The Assembly:

1. **COMMENDS** the efforts deployed by the Outgoing Chairperson of the Union, President Thabo Mbeki of South Africa, to implement the Durban Decision on the establishment of the Common African Defence and Security Policy; and the document prepared towards that end, namely the Draft Framework for a Common African Defence and Security Policy;

2. **TAKES NOTE** of the said Draft Framework, as reviewed by the 3rd Extraordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Sun City, South Africa, from 21 to 24 May 2003;

3. **TAKES NOTE FURTHER,** of the comments made by Heads of State and Government during the debate, which constituted contributions to the on-going discussion of the matter;

4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to conduct further consultations with all stakeholders including Ministers responsible for Defence and Security and Legal Experts with the view to finalizing the Common African Defence and Security Policy in time for consideration by the next Session of the Assembly; or at an Extraordinary Session of the Assembly to be convened by the Current Chairperson if deemed necessary.