

**DECISION ON THE AFRICAN COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS  
ON THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE OF THE CHILD - DOC. EX.CL/338 (XI)**

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**The Executive Council:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Sessions of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child;
2. **COMMENDS** the Committee for its achievement in setting up a strong basis for its effective operation by adopting the required procedural and framework documents and **REQUESTS** that the Committee start considering the reports already received from State Parties;
3. **EXPRESSES** concern on the deteriorating situation of children on the continent and **REITERATES** the need to make Africa a place fit for children to develop and prosper;
4. **URGES** Member States which have not yet ratified the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child to expedite the ratification process;
5. **ALSO URGES** Member States to keep children's issues high on the agenda of their national development policies and programmes, in conformity with the provisions of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child and the Plan of Action on Children and provide the necessary budget for their implementation;
6. **CALLS ON** the Committee to play an active role in the convening of the Second Pan-African Forum on Children which will be held in September 2007 to assess achievements made in the implementation of the 2001 Plan of Action on Children (Africa Fit for Children);
7. **ALSO URGES** Member States to fill in the questionnaire already forwarded to them on the implementation of the 2001 Plan of Action on Children and return it to the Commission before the set deadline;
8. **APPEALS** to Member States to provide moral, technical and financial support to Members of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child in carrying out their mandate;
9. **REQUESTS** the Commission to urgently operationalise the Secretariat of the Committee to enable it function more effectively.
10. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to submit the outcome of the Second Pan-African Forum on Children to the UN General Assembly Special Session on Children to be held in December 2007 as Africa's position, and report back to the Executive Council.