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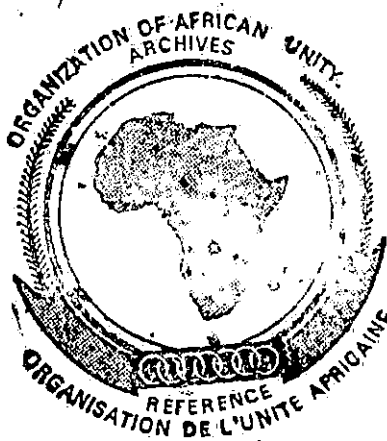
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Addis Ababa * ادیس ابابا

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COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
Twenty-Third Ordinary Session
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June 1974

REPORT OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE INTERIM COMMITTEE
ON THE CREATION OF AN "AFRICAN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION"



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REPORT OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON THE
CREATION OF AN "AFRICAN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION"

I. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

1. The first Pan African Highway Conference, held in Addis Ababa from 20 to 25 October 1969, adopted a resolution calling for the creation of an "African Highway Association".
2. An Ad Hoc committee to study the creation of the said Association, composed of eight countries, was appointed for this purpose. The committee consisted of Morocco, the Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, the Sudan and Zaire. The Conference requested the OAU Administrative Secretary-General and the Executive Secretary of ECA to jointly convene the Ad Hoc Committee. This decision was subsequently ratified by the fourteenth session of the OAU Council of Ministers.
3. A draft constitution was subsequently prepared and circulated to members of the Committee. However, two successive meetings convened by the two Secretariats could not be held for lack of a quorum.
4. Meanwhile, the second Pan-African highway Conference took place in Rabat (Morocco) from 17 to 21 April 1972. This Conference adopted a new resolution, (which is attached to this report as Annex I) concerning the African Highway Association, and requested OAU and ECA to continue to exert the necessary efforts to convene a meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee as soon as possible. As before, a further meeting convened for this purpose was cancelled for lack of a quorum.
5. Finally, the African Ministerial Conference on Trade, Development, and Monetary Problems held in Abidjan (Ivory Coast) from 9 to 13 May 1973

earnestly recommended that OAU and ECA take all necessary measures with a view to the establishment of the projected African Highway Association. This recommendation was later endorsed by the Summit Conference of the OAU Heads of State and Government, which met in Addis Ababa from 26 to 28 May 1973 and is embodied in the African Economic Charter: the Declaration on Economic Cooperation, Development and Independence.

6. Confident in these recommendations and resolutions, the OAU and ECA Secretariats once again issued an invitation to the Ad Hoc Committee from 19 to 20 November 1973 in Addis Ababa.

II. FIRST MEETING OF THE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AFRICAN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION AND ITS CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

7. As can be seen from the report of the said meeting attached to this document (Annex II), this last invitation met with a satisfactory response, and the meeting was held in Addis Ababa from 19 to 20 November 1973 under the auspices of OAU and ECA. The Constitution of the African Highway Association was discussed, drafted and clarified by the Interim Committee.

8. The OAU General Secretariat wishes to draw the attention of Member States to the conclusions and recommendations of this meeting.

- (a) The inaugural meeting of the African Highway Association is scheduled to take place during the Third African Highway Conference to be held in Bangui (C.A.R.) in April 1975. All OAU Member States are invited to participate fully in the said meeting, with a view to setting up this important INSTITUTION for Inter-African Cooperation.

- (b) Member States are invited to study and analyse this Constitution in detail, and the OAU General Secretariat looks forward to receiving any remarks, comments and amendments to this Constitution up to December 1974. These remarks, comments and amendments, when incorporated into a document by the Secretariat, will facilitate discussion and adoption of the said constitution during the inaugural meeting in Bangui.
- (c) Meanwhile, it has been suggested by the Ad Hoc Committee that OAU and ECA should finance the preliminary expenses connected with the setting up of a permanent Secretariat for the Association. The OAU General Secretariat expects to receive detailed instructions from Member States to this end.
- (d) In this same connection, the Ad Hoc Committee expressed the hope that Member States would make voluntary contributions to the Association's initial budget. The OAU General Secretariat wishes to draw the attention of Member States to the importance of this suggestion, especially since these voluntary contributions will enable the Association and its Permanent Secretariat to begin functioning.
- (e) Finally, no decision has yet been taken on the assessment of each Member State's contribution to the Association's budget. Here again the General Secretariat would like to receive any suggestions regarding the assessment of Member States' contributions to the institution's budget. These proposals might then be submitted during the inaugural meeting of the African Highway Association scheduled to be held in Bangui in April 1975.

I Resolution on the African Highway Association

The Second African Highway Conference meeting in Rabat, Morocco, from 17 to 21 April 1971,

Recalling the resolution adopted by the First African Highway Conference in Addis Ababa on the establishment of an African Highway Association,

Noting that the efforts of the OAU and the ECA to convene a meeting of the Interim Committee set up by the Conference were not met with success

Convinced that the establishment of an African Highway Association would greatly enhance intra-African cooperation in road transport and a rational development of highways in the continent:

1. Calls on the OAU and the ECA to continue their efforts for the establishment of the African Highway Association

2. Requests the OAU and the ECA in accordance with the Addis Ababa resolution to convene a meeting of the Interim Committee as soon as possible and in any case not later than the end of 1972.

3. Urges all the countries of the Interim Committee (Morocco, Sudan, Niger, Nigeria, Central African Republic, Zaire, Ethiopia, Kenya) to co-operate with the OAU and the ECA and to ensure full participation in the said meeting which is necessary for the establishment of the African Highway Association.

ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

REPORT OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE INTERIM COMMITTEE SETUP
TO STUDY THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AFRICAN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION
(Addis Ababa, 19 - 20 November 1973)

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Annex

AFRICAN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

Introduction

1. The first meeting of the Interim Committee to study the establishment of an African Highway Association was held at Addis Ababa from 19 to 20 November 1973 under the auspices of OAU and ECA.

Attendance

2. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Kenya, Niger, Nigeria and Sudan. Morocco and Zaire were also invited but did not attend although a representative from the Embassy of Zaire at Addis Ababa attended the opening of the meeting.

Opening of the meeting

3. A representative of OAU and a representative of ECA welcomed participants on behalf of their respective organizations. In their opening statements, both representatives stressed the importance of an African Highway Association.

Election of Officers

4. The following representatives were elected as officers of the Committee:

Mr. Ahmed Omer Khalafalla (Sudan), Chairman

Mr. Kithé Jacques (Central African Republic), Vice-Chairman

The Committee agreed that OAU and ECA should provide the services of Rapporteur.

Adoption of the agenda

5. The following agenda was adopted:

- (1) Opening of the meeting
- (2) Election of officers
- (3) Adoption of the agenda
- (4) Organization of work
- (5) Consideration and adoption of the provisional draft constitution and rules and regulations of the proposed organization
- (6) Consideration of the establishment and financing of a permanent Secretariat for the proposed organization
- (7) Consideration of the arrangements for calling an inaugural meeting of the proposed organization, including date and place thereof
- (8) Any other business

Organization of the meeting

6. The following working hours were adopted:

10.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.

3.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m.

Constitution

7. The Interim Committee examined the draft constitution prepared by OAU and ECA and, after detailed discussions, adopted the draft Constitution, as amended (see annex to this report).

Permanent secretariat

8. The Interim Committee felt that it would be more appropriate to defer the discussion on the establishment and financing of the permanent secretariat of the African Highway Association until the inaugural meeting for the following reasons:

- (a) The Constitution is yet to be approved;
- (b) The officers of the Association still have to be elected and appointed.

9. In view of the above, the Interim Committee suggested that OAU and ECA be requested to assist in financing initial expenditure relating to the establishment of the Association's permanent secretariat. Voluntary contributions from member States for this purpose would also be welcome.

Inaugural meeting

10. The Interim Committee agreed that the inaugural meeting of the African Highway Association should be convened during the Third African Highway Conference, scheduled to be held in April 1975 at Bangui, Central African Republic.

ANNEX

AFRICAN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION
CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

NAME

The Association shall be known as the "African Highway Association". The approved abbreviation of the name of the Association shall be "AHA".

ARTICLE II

Objectives

The objectives of the African Highway Association are:

1. To provide governmental highway authorities and agencies in member States with a framework within which to discuss and plan all the required measures of co-ordination and co-operation for all their activities concerning highways.
2. To provide a forum for the exchange of experience and ideas on all matters affecting the planning, design, construction and maintenance of highways in Africa by means of periodic conferences and meetings and through the exchange of publications.
3. To promote the development and effective application of road research.
4. To encourage and support manpower training in all aspects of road research, planning, design, construction and maintenance.
5. To promote better utilization, co-ordination, planning and orderly development of African highway network.

ARTICLE III

Functions

1. The functions of the African Highway Association shall include:
 - (a) Implementing the objectives set out in article II.
 - (b) Fostering the development of the science and practice of road-building as they relate to the planning, design, construction, maintenance, organization, administration, economics, research and safety of roads throughout Africa.
 - (c) Promoting the harmonization of traffic regulations, road signs and signals, driving licenses and motor registrations.

(d) Assisting in carrying out studies of subregional and regional road and road transport questions.

(e) Fostering and co-ordinating programmes for the development of existing and future facilities for manpower training in all aspects of road planning, design, construction and maintenance.

(f) Studying the need for collective arrangements for technical assistance in Africa with a view to obtaining the best possible use of all available resources, particularly for international road links.

2. The African Highway Association shall, in the exercise of its functions, work in close co-operation and consultation with OAU and ECA and may consult with any other governmental or non-governmental organizations concerned with roads and road transport.

ARTICLE IV

Membership

1. The African Highway Association shall be an autonomous body and membership shall be open to governmental authorities and agencies responsible for highways in African States members of OAU and ECA.

2. The African Highway Association is a consultative body and its conclusions and recommendations shall be subject to acceptance by member Governments.

ARTICLE V

Officers

1. Four officers, one from each subregion, shall be elected by popular vote to constitute the Board of Directors and the four will elect their Chairman. The office of the Chairman, which shall be for two years only, shall be held by rotation.

2. The Board of Directors shall appoint the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, the Treasurer and the Assistant Treasurer and terminate their services.

3. The terms of office of all elected officers shall be two years.

4. No elected officer shall be eligible for the same office for more than two consecutive terms.

ARTICLE VI

Management

1. The Board of Directors shall manage the affairs of the Association in accordance with the laws under which the Association is organized and the provisions of this Constitution. It shall:

- (a) Take measures to advance the development of the science and practice of road engineering and the interests of the Association;
- (b) Disseminate technical knowledge through publications and meetings and by other means;
- (c) Encourage the contribution of papers and dissertations by awarding prizes;
- (d) Direct the investment and custody of the funds of the Association;
- (e) Make appropriations for specific purposes;
- (f) Act upon applications for membership;
- (g) Designate the appointive officers of the Association;
- (h) Prepare a two-year budget and submit it for approval to the plenary session of the African Highway Association;
- (i) Prepare an annual report for the preceding fiscal year, which shall be from 1 July to 30 June;
- (j) Appoint committees, consultants, advisers, etc., whenever necessary.

2. The Chairman shall have general supervision over the affairs of the Association. He shall preside at meetings of the Association and of the Board of Directors. He shall deliver an address at the plenary meetings.

3. In the event that the Chairman is absent or indisposed, one of the three Vice-Chairman shall discharge the duties of the Chairman.

4. Under the direction of the Chairman of the Board of Directors, the Secretary shall:

- (a) Serve as Secretary of the Board of Directors;
- (b) Attend all meetings of the Association, prepare the agenda, and record the minutes of the meetings;
- (c) Make an annual report or other reports as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors;
- (d) Maintain full records of the correspondence of the Association;

- (e) Co-sign all cheques;
 - (f) Prepare the budget of the African Highway Association.
5. The Assistant Secretary shall aid the Secretary and, if the Secretary is absent or indisposed, he shall assume the duties of the Secretary.
6. The Treasurer, as the financial officer of the Association, shall:
- (a) Be responsible for the collection of all moneys due to the Association and for the deposit of such moneys to the bank account of the Association;
 - (b) Have charge of the books of account of the Association;
 - (c) Present annually to the Board of Directors a balance sheet, as of 30 June, of the books of the Association;
 - (d) Furnish at any time other financial statements as may be required of him;
 - (e) Co-sign, with the Secretary, all cheques in accordance with the guidelines set out by the Board of Directors.
7. The Assistant Treasurer shall aid the Treasurer and, in the event that the latter is absent or indisposed, he shall assume his duties.

ARTICLE VII

Meetings

1. The African Highway Association shall meet in ordinary plenary session once every two years. Other meetings shall also be held at such times and places as may be determined by the Board of Directors. Reasonable notice of all meetings shall be given to members of the Association.
2. Extraordinary plenary meetings may be convened by the Board of Directors and must be convened if the Board of Directors receives a request from two-thirds of the members of the Association.
3. At each ordinary plenary session the African Highway Association shall establish a work programme for the period until the following ordinary plenary session.
4. The venue of the plenary meetings shall be rotated among the subregion of the continent so as to afford as many different members of the Association as possible an opportunity of attending these meetings.
5. Representation at the meetings of the Association shall be by delegates of senior rank and competent in the subject to be discussed.

6. At the meetings of the Board of Directors at least three members shall constitute a quorum.
7. In case of a divided vote in any meeting, the Chairman shall have the casting vote in addition to his deliberative vote.

ARTICLE VIII

Resources

1. The annual dues shall be fixed by the African Highway Association in response to the apparent wishes of the membership and in accordance with the needs of the Association.
2. Not later than 1 March each year, the Secretary shall mail to each member a statement of the current indebtedness of the member and the amount of his dues for the ensuing fiscal year.
3. Grants, gifts, legacies, etc., shall constitute part of the resources if they are acceptable to the African Highway Association.

ARTICLE IX

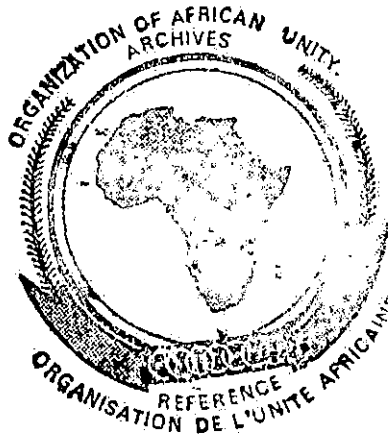
Signature, ratification and withdrawal

1. The present Constitution shall be open to signature by all African States members of OAU and ECA.
2. The instrument of ratification shall be deposited with the Secretariat of OAU which shall give notice of the date of deposit to the Board of Directors.
3. The present Constitution shall be open for signature of _____ at the headquarters of OAU at Addis Ababa.
4. This Constitution shall come into force provisionally as of _____ and shall come into force definitely after ratification by fifty per cent of the States members of OAU and ECA.
5. To withdraw from the African Highway Association, a member shall give one year's notification to that effect to the Board of Directors which shall immediately inform members of the Association and OAU thereof. However, any member withdrawing from the Association shall be held and remain liable for all its financial obligations to the Association including those arising during the period of notice.

ARTICLE X

Amendements

1. Members may propose amendments to this Constitution and submit them to the Secretary in writing.
2. The Board of Directors shall study proposed amendments and submit them to a plenary meeting.
3. Proposed amendments, which shall be mailed to all members at least 60 days prior to the plenary meeting, may be sub amended, accepted or rejected by a two-thirds majority of the members.
4. In the event of any dispute arising as to the interpretation of the Constitution, the decision of the plenary meeting shall be final and binding.
5. No voting by proxy shall be accepted for amendments to the Constitution.



INTERIM COMMITTEE MEETING
AFRICAN HIGHWAY ASSOCIATION
ADDIS ABABA, 19-20 NOVEMBER 1973

1. C.A.R.: Mr. Jacques Kithe
General Director of Public Works
P.O. Box 987
Bangui
2. Ethiopia: Mr. Yemane Guebrehiwot
Planning & Programming Engineer
Imperial Highway Authority
P.O. Box 1770
Addis Ababa
3. Kenya: Mr. F.E.A. Mderitu
Chief Executive Engineer
Ministry of Works
P.O. Box 30260
Nairobi

Mr. James H. Omolo
Chief Maintenance Engineer
Ministry of Works
P.O. Box 30260
Nairobi
4. Nigeria: Mr. Stephen O. Okin
Principal Executive Engineer
Federal Ministry of Works & Housing
Head quarters Office
Lagos
5. Sudan: Mr. Ahmed O.Khalafalla
Chairman
Roads & Bridges Public Corporation
Khartoum
6. O.A.U.: Mr. Buzingo Libère
Economiste chargé des Transports
OAU
Addis Ababa
7. E.C.A.: Mr. Tilahun Wubneh
Officer-in-Charge
Transafrican Highway Bureau
E.C.A.
Addis Ababa
8. Niger: Mr. Berthe Yehia
Ingenieur des T.P.
Niamey

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