

DECISION ON THE REPORTS OF THE SPECIALISED TECHNICAL COMMITTEES (STCs)

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the reports of the Specialized Technical Committees (STCs);
2. **RECALLS** Decision EX.CL/Dec.1032(XXXIV) regarding the moratorium on the creation of new bodies and offices;
3. **STRESSES** that the present decision should not bear any financial, legal and structural implications to the Union and **FURTHER CALLS UPON** the STCs and all technical ministerial councils and meetings to refrain from adopting any structures or budgets that were not considered by the policy Organs through the due process;
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to ensure that all STCs adopt their reports at the end of their meeting.
 - I. **ON THE FOURTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AU-STC 8 ON PUBLIC SERVICE, LOCAL GOVERNANCE, URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND DECENTRALIZATION (AU-STC 8) – Doc. EX.CL/1438(XLIII)**

The Executive Council,

5. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the 4th Ordinary Session of the AU-STC8 held from 29 to 31 August 2022 in Cairo, Egypt.
6. **COMMENDS** the Arab Republic of Egypt for hosting the Fourth Ordinary Session of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Public Service, Local Government, Urban Development and Decentralization.
7. **ENDORSES:**
 - i) The recommendation on the appointment of an African Union Heads of States to Champion the course of Urbanization and Sustainable Human Settlement Development in Africa specifically, and the Work of the AU-STC8 in general.
8. **REQUESTS** the AUC to expedite the operationalization of the High Council of Local Authorities (HCLA) through the implementation of decision Ex.CL/AU/Dec.993(XXXII) of January 2018 and report to the next session of the Executive Council in June 2024. **ENTRUSTS** the AUC with the responsibility of initiating the process of signing the host agreement with the host country (Senegal) and to prepare the budget and structure of the HCLA Secretariat for consideration and adoption by the AU policy organs.

9. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to hold the African Union Urban Forum biannually prior to the World Urban Forum and **REQUESTS** the bureau of the AU-STC8 to work on the operational matters in preparation for the World Urban Forum and to allocate adequate resources for this purpose following the due process.

II. **ON THE REPORT OF THE 4TH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AFRICAN UNION SPECIALISED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON YOUTH, CULTURE AND SPORTS (STC-YCS4) Doc. EX.CL/1439(XLIII)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the 4th Ordinary Session of the African Union Specialised Technical Committee on Youth, Culture and Sports (STC-YCS4) held from 22 to 26 May 2023 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

2. **ENDORSES:**

- i) The recommendations of the STC-YCS Ministerial Meeting Report as follows:

YOUTH

ON PAN AFRICAN YOUTH UNION (PYU) / AUC RELATIONSHIPS

The meeting received a presentation of the Experts Report on the PYU/AUC Relationships.

After extensive deliberations, the Ministers adopted the following Decisions:

- i. **COMMENDS** the AUC Ad Hoc Committee for the work done in executing its **mandate**, and **WELCOMES** the Report titled "*Report of the African Union Commission Ad Hoc Committee on the Pan African Youth Union*" and accompanying recommendations;
- ii. **CONGRATULATES** the Kingdom of Morocco for hosting the Headquarters of the **Pan African Youth Union**;
- iii. **AFFIRMS** the critical role that PYU plays in organising young people in the continent;
- iv. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the challenges that PYU has had in the past and the need for its revitalization;

- v. **REQUESTS** the Commission to embark on an incremental approach to assist PYU to be properly constituted to address election flaws.
- vi. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to start a process of engaging PYU on an MOU to focus on the revitalization and a reform Agenda.

ON PRE-STC YOUTH EVENT

- vii. **REQUESTS** the Commission to work towards implementing the recommendations for the accelerated implementation of the African Youth Charter, 1 Million Next Level initiative, the Demographic Dividend Road Map, the Continental Dialogue on Youth, Peace and Security as adopted at the 36th AU Heads Summit and other Youth Priorities of the Continent.

ON AFRICAN PLAN OF ACTION ON YOUTH EMPOWERMENT 2024 - 2030: REACHING 300 MILLION AFRICAN YOUTH THROUGH THE 1 MILLION NEXT LEVEL INITIATIVE

- viii. **REQUESTS** the AU Commission to work with the Bureau of the STC-YCS4 to develop Country Acceleration Strategies for the accelerated implementation of the 1 Million Next Level at the national levels across Member States for scale and impact.
- ix. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to develop an annual report and Scorecard on the progress of the implementation of the 1 Million Next Level by Member States, partners, youth organizations and stakeholders.

ON PRESENTATION OF THE AFRICA YOUTH FUND

- x. **REQUESTS** the AU Commission and AUDA-NEPAD to define modalities of cooperation on the African Union Women and Youth Financial Mechanisms and to report on a regular basis on the implementation of the decision.

CULTURE

ON THE GREAT MUSEUM OF AFRICA (GMA): A FLAGSHIP PROJECT OF THE AU AGENDA 2063

- xi. **COMMENDS** the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria and the AU Commission for successfully launching the Temporary Site of the Great Museum of Africa (GMA) and for organizing the 1st Continental Exhibition of the GMA titled: 'Music: The Heartbeat of Africa'
- xii. **REQUESTS** Member States to support the AUC and Algeria in mobilizing resources and in advocacy/publicity for the full implementation of the Great Museum of Africa (GMA): A flagship Project of the AU Agenda 2063;

- xiii. **STRESSES** the need to strengthen the idea of establishing satellite museums linked to the Great Museum of Africa (GMA) in the different regions of the continent to complement the activities of the GMA and as part of the Second Ten-Year Implementation Plan of the AU Agenda 2063;

ON THE AFRICAN AUDIO-VISUAL AND CINEMA COMMISSION (AACC)

- xiv. **REQUESTS** the AU Commission and Kenya to fast track the launching of the African Audio-Visual and Cinema Commission (AACC) Temporary Secretariat, as well as the appointment of its staff as per the Host Agreement, so that the Temporary Secretariat can play its role in the development and promotion of the creative economy of audio-visual and cinema. on the continent;
- xv. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to continue to advocate for the ratification of the Statute of the African Audio-Visual and Cinema Commission (AACC).

ON THE REVISED AU PLAN OF ACTION ON CULTURAL AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

- xvi. **APPROVES** the Revised AU Plan of Action on Cultural and Creative Industries and **REQUESTS** the AUC to popularize the revised plan and advocate for its implementation by Member States.
- xvii. **REQUESTS** Member States to monitor the implementation of the Revised AU Plan of Action on Cultural and Creative Industries using its monitoring tool after the first ten (10) years of implementation.
- xviii. **ENCOURAGES** Member States to fast track the process of implementation of Assembly Decision AU/Dec.772 on the allocation of 1% of national budgets to the arts, culture, heritage and creative industries sectors by 2030.

ON THE DRAFT COMMON AFRICAN POSITION (CAP) ON RESTITUTION OF HERITAGE RESOURCES

- xix. **APPROVES** the Draft Common African Position (CAP) on Restitution of Heritage Resources and **REQUESTS** Member States to **USE** the CAP as a strong tool in the negotiations for the restitution of illicitly trafficked cultural property and heritage and in combatting illicit trafficking in cultural property on the continent;
- xx. **REQUESTS** the AUC with support from the Open Society Foundation (OSF) and other partners to draft an implementation/operationalization plan of the CAP which will enable monitoring and evaluation of the restitution of the heritage resources on the continent. The plan should also guide on the systems and structures to receive the repatriated/restituted heritage resources to the continent;

ON THE AFRICAN ACADEMY OF LANGUAGES (ACALAN)

- xxi. **APPROVES** the development of a Decade of African Languages alongside the UN International Decade of Indigenous Languages 2022 – 2032 which should be implemented within ACALAN's mandate and programmes;
- xxii. **ENDORSES** the change of dates for the commemoration of the African Languages Week (ALW) to be held from 21 - 28 February every year;
- xxiii. **REQUESTS** the Commission to implement Decision/Assembly/ AU/Dec.796 (XXXIV) adopted at the 34th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union held in February 2021 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on making Kiswahili a working language of the African Union and to promote Kiswahili as a language of wider communication in Africa; **REQUESTS** that ACALAN and other institutions concerned be supported financially in their endeavour to effectively implement Decision/Assembly/AU/Dec.796 (XXXIV) to effectively promote Kiswahili as a Working Language of the AU and Language of Wider Communication in Africa;
- xxiv. **REQUESTS** ACALAN to revise the Languages Plan of Action for Africa to incorporate Decision Assembly/ AU/Dec.796(XXXIV) on Kiswahili as a Working Language of the AU and Language of Wider Communication in Africa.

ON THE CENTRE FOR LINGUISTIC STUDIES AND HISTORY BY ORAL TRADITIONS (CELHTO)

- xxv. **RECALLS** Decision EX.CL/Dec1032 (XXXIV) on the adoption of the decisions of the STC-YCS3 held in Algiers, Algeria in 2018 and which included a decision for CELHTO to draft its Statute for consideration and approval by the AU policy organs; **REQUESTS** CELHTO to continue with consultations and work to refine the draft Statute and follow due process for its validation and endorsement. This should be done with no further financial implications for Member States;
- xxvi. **REQUESTS** Member States to promote Africa's oral traditions as they contribute towards the African identity and enable Africa to document its true history;

ON THE DRAFT STUDY ON THE PROMOTION OF DECENT WORK IN THE CREATIVE ECONOMY SECTOR

- xxvii. **ENDORSES** the Study on the Promotion of Decent Work in the Creative Economy Sector on the Continent;
- xxviii. **REQUESTS** more engagement between the Member States, ILO, UNESCO and AUC in the finalization, endorsement and implementation of the CREATE Programme in line with the study; **FURTHER REQUESTS** the involvement of ministries responsible for youth, culture, and labour with ILO, UNESCO and AUC

for the finalization, endorsement and subsequent implementation of the CREATE programme.

- xxix. **REQUESTS** the AUC in collaboration with ILO AND UNESCO to explore possibilities and ways of integrating decent work strategies in the Revised AU Plan of Action on Cultural and Creative Industries;

ON THE CREATIVE AFRICA NEXUS (CANEX) PROGRAMME

- xxx. **APPLAUDS** AFREXIM Bank for promoting and supporting the development of the creative economy on the continent through the Creative Africa Nexus (CANEX) programme;
- xxxi. **ENCOURAGES** Member States to adopt film-audio visual tax incentive policies to support the development of the sectors which also foster economic growth in tourism, infrastructure investment, as well as hospitality services;
- xxxii. **FURTHER ENCOURAGES** Member States to develop policies that foster the protection of African intellectual property, in order to catalyse a sustainable commercialisation of intellectual property on the continent;
- xxxiii. **ADVOCATES** for Member States to support the construction of industrial parks in special economic zones in order to develop the clothing and textile sector through increased production capacity.

ON THE AFRICAN WORLD HERITAGE FUND (AWHF)

- xxxiv. **RECALLS** the Declaration of the 33rd Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union on the African World Heritage Fund (Assembly/AU/Decl.4XXXII), which requested Member States to support the work of the AWHF to enable the Fund to fulfil its mandate on the continent; **FURTHER REQUESTS** the AWHF to support Member States with no inscribed sites on the UNESCO World Heritage List namely Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, Liberia, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Rwanda, Sao Tome & Principe, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan & Eswatini to nominate at least one (1) site on the World Heritage List by the year 2026.

ON THE OBSERVATORY OF CULTURAL POLICIES IN AFRICA (OCPA)

- xxxv. **ENCOURAGES** Member States to revise their national cultural policies in light with the Charter for Cultural renaissance which entered into force in October 2020.
- xxxvi. **TAKES NOTE** of the offer by the Kingdom of Morocco to host the head office of the Committee of African Capitals of Culture; **REQUESTS** the Committee on African Capitals for Culture to finalize the programme which should designate on

a three (3) years cycle an African city as an African Capital of Culture with defined criteria, and report on progress to the 5th Session of the Specialized Technical Committee on Youth, Culture and Sport (STC-YCS5).

ON THE SELAM PROJECT

- xxxvii. **REQUESTS** the AUC and Member States to support SELAM's Connect for Culture Africa (CfCA) 2023-2027, a Pan-African project on the promotion of the creative economy of the continent; **FURTHER REQUESTS** the e Connect for Culture Africa Project to work closely with the AUC in the advocacy for the implementation of the Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.772(XXXIII) on the allocation of 1% of national budgets to the arts, culture, heritage and creative industries sectors by 2030.

SPORTS

ON THE REVISED AFRICAN UNION POLICY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF SPORTS IN AFRICA 2023-2033

- i. **ENDORSES** the African Union Policy for Sustainable Development of Sports in Africa 2023-2033.
- ii. **REQUESTS** Member States and the entire African Sports movement to embrace and align their policies with the AU Policy for Sustainable Development of Sports in Africa.

ON AU SPORTS COUNCIL ADVISORY BOARD

- iii. **ENDORSES** the establishment of the AU Sports Council Advisory Board and Technical Committee on Sports for Development.
- iv. **REQUESTS** AU Sports Council Regions to align their Constitutions to the Statute of the AU Sports Council, which is the mother Statute.
- v. **REQUESTS** Member States to participate in AU Sports Council Regions' meetings and play active roles in the activities of the Regions.
- vi. **URGES** Member States that are owing arrears in form of contributions to the dissolved Supreme Council for Sports in Africa (SCSA) to pay their arrears.
- vii. **REQUESTS** Member States and sports stakeholders to develop legislation that safeguards athletes, administrators, spectators and members of the public involved in the sporting environments.

ON AFRICA WORLD ANTI-DOPING REPORT

- viii. **ENDORSES** Member States' contribution to WADA using the formula of the current AU Scale of Assessment.
- ix. **ENDORSES** Egypt as the 3rd Member of the WADA Africa Foundation Board for the term 2023-2025 along with Madagascar and Ghana.
- x. **URGES** Member States to honour their obligations of paying contributions to WADA in a timely manner.
- xi. **ENCOURAGES** Member States to develop Anti-Doping laws, and to ensure that they consult with WADA prior to any official adoption to ensure compliance with the World Anti-Doping Code.
- xii. **ENDORSES** Member States representation on WADA Foundation Board as follows: Botswana to replace Ghana for the period 2024-2026, Democratic Republic of Congo to replace Madagascar in 2025, Tanzania to replace Egypt in 2026 and Zambia to replace Botswana in 2027.

ON ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT OF AFRICAN GAMES

- xiii. **REQUESTS** all parties involved in the African Games: host countries, participating countries and partners to respect and comply with the Statutes of the AU Sport Council that was approved by the AU Assembly of the African Union in January 2016.
- xiv. **ALSO REQUESTS** Member States to express interest to host the 14th Edition of the African Games in 2027 and 15th Edition of the African Games in 2031.
- xv. **CALLS FOR** the signing of the African Games Protocol Agreement between AUC and host countries at least eight (8) years before the Games, to provide enough time for Member States to prepare for the Games.
- xvi. **REQUESTS** Member States to honour their commitments and pay their financial obligations as required by the regulations for participation in the African Games.
- xvii. **URGES** AU Sport Council Development Regions to continue organizing Regional Youth and Senior Games that will promote coaches and athletes' development pathways, to become qualifiers for the African Games and other international competitions.

ON 13th EDITION OF AFRICAN GAMES ACCRA 2023 (TO BE PLAYED IN 2024).

- xviii. **REQUESTS** Member States as a matter of urgency to confirm their participation, selection of sports codes and appointment of the Chief of Mission (Chef de mission) for the 13th Edition of the African Games 2023.

- xix. **CALLS ON** Member States to support the Republic of Ghana in the preparations and hosting of the Games.
- xx. **URGES** the Host Country and other Games organizing stakeholders to comply with the Protocol Agreement for hosting the African Games, governing instruments, agreed timelines and roadmap.
- xxi. **CALLS UPON** the Bureau of the STC-YCS to pay visits to the African Games host countries to assess the status on the preparations of the African Games. Bureau Members to meet their own costs for undertaking the mission.

ON THE FEDERATION OF INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION (FIFA) FOOTBALL FOR SCHOOLS PROGRAMME AND THE CONFEDERATION OF AFRICAN FOOTBALL (CAF) AFRICAN SCHOOLS FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

- xxii. **CALLS FOR** the Strengthening of the collaboration between AU, FIFA and CAF
- xxiii. **CALLS UPON** Member States to support the implementation of the FIFA Football for Schools Programme and CAF African Schools Football Championship to promote mass participation, quality football development, life skills, and social values education in line with the AU Agenda 2063 aspirations of the Africa We Want.