

**DECISION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
AFRICAN UNION BORDER PROGRAMME
(DOC. EX. CL/459 (XIV))**

The Executive Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the Implementation of the African Union Border Programme (AUBP);
2. **RECALLS** Decision EX.CL/Dec.370 (XI) adopted at its Eleventh Ordinary Session held in Accra, Ghana, from 28 to 29 June 2007, through which Council endorsed the AUBP;
3. **WELCOMES** the progress made in the implementation of the AUBP;
4. **ENCOURAGES** the Commission to persevere in its efforts, in particular through the pursuit of the enhancement of its capacities, notably in terms of human resources, the sensitization campaign on the AUBP, the launching of consultancies on the key components of the AUBP, the elaboration of a legal instrument on cross-border cooperation, the initiation of a programme of exchange of experiences and best practices and the convening of the Second Conference of African Ministers in charge of Border Issues;
5. **INVITES** Member States to take all the necessary measures to fully play their role in the implementation of the AUBP, and **FURTHER INVITES** those countries that have not yet done so to respond as soon as possible to the questionnaire on the state of African borders, to accelerate the delimitation and demarcation process of African borders where such an exercise has not yet taken place, through dialogue, and to take all the necessary steps to strengthen local initiative on cross-border cooperation;
6. **EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE** to the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany for its assistance to the implementation of the AUBP, and **URGES** the other African Union (AU) partners to support the implementation of the AUBP and, where relevant, honour the commitments made;
7. **ENCOURAGES** the Commission to take initiatives to develop cross-border cooperation, both as an indispensable complement of delimitation and demarcation of African borders, where this has not yet been done;
8. **FURTHER ENCOURAGES** the Commission to take all the necessary steps to ensure that the 2012 deadline set by the Memorandum of Understanding on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation in Africa (CSSDCA) for the delineation and demarcation of all borders is achieved as much as possible;
9. **REQUESTS** the Commission to ensure that the AUBP is implemented on the basis of the principle of subsidiarity, taking into account the respective roles incumbent on the Member States, the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and the AU;

10. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to continue to work actively towards the establishment of partnerships with organizations that have experience in the management of border issues, in particular the United Nations, the European Union and the Organization of American States;
11. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Commission to report regularly on the implementation of the AUBP.

