

DECISION ON THE LINKAGE BETWEEN CULTURE AND EDUCATION

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Algiers Conference of Ministers of Education in April 2005 and also the outcomes of the Extraordinary Session of the Ministers of Education in Addis Ababa in January 2006;
2. **ALSO TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the 1st Session of AU Conference of Ministers of Culture held in Nairobi, in December 2005;
3. **CONVINCED** that African cultural values and heritages should provide the basis for education at all levels;
4. **RECOGNIZES** the importance of African languages as media of instruction and vehicles of culture for the achievement of African Renaissance;
5. **RECALLS** the previous commitments made to protect and promote African tangible and intangible cultural heritages as well as to develop appropriate policies for the development of culture and proportion of indigenous African knowledge;
6. **REAFFIRMS** the indisputable interface between culture and education and the role of both culture and education in sustainable socio-economic development;
7. **CONVINCED** of the need to promote cultural literacy among Africans of all walks of life;
8. **ALSO CONVINCED** that culture and education are important weapons for the fight against poverty, HIV/AIDS pandemic and promotion of peace, stability and governance;
9. **DETERMINE** to eliminate certain cultural practices that have negative impacts on health, development, human rights and education;
10. **RE-COMMITS** to strengthen the interface between education and culture and give our full support to the implementation of programmes and projects to this effect;
11. **URGES** our ministries of culture and education to create the fora for regular consultations and streamlining culture in education and education in culture, in particular through the rebuilding of African educational systems;

12. **CALLS UPON** the Commission, in collaboration with Member States and RECs, to follow up and facilitate the implementation of this decision and to provide leadership in the process of re-instating the linkage between culture and education in Africa, specifically through the African Academy of Languages as well as reporting periodically thereon;
13. **INVITES** UNESCO and other relevant partners to provide support to both ministries of culture and education in their efforts to strengthen the interface between culture and education.