

**RESOLUTION ON THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION
OF THE DEVELOPMENT, MANUFACTURING, STOCKPILING AND
USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND THEIR DESTRUCTION**

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Sixty-Fourth Ordinary Session in Yaounde, Cameroon, from 1 to 5 July, 1996,

Having heard the statement made by Cote d'Ivoire delegation on the Convention on Prohibition of the Development Manufacturing Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and their Destruction,

Having also heard the statement by other delegations on the same issue,

Noting that the discussions on this item were marked by different points of view,

Bearing in mind the point of view outlining that the benefits developing countries in general and African countries in particular, could derive from the Convention entering into force,

Noting that it has, so far, not been possible for the Convention signed in Paris in 1993 by 160 States of the International Community, 42 out of which are African to come into force, owing to the very low number of the ratifications received, namely 53,

Noting also that the two countries with the largest stockpile of chemical weapons have not yet ratified the Convention,

Convinced that the signing and ratification of the said Convention would help speed up its entry into force:

1. **CALLS UPON** those African States which have signed the Convention to ratify it;
2. **ALSO CALLS UPON** the major producing States of chemical weapons in particular the two countries with the largest stockpile of those weapons which have not yet ratified the Convention to do so as early as possible in order to alleviate the difficulties faced by some countries in its implementation programmes;
3. **URGES** all developed countries to promote international cooperation through the transfer of technology, materials and equipment for peaceful purposes in the chemical field, as well as the withdrawal of discriminatory restrictions both national and multi-lateral and national contrary to the letter and spirit of the Convention;
4. **REQUESTS** the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the Sixty-Fourth Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers reflecting the discussion on this issue to the African delegates to the Preparatory Commission of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).