

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE JOINT SITTING OF THE MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE ON SCALE OF ASSESSMENT AND CONTRIBUTIONS AND THE COMMITTEE OF FIFTEEN MINISTERS OF FINANCE (F15)

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Joint Sitting of the Ministerial Committee on Scale of Assessment and Contributions and the Committee of Fifteen Ministers of Finance (F15) held on the 9th of February 2024.
 - a. **On the Status of Member States contributions to the Regular Budget and Peace Fund:**
2. **RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.802(XXXIV) of February 2021 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, through which the Assembly decided to delegate its powers to the Executive Council, to apply the AU Sanction Regime, pursuant to the provisions of Article 23 (1) of the Constitutive Act and Rule 36 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly.
3. **COMMENDS** Member States for contributing **US\$181,210,996.23**, equivalent to **88%** of the **US\$205,000,000** assessed contribution for the 2023 Regular Budget.
4. **ALSO COMMENDS** Member States for contributing since 2017, **US\$338,876,684.56** towards the AU Peace Fund, demonstrating a high level of commitment by the Union to fully operationalize the Fund.
5. **FURTHER COMMENDS** Member States that have made full contributions on their 2024 assessments and **REQUESTS** Member States to pay their assessed contributions in compliance with Rule 23(1) of the AU Financial Rules, taking into consideration the differences in financial years of Member States.
6. **DECIDES** to impose sanctions on the following Member States that have fallen back on the payment of their assessed contributions:
 - a. **Cautionary sanctions:** Guinea Bissau, Mali
 - b. **Intermediate sanctions:** Central African Republic
 - c. **Comprehensive sanctions:** Guinea, São Tomé and Príncipe
- b. **On Member States experiencing force majeure circumstances making them temporarily unable to pay their assessed contributions**
7. **RECALLS** Decision EX.CL/Dec.1071(XXXV) of July 2019 which considered the security and political situation of Somalia and Libya and withheld the imposition of sanctions for non-payment of contributions, and which requested the Commission to consult with the two countries to agree on a payment plan to clear the arrears within four (4) years from the adoption of the Decision.

8. **FURTHER RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.752(XXXIII) of February 2020 which took note of the requests from the Republic of Burundi and the challenges the country faced in meeting its annual contributions to the Union, and the request to the Commission to engage with Member States facing difficulties paying their contributions to the Union and those in arrears for two (2) or more years in order to agree on the payment plan for clearing their arrears.
9. **ALSO RECALLS** Decision EX.CL/Dec.1119(XXXVIII) of February 2021 which took note of the request from the Republic of Sudan on the need to review its assessed contribution and requested the Commission to consult with the Republic of Sudan based on the current Scale of Assessment to agree on a Payment plan to clear the arrears as soon as possible, within four (4) years from the adoption of the Decision.
10. **RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.802(XXXIV) of February 2021 which endorsed the payment plans for the Republic of Somalia and Republic of Burundi to clear their arrears.
11. **FURTHER RECALLS** Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.838(XXXV) of February 2022 which decided exceptionally and given the well-known long-standing complex situation in Libya that upon full payment by the State of Libya of 50% of their arrears, the Commission shall write-off the 50% of the contributions to the regular budget due to the organization.
12. **ALSO RECALLS** Decision EX.CL/ Dec.1223(XLIII) of July 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya, which urged the State of Libya to intensify efforts to settle balances on the 50% for the Commission to effect the necessary write-off of the remaining 50% of its arrears, and as well agree on a payment plan with the Commission on payment of accumulated arrears for subsequent years since the adoption of the Decision. Further, the Decision noted with concern the non-adherence by the Republic of Burundi and the Republic of Somalia to the remittance schedules to clear their arrears, and strongly encouraged both Member States to comply with the agreed payment plans. Also, the Decision stressed on the need for the Commission and the Republic of the Sudan to urgently agree on a payment plan and report back to the Executive Council in February 2024.
13. **CONGRATULATES** the State of Libya for clearing all its arrears and paying its 2023 assessed contributions in full, including all outstanding contributions to the Peace Fund, which demonstrates ownership and commitment on financing the African Union sustainably.
14. **COMMENDS** the Republic of Burundi for the efforts made to comply with the agreed payment plan.
15. **NOTES WITH CONCERN** the nonadherence by the Republic of Somalia to the remittance schedules to clear their arrears and encourages the Member State to intensify its efforts to pay its outstanding contributions.

16. **REITERATES** the need for the Commission and the Republic of the Sudan to continue consultations with the aim to agree on a payment plan and report back to the Executive Council in July 2024.

c. On the matter of assessments to the Peace Fund for the six Member States from the Northern Region with reservations:

17. **RECALLS** Decision EX.CL/Dec.1213(XLII) of February 2023 which took note of the outcome of the regional consultations undertaken by the Commission on the matter of assessing Member States to the Peace Fund and endorsed the recommendation to assess contributions to the Peace Fund, for Member States with reservations, in accordance with their proposal as noted by the Executive Council through its Decision EX.CL/Dec.1162(XL) of February 2022 and further requested the Commission and the six (6) countries of the Northern Region to expeditiously agree on the payment plans for the outstanding contributions to the Peace Fund and submit the outcome report to the Executive Council in July 2023, following due process.
18. **FURTHER RECALLS** Decision EX.CL/Dec.1223(XLIII) of July 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya which requested the Commission to expedite the conclusion of payment plans and report back to the Executive Council in February 2024.
19. **NOTES WITH APPRECIATION** the efforts made by the countries of the Northern region to pay their outstanding contributions to the Peace Fund and **CONGRATULATES** the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, the State of Libya, the Islamic Republic of Mauritania and Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic for paying in full their outstanding contributions to the Peace Fund. **FURTHER CONGRATULATES** the Arab Republic of Egypt and Republic of Tunisia for paying their contributions to the Peace Fund in line with the payment plans agreed with the Commission.