

**RESOLUTION ON THE UTILIZATION OF THE MARINE RESOURCES OF
AFRICA'S EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Forty-third Ordinary session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 25 February to 4 March 1986,

Aware of the ratification by some African Member States of the Third Convention on the Law of the Sea adopted in Montego Bay, Jamaica on 10 December 1982,

Having considered the document prepared by the Secretariat on the utilization of the Marine Resources of Africa's Exclusive Economic Zone; Document CM/1355 (XLIII),

Conscious of the important and urgent need for maximum utilization of the marine resources of Africa's Exclusive Economic Zone, which requires integrated development:

1. EXPRESSES its appreciation for the initiative taken by the OAU Secretariat as reflected in Document CM/1355 (XLIII) on the utilization of the marine resources of Africa's Exclusive Economic Zone;
2. REQUESTS the OAU Secretariat to co-operate closely with all competent institutions in the field of exploration, exploitation and utilization of marine resources of Africa's Exclusive Economic Zone with a view to undertaking joint efforts and avoiding duplication;
3. MANDATES the OAU Secretariat to engage the services of an African Expert/Consultant to prepare urgently, an exhaustive study on the issues raised in the Secretariat's document taking into consideration the views expressed by Member States during the debate on the Item;

4. **REQUESTS the Secretary-General to present the report of the study to the Forty-fourth Session of the Council of Ministers;**

5. **URGES all Member States who have not yet done so to ratify the Third UN Convention on the Law of the Sea so as to speed up its entry into force.**