DECISION ON THE VISION AND MISSION OF THE AFRICAN UNION AND STRATEGIC PLAN, PROGRAMME AND BUDGET OF THE COMMISSION

The Executive Council:

- **1. TAKES NOTE** of the Report and the presentation on the Vision and the Mission, the Strategic Framework and the Plan of Action of the African Union;
- **2. COMMENDS** the Commission for the work carried out and the quality of the documents prepared;
- **3. ACCEPTS** in principle the Vision and Mission which are consistent with the main thrusts identified by the Heads of State and Government within the framework of the process initiated in Sirte and in the formulation of the NEPAD Programme;
- 4. **REAFFIRMS** that, in order to achieve continental integration, African Union Member States, the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), the Commission and the other organs of the African Union must work in synergy, on the basis of a shared vision;
- **5. INVITES** the Chairperson of the Commission to take all appropriate measures to prioritize programmes included in the Strategic Plan with a view to effectively implementing the reprioritized programmes;
- 6. ALSO INVITES the Chairperson of the Commission to constitute, in consultation with Member States, a Group of Experts on Budgetary and Financial Matters which together with the Advisory Sub-Committee on Administrative, Budgetary and Financial Matters, to draw up a "Solidarity Budget" to be submitted for consideration of the Executive Council to be held not later than November 2004;
- **7. REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to study the possibility of creating a permanent body of Experts from Member States on Budgetary and Financial Matters in the Structure of the Commission and Report to the 7th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council;
- **8. REQUESTS** the Assembly to mandate the Extraordinary Session of Council, to approve the said "Solidarity Budget".