**DECISION TO DECLARE 2006 AS THE YEAR OF AFRICAN LANGUAGES  
Doc. EX.CL/223 (VIII)**

The Executive Council:

1. **RECALLS** the adoption of the Language Plan of Action for Africa in 1986 and revised in 2005;
2. **TAKES NOTE** of the Nairobi Declaration on Culture, Integration and African Renaissance adopted by the 1st Session of the AU Conference of Ministers of Culture held in December 2005 in Nairobi, Kenya;
3. **RECOGNIZES** the role of African Languages in the socio-economic and cultural development as well as in the political integration of the Continent;
4. **DECIDES** to recommend to the Assembly that **2006** be declared as the Year of African Languages;
5. **ENCOURAGES** all Member States to establish language promotion structures at national level and to participate in activities planned for the Year;
6. **REQUESTS** the Commission to coordinate such activities in collaboration with UNESCO and other relevant partners.