



منظمة الوحدة الافريقية
السكرتارية
ص. ب. ٣٢٤٣

ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE
AFRICAINNE

Secretariat
B. P. 3243

Addis Ababa اديس ابابا

ORGANIZATION OF
AFRICAN UNITY

Secretariat
P. O. Box 3243

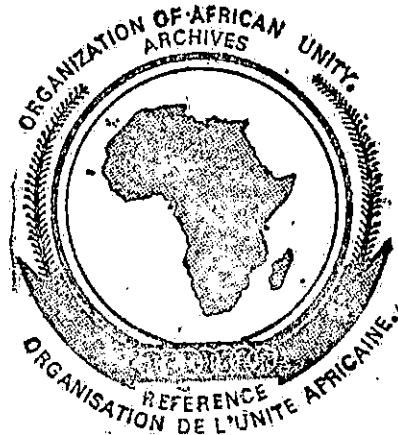
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Nineteenth Ordinary Session

Rabat, June 1972

CM/449/Rev. 2

CELEBRATION OF THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY



CM0449

MICROFICHE

CELEBRATION OF THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

REPORT OF THE PROGRAMME COMMITTEE FOR THE
CELEBRATION OF THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY

MEMBER: - CAMEROON - H.E. EL HADJI M.H. DICKO
AMBASSADOR TO ETHIOPIA

EGYPT - H.E. MR. HASSAN SIRRY ESMAT - CHAIRMAN
AMBASSADOR TO ETHIOPIA

ETHIOPIA - H.E. ATO MENGISTE DESTA

GHANA - H.E. MR. Y.B. TURKSON
AMBASSADOR TO ETHIOPIA

SENEGAL - H.E. MR. LATIR CAMARA
AMBASSADOR TO ETHIOPIA

REPORT OF THE PROGRAMME COMMITTEE FOR THE CELEBRATION
OF THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY

- I. INTRODUCTION
 - II. THE ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK OF THE PROGRAMME COMMITTEE
 - III. THE STUDY OF THE DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF THE PROGRAMMES
 - IV. SUGGESTIONS
 - V. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS
-

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Council of Ministers of the OAU meeting at its Seventeenth Ordinary Session, held in Addis Ababa in June 1971, in its resolution CM/Res.258(XVII), recommended to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, that the Assembly should establish a Programme Committee to plan and organize activities for the celebration of the Tenth Anniversary of the signing of the Charter establishing the Organization of African Unity.

2. The Assembly of Heads of State and Government, in a decision AHG/Dec.61(VIII), taken at its Eighth Ordinary Session, held in Addis Ababa in June 1971, endorsed the recommendation of the Council of Ministers, and appointed the following member States to constitute the membership of the Programme Committee:

Cameroon

Egypt

Ethiopia

Ghana

Senegal

3. The Committee was given the task of drawing up a programme of activities for the celebration of the Tenth Anniversary and submitting its report for the approval of the Nineteenth Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers which will make its recommendations to the Ninth Assembly of Heads of State and Government.

II. THE ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK OF THE PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

4. The first meeting of the Committee took place on 19th April at the Headquarters of the OAU, in Addis Ababa. The following members attended the meeting which was devoted to the organization of the work of the Committee:-

Cameroon	- H.E. El Hadji M.H. Dicko
Egypt	- H.E. Mr. Hassan Sirry Esmet
Ethiopia	- Ato Mengiste Desta, Ato Kifle Belay and Ato Hailou
Ghana	- H.E. Mr. H.R. Amonoo, and Mr. Yaw Aidoo
Senegal	- H.E. Mr. Latir Camara and Mr. M. Seek

His Excellency Mr. H.R. Amonoo was unanimously elected Chairman of the Committee.

5. At the meeting, views were expressed with respect to the objectives and themes which should be set for the celebration of the anniversary. In addition to a number of suggestions made by the General Secretariat, the Committee agreed to suggest to the Council of Ministers that the objectives of the celebration should, inter alia, stress the following:

- (i) The history and achievements of the organization as well as the present and future tasks which confront it.
- (ii) the reaffirmation by Member States of their faith in the Charter of the Organization.
- (iii) the determination of the organization to rid the African Continent of Colonialism and Imperialism and free Angola, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Guinea Bissau from foreign domination.

6. The Committee also decided to suggest to the Council of Ministers the following theme for the celebrations:

"Freedom in Unity"

7. At its second meeting, on 1 May 1972, the Committee unanimously elected His Excellency Mr. Hassan Sirry Esmet, to succeed His Excellency Mr. Amonoo who informed the Committee of his recall upon the conclusion of his Mission to Ethiopia. Ghana was subsequently represented by His Excellency Mr. Yaw Bamful Turkson, the new Ambassador of Ghana to Ethiopia.

III. THE STUDY OF THE DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF THE PROGRAMME FOR THE CELEBRATION

8. At its subsequent meetings, the Committee considered suggestions relating to categories of programmes and activities envisaged both at the international and national levels. The Committee agreed to discuss the celebration under the following headings:-

(i) Dates and Venue

- (a) Dates of the Anniversary
- (b) Whether or not to hold a special anniversary session and the venue of the proposed special anniversary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government.

(ii) Levels of Celebration

Events which will be organized at

- (a) the venue of the Special Session
- (b) at the national level.

(iii) Special activities of the Secretariat

(iv) Invitations to Non-African Heads of State

(v) Publicity for the Celebration

(vi) Financial Implications

9. The Committee devoted four meetings to the exchange of views on the above and agreed to submit the suggestions contained in Paragraph IV for the consideration of the 19th Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers.

IV. SUGGESTIONS

10. At its last session held on 18th May 1972, the Committee agreed to make the following suggestions:-

(a) Dates and Venue

With regard to the venue and dates for the celebration, the Committee, for obvious historical reasons, agreed to suggest Addis Ababa as the venue for the celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the Organization of African Unity.



11. In this regard, the Ethiopian Government agreed, through its representative, to provide, free of charge, in addition to the usual hospitality and the suitable adornment of the thorough-fares of the city with buntings, posters, portraits of the Heads of State and Government etc., the following:-

- (a) Two cars for each delegation
- (b) Hotel accommodation for Heads of State and Government and two members of their entourage.

12. The Committee unanimously agreed to suggest that there should be a special session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government to celebrate the Tenth Anniversary of the Organization, and that the session should commence its work on the 25th May, the date on which the Charter of the Organization was signed. Consequently, it was further agreed that the Session of the Council of Ministers which will prepare for the Special assembly of the Heads of State and Government should meet from 18 to 22 May, 1973. The Special Session of the Assembly should take place from 25 to 28 May, 1973.

(b) Levels of the Celebration

13. The Committee suggests that the Celebration of the Tenth anniversary should take place at the international (Headquarters) and national levels.

Celebration at Headquarters Level

14. The Committee suggests that the Assembly should adopt a declaration to be known as "The Addis Ababa Declaration". This declaration should review the past activities, restate the immediate and long range goals of the Organization in the political, economic and social fields as well as set a broad time-table for the liberation of the territories still under colonial rule including South Africa, Namibia and Rhodesia. During the Special Session, a period should be allowed for a "general debate" in which the Heads of State and Government could, if it is their wish, deliver a short address to the Assembly.

15. The 21st Session of the Council of Ministers may wish to appoint an Ad Hoc Committee to prepare the "Addis Ababa Declaration".

16. It is also suggested that Member States who wish to send cultural groups to Addis Ababa may do so. This will enhance the celebrations of the anniversary. The Committee is of the view that Member States should bear the cost for the performances of such cultural groups. It is the hope of the Committee that some of the proceeds from the Cultural performances could be given to the Liberation Committee for use in the African Liberation struggle.

17. The Liberation movements under the sponsorship and guidance of the Liberation Committee, should consider the advisability of mounting an "African Liberation Exhibition" during the celebration in Addis Ababa.

National Celebrations

18. The Committee is of the view that every effort should be made to celebrate the occasion in a fitting manner in the national centre of Member States.

19. Member States may wish to consider the establishment of national Committee or designate personalities responsible for the co-ordination of the activities in relation with the Celebration.

(c) Measures Relating to Commemorative Publicity

20. The disseminating of information relating to the activities of the OAU for the past 10 years, should be an important objective for the celebration.

Brochures and posters

21. In this regard, the Committee suggests that two brochures and posters should be issued to mark the occasion.

22. The first brochure which will be issued first before the tenth anniversary, will reflect the historical aspects and the evolution of the organization. This brochure should include extracts of statements made by the founding fathers of the OAU on the occasion of the signing of the Charter.

23. The second brochure will be issued immediately after the celebrations of the 10th Anniversary and will include among other things, statements made by the Heads of State and Government of the Organization to mark the celebration of the 10th anniversary. This brochure will complement the first one.

24. The two brochures and the posters will be in the three working languages of the OAU.

25. The Secretariat would prepare special 10th anniversary posters for distribution through Africa.

Commemorative Stamps:

26. The Committee agreed to suggest that Special Stamps commemorating the occasion should be issued to mark the occasion and for sale. The Committee will decide on the theme, the size and the design of the stamps.

Commemorative Medallions:

27. The Committee suggests that commemorative insignias, coins in gold and silver to mark the occasion should be struck.

28. The following are the categories of the badges proposed for issuance:-

- (i) 50 Gold badges for presentation to Heads of State and Government,
- (ii) 4,000 Silver Badges. 41 will be presented to the Heads of Delegation. 80 each to be sent to the capitals of Member States for sale, making a total of 3,321 for the purpose.
The balance i.e. (679) to be kept at the OAU Headquarters to meet later demands.
- (iii) 25,000 bronze badges, 500 will be sent to the capitals of each Member State for sale. The balance of 4,500 to be kept at the OAU Headquarters for sale.

Films

29. The Committee suggests that special film in the three OAU working languages should be produced in the course of this year for showing on the 10th anniversary and thereafter, depicting the life of the organization since its inception.
30. The bids for the production of this film should be invited from African producers. The Programme Committee would approve the script for the films.
31. It is the view of the Programme Committee that the Commemorative Stamps and the medallions, insignias, badges should be self-financing. The profit accruing from the sale of the stamps and the medallions should be given to the Liberation Movements to assist them in their struggle.

(d) Invitations

32. With regard to invitations, the Committee suggests that some non-African Heads of State and International Organizations be invited to attend the special session. A list of the International Organizations which have been sympathetic to the Organization and have assisted the liberation struggle, is attached. The Committee is of the view that the decision as to which non-African Heads of State are to be invited, should be left to the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government.

V. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

33. The Committee agreed that it would be advisable to obtain the approval of the Council on the above suggestions before submitting the detailed financial implications. The Committee was of the view that since the overall detailed financial implications could only be computed on the basis of studies to be made later, it suggests that a detailed report of the financial implications should be submitted to the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters, and then to the 20th Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers in February 1973.

AFRICAN UNION UNION AFRICAINE

African Union Common Repository

<http://archives.au.int>

Organs

Council of Ministers & Executive Council Collection

1972-06

Celebration of the Tenth Anniversary of the Organization of African Unity

Organization of African Unity

<https://archives.au.int/handle/123456789/7707>

Downloaded from African Union Common Repository