



ORGANIZATION OF
AFRICAN UNITY
Secretariat
P. O. Box 3243

منظمة الوحدة الأفريقية
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ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE
AFRICAINNE
Secretariat
B. P. 3243

اديس ابابا ٣٢٤٣ Addis Ababa

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

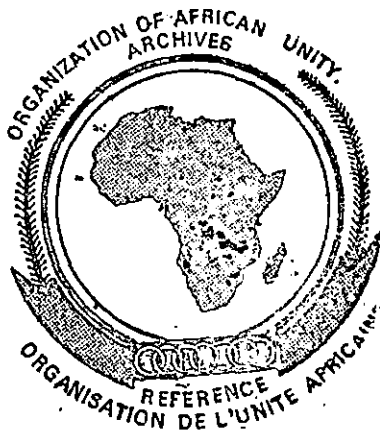
Thirty-Seventh Ordinary Session

CM/1148 (XXXVII)

Nairobi, Kenya

15 - 21 June, 1981

Progress Report of the Secretary-General on the Review of
the Charter of the Organization of African Unity.



SECRETARY-GENERAL'S PROGRESS REPORT ON THE
REVIEW OF THE OAU CHARTER

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government at its sixteenth Ordinary Session :-

"Conscious of the fact that the Charter of the OAU adopted by the Founding Fathers of the Organization in May 1963 remains the basic instrument of the Organization,

Conscious of the need to re-examine the provisions of the Charter in the light of the changes and new realities in Africa :-

1. DECIDES to establish a Charter Review Committee comprising the following member States : Benin, Burundi, Cameroon, Congo, Ghana, Kenya, Libya, Mali, Malawi, Morocco, Swaziland, Sierra-Leone, Somalia, Uganda, for the purpose of making proposals for the Charter in the light of experience gained in order to make its institutions and mechanisms more effective and generally to strengthen the Organization in all respects.
2. REQUESTS all member States to communicate their observations to the Secretariat to assist the Committee in its work."

At the invitation of Somalia, the Charter Review Committee held its first session in Mogadiscio from 7 - 12 April 1980. It had before its proposals submitted by a panel of Legal Experts convened by the Secretariat and recommendations submitted by member States. At its first session, the Committee dealt with the first six Articles of the Charter, which include the Principles, aims and objectives of the Organization.

The Committee held its second session in Addis Ababa from 13 - 22 April 1981 and considered from Articles VII to XII. It hoped to continue with its work not later than September 1981. At the second session the Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco announced its Government's invitation to the Committee to hold its next session in Rabat. This session would last for three weeks during which the Committee might conclude its work.

On the completion of the Committee's work, the Secretariat proposes to convene an OAU Ministerial Conference consisting of Law Ministers of Member States to consider the recommendations of Committee, and hereby seeks approval for this. Pertinent Resolution is annexed to this paper for consideration.

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Annex

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DRAFT RESOLUTION

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU meeting in its 18th Ordinary Session in Nairobi, Kenya from 23 -26th June 1981

Recalling its Decision AHG/Dec.III(XVI) on the review of OAU Charter,

Having considered the Secretary-General's Progress Report on the Review of the OAU Charter,

1. EXPRESSES appreciation for the progress made by the Charter Review Committee;
2. NOTES with satisfaction that the Committee would continue its work not later than September 1981 in Rabat (Morocco);
3. REQUESTS the Secretary-General on the completion of the work of the Charter Review Committee, to convene an OAU Ministerial Conference, consisting of Ministers responsible for Legal matters of member States to consider the recommendations of the Committee.



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