieth Ordinary Session of our summit, have once more critically assessed the prevailing socio-economic situation of our continent and have reviewed the inextricable link between population and development. We note with concern that, our economies have been stagnating and declining, making Africa the most economically under-developed continent in the world. This situation has exposed our population to severe hardships and sacrifices.
2. In response to this situation, we have adopted various development strategies and plans including in particular the Declaration on Political and Socio-economic Situation in Africa and the Fundamental Changes Taking Place in the World (1990) as well as the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community (AEC) (1991).
3. In spite of these efforts, our countries continue to face serious difficulties as a result of an unfavourable international economic environment characterized *inter-alia* by the collapse of prices of commodities of interest to African countries, the excruciating debt burden, the servicing of which is consuming a large part of our export earnings, and the decline, in real terms, of the Official Development Assistance (ODA) to our continent. All these notwithstanding, our countries have embarked on the implementation of structural adjustment programmes and the transformation of our economies.
4. We are aware of the intricate inter-play between population, environment and sustainable development and are mindful of the necessity for African States to evolve population policies and programmes to bring a balance between population growth and the capacity of our countries to provide for the basic needs of our people.
5. We have reviewed the population and development situation in our continent and wish to express our total political commitment to address them in the context of sustainable development. To this end, we reiterate our commitment to provide the basic needs of our people. We realize that this will require the full participation of our people in bringing a balance between our resources and our population growth.
6. In this respect, we wish to stress that population issues should be addressed in the wider context of the total needs of our socio-economic development. These issues were addressed in the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action (KPA) for self-reliant development (1984) and in the Dakar/Ngor Declaration on Population, Family and Sustainable Development (1992).

PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES

7. Sustainable development requires the integration of population variables into development strategies, socio-economic planning, decision-making and resource allocation at all levels.
8. For a successful implementation of population and sustainable development policies, infrastructure, institutions, the legal framework and human resources are required.
9. Economic integration among our countries is an essential condition for our collective self-reliance and self-sustained development.
10. Africa's efforts will require, supportive international economic environment, addressing the debt burden, the terms of trade and providing adequate international support in the promotion of our development, particularly in industrialization.
11. We are committed to provide the basic needs of our population, particularly food security, drinking water, health services, education and shelter.
12. We reaffirm the rights and responsibilities of individuals and families to participate in decision-making affecting their well-being.
13. In recognition of the critical role of women and their major contribution to socio-economic development, we reaffirm our commitment to the enhancement of women's rights, status and needs.
14. We are aware that peace, security, stability and the rule of law are necessary prerequisites for our development and the welfare of our people. To this end, we have adopted the Cairo Declaration on the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution within the OAU (1993).
15. We reaffirm our solidarity in dealing with our development and population problems. In this respect we reaffirm the sovereign rights of each of our countries to formulate its population policies with freedom, dignity and respecting intrinsic values of its people, taking fully into account its moral and cultural factors.
16. We commit ourselves to exert every effort to address the root causes of the problems of refugees and displaced persons, through conflict prevention, management and resolution; through democratization and the respect for human rights; and by the encouragement of voluntary repatriation of refugees to their respective countries of origin, once the conditions of their exile have disappeared.

DECLARATION

17. We have considered the Dakar/Ngor Declaration on Population, Family and Sustainable Development adopted by our Ministers Responsible for Population Matters at the 3rd African Population Conference (APC) held in Dakar in December 1992.
18. We hereby endorse the Dakar/Ngor Declaration and affirm that it is an indispensable population and development strategy that will take Africa to the end of this century and beyond.

19. We stress the need for a sustained effort in the formulation of explicit population policies and the design of strategies for implementing the policy measures and the associated national population programmes by our Member States. To this end, we urge our Member States to establish and/or strengthen national institutions to address, on a continuous and consistent basis the issues of population and sustainable development and in particular to take the necessary measures for the implementation of the commitment made on the Dakar/Ngor Declaration.

20. We commit ourselves particularly to do all within our power to empower women to play their full role in society through the elimination of inequality between men and women, providing educational opportunities to attain their full potential, the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women and ensure their full access to the means of production including land.

21. We commit ourselves to address in a comprehensive manner the development of our youth to achieve their full potential through the provision of education, counselling, support services and gainful employment opportunities.

22. We further commit ourselves to improve the living conditions of our rural population, including nomads, through specific policies and programmes designed to meet basic needs particularly food, drinking water, health, education and shelter within the framework of our population and sustainable development policies and strategies.

23. We commit ourselves to increase in our regular respective budgets the necessary resources needed for the implementation of our population policies and programmes.

24. We urge the International Community to provide our countries with the necessary assistance to achieve the above objectives and to support our efforts for the implementation of the Dakar/Ngor Declaration in particular to:

- (a) expand our health infrastructure to ensure adequate coverage of our population in each Member State in order to adequately provide for mother and child health services and family planning;
- (b) assist Member States in the implementation of their information, education, communication (IEC) strategies, in service delivery, capacity building for statistical data collection, analysis, research and reporting capabilities to enhance the management of population and development matters; and
- (c) review and formulate legal systems with a view to establishing the necessary legal framework to create a positive environment for the full participation of women in their own development and the development of our countries.

25. We endorse the establishment of the African Population Commission and request it to cooperate with other institutions in the implementation of population activities in Africa.

26. We encourage Member States to cooperate and exchange experiences in the field of population and development, particularly in research, statistics and policy issues, to foster collaboration among African researchers and planners in this field with the view to creating an enabling environment for the establishment and effective functioning of the African

Economic Community. We also encourage the South-South cooperation in the field of population and development activities.

27. We call upon the OAU Member States to make all the necessary preparations at the national level and to participate actively at the Cairo Conference, in view of the fact that this major international event will be taking place on the African soil for the first time.

28. We wish to express our appreciation and congratulations to the Government and the People of the Arab Republic of Egypt for hosting the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD).

29. We express our appreciation to the UNFPA and other donors for assisting African countries in implementing their population programmes and request them to continue providing that assistance. We also request the donor countries and NGO's to increase their technical and financial assistance to population programmes in Africa.

30. We request the Secretary General of the OAU in collaboration with the Executive Secretary of the ECA to monitor developments in population activities in Africa and to submit periodic reports to the OAU Council of Ministers and to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government.

ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
Sixtieth Ordinary Session, 6-11 June 1994
Tunis, Tunisia

CM/Res.1551 (LX)

**RESOLUTION ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE OAU GENERAL SECRETARIAT IN THE
FIELD OF POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY IN AFRICA**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Sixtieth Ordinary Session in Tunis, Tunisia, from 6 to 11 June, 1994,

Having considered the report of the Secretary General in the field of Population and Development Policy in Africa - Document CM/1837 (LX),

Recalling the recommendations on population and development issues contained in the Lagos Plan of Action (LPA), the Kilimanjaro Programme of Action, the World Population Plan of Action (WPPA) as re-affirmed at the International Population Conference in Mexico and in Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery (APPER), and reiterated in the Dakar/Ngor Declaration,

Bearing in mind the recommendations of the Inaugural Meeting of the African Population Commission on Population and Development in Africa held in Addis Ababa on 16-18 May, 1994, particularly, the need to mobilize resources for African population activities;

Recalling also the successive resolutions adopted by various Sessions of the OAU Labour Commission and Council of Ministers on Population Matters,

Mindful of the importance of population factors and the need for their integration in socio-economic development:

- URGES** Member States, to establish National Population Commission, where they do not exist, and to strengthen technical cooperation relations with African regional and sub-regional organizations dealing with population and development problems;
- 2 **CALLS UPON** the Secretary General, in collaboration with relevant African and international organizations dealing with population and development to mobilize financial and technical assistance from international organizations dealing with population and development for the attainment of the objectives set for the African Population Commission;
 - 3 **COMMENDS** the UNFPA for its financial assistance to the OAU in the area of population and development policy, and requests it to continue its support; and

4. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General to report regularly to the Council of Ministers on the activities of the Member States on population and development policy programmes.