DECISION ON THE PROGRESS REPORT ON THE AFRICAN UNION RESPONSE ON COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN AFRICA, BY H.E. CYRIL MATAMELA RAMAPHOSA, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

The Assembly,


2. **COMMENDS** H.E. President Cyril Matamela Ramaphosa for his leadership in Africa's response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and **ACKNOWLEDGES** the critical role of the AU Commission and the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) in their effective response to the pandemic.

3. **RECOGNIZES** that disease threats require a multi-agency response through strong continental institutions including the Africa CDC and the Africa Medicines Agency (AMA).

4. **ACKNOWLEDGES** that Africa's socio-economic recovery from the pandemic depends on the continent's ability to turn the current challenges into viable opportunities including through increasing the capacities and capabilities of the health workforce; initiating and expanding local manufacturing enterprises for all commodities required in pandemic response and particularly vaccines; and mobilizing appropriate technical and financial resources for preparedness and response.

5. **ENDORSES** the Progress Report of the AU Health Commission on COVID19 including all its recommendations.

6. **DECIDES** to extend the role of H.E. President Cyril Matamela Ramaphosa as the AU COVID19 Champion.

7. **REQUESTS** the AU COVID19 Champion to present a progress report to the next session of the Mid-Year Coordination meeting as well as the next Assembly.

8. **DIRECTS** the AU Commission and the Africa CDC to continue providing the required support to the AU COVID19 Champion in his role.

9. **ALSO DECIDES** to remain seized on this matter