## RESOLUTION ON THE REPLENISHMENT OF THE EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT FUND (EDF)

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Sixty-Second Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 21 to 23 June, 1995,

**Recalling** the historical, political and moral ties that bind the States constituting the European Union and the ACP Group of States,

**Having regard** to the outcome of the negotiating meeting of the ACP-EU Council of Ministers held on 30 November and 1 December, 1994 and 15 and 16 January 1995 in Brussels,

**Having regard** to the Resolution adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Assembly at its meeting held in Dakar in February 1995 on the state of progress in the negotiations for the mid-term review of the 4<sup>th</sup> June Lome Convention,

**Emphasizing** the special nature of the Lome Convention which, by its provisions, constitutes a unique programme of cooperating in the framework of relations between developed and developing countries,

**<u>Highly concerned</u>** that the last ACP-EU Council Session came to an abrupt end without any agreement on the amount of the financial envelope,

**Considering** that development aid for ACP countries in general and, for African States in particular has been reduced in real terms whilst, at the same time, there is a marked progression in the European Union's external expenditure:

- 1. **DEEPLY REGRETS** the position adopted by some Member States of the European Union which seem insensitive to the increasing difficulties of their ACP partners;
- 2. **STRONGLY APPEALS** to those Member States which have expressed their intention to reduce their financial contribution to the European Development Fund development to review their decision;
- 3. **REQUESTS** that the financial envelope takes due account of such realities as: the enlargement of the European Union, the rate of inflation, inclusion of new principles and a suspension clause in the Lome IV Convention, and the debt burden, among others,
- 4. **CONSIDERS** that the amount of 13.3 billion ECU indicated during information contacts, can only be considered as the strict acceptable minimum;

- 5. **APPEALS** to the EU Presidency to ensure that an offer takes into account the legitimate expectations of the ACP States ad conforms with the spirit of solidarity that has always characterized CP-EU Cooperation;
- 6. **REQUESTS** the OAU Secretary-General to forward this Resolution to the Member States of the European Union individually and to the President of the EU Council of Foreign Ministers meeting in Luxembourg on 22 June, 1995.