DECISION ON THE REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTIVITIES ON THE ROADMAP OF THE AU THEME OF THE YEAR FOR 2021 ‘ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE: LEVERS FOR BUILDING THE AFRICA WE WANT

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Annual Report on the Implementation of the Roadmap of the African Union Theme of the Year for 2021 titled: *Arts, Culture and Heritage: Levers for Building the Africa we Want* which highlights milestones and results achieved and provides the recommendations and follow up actions.

2. **FURTHER TAKES NOTE** of the activities yet to be implemented as part of the AU Theme of the Year for 2021 including the launching of the Temporary Site of the Great Museum of Africa (GMA), a Flagship Project of the AU Agenda 2063 in Algiers, Algeria and the start of its operations; the launching of the Temporary Secretariat of the African Audio-Visual Cinema Commission (AACC) in Nairobi, Kenya; The finalization of the Draft African Common Position on Restitution of Cultural Property and the Assessment on Decent Work in the Arts, Culture and Heritage and

3. **REQUESTS** Member States, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), PanAfrican Cultural Institutions and partners to participate and support the launch of the Great Museum of Africa Temporary Site and the African Audio-Visual and Cinema Commission Temporary Secretariat and the finalization of the Draft African Common Position on Restitution of Cultural Property and Heritage;

4. **CALLS FOR** the strengthening of the advocacy for the restitution of cultural property and historical heritage belonging to the continent that were illegally trafficked and looted during the colonial era and **RECOGNISES** the role to be played by the Great Museum of Africa (GMA) in this regard;

5. **ALSO CALLS** for stronger advocacy for the implementation of Assembly Decision 772(XXXIII) on Arts, Culture and Heritage which calls upon Member States to allocate at least 1% of their national budgets to the sector by 2030;

6. **INVITES** Member states and the AU commission to support and participate in the launch of the Grand Egyptian Museum in Egypt in 2022.

7. **FURTHER CALLS UPON** all AU Member States, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), Pan-African Cultural Institutions, UN Agencies and partners in the arts, culture and heritage sector to continue supporting the implementation of activities and programmes in line with the AU theme of the year for 2021, since the implementation of activities on the 2021 AU Theme of the Year has been extended to December 2022.