

**RESOLUTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of Africa Unity, meeting in its Twenty-Eight Ordinary Session in Lome, Togo, from 21 to 28 February 1977.

**Having taken note** of the interim Report of the Administrative Secretary-General (Document CM/804 (XXVIII)),

**Noting** that the differences existing between coastal and land-locked or the geographically disadvantaged States constitute a serious obstacle to the effectiveness of the African stand,

**Considering** the imperative need to strengthen the unity of action in Africa at the next session of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea,

**Recalling** the relevant Resolution CM/Res. 514 (XXVII) adopted by the Heads of State and Government in Mauritius,

1. **EXPRESSES** satisfaction with the work done by the General Secretariat and urges it to continue its efforts towards harmonizing the stand of the whole African Group at that Conference;
2. **APPROVES** the decision of the African Group at the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea to hold a meeting of African Experts before the sixth session;
3. To this end **CALLS ON** the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters to release the necessary funds for organizing this preparatory meeting;
4. **REITERATES** its approval to all African countries to present a united front at the Sixth Session of the Conference;

5. **APPEALS** to all Member States to make available to this Conference competent and qualified experts;
  
6. **RECOMMENDS EARNESTLY** that the Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU send a team from the Secretariat to follow, under the best condition, the negotiations at the Sixth Session, which will be held in New York in May 1977.