

**DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS IN CHARGE
OF GENDER AND WOMEN'S AFFAIRS: ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA,
2-3 NOVEMBER 2011 – Doc EX.CL/723(XXI)**

The Executive Council,

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report and endorse the Declaration adopted by the Conference of Ministers in charge of Gender and Women Affairs;
2. **REAFFIRMS** the need to utilize the vast skills, knowledge and energy in the Diaspora to promote overall development in the continent;
3. **STRESSES** the need to include women in national, regional and continental decision-making process;
4. **REQUESTS** the Commission to provide Member States with the criteria and other practical modalities for hosting the Secretariat of Africa's Women Decade 2010-2020, including within the Commission Headquarters;
5. **ALSO REQUESTS** the Commission to improve preparatory arrangements to ensure full participation of Member States at the appropriate level in the Conference of Ministers in charge of Gender and Women Affairs; in this regard, request the Commission and the PRC to consider ways and means to ensure adequate representation at the required level in the sectoral Ministerial meetings in general;
6. **REQUESTS** the PRC Sub-Committee on Structures to consider ways and means of strengthening the capacity of the Women and Gender Development Directorate to enable it achieve the objectives set in the African Women's Decade 2010-2020, while ensuring harmonization of programmes within and outside the AU, including the NPCA, the Department of Social Affairs, UN Women and the AfDB-AUC-ECA Joint Secretariat;
7. **REQUESTS** the Commission to harmonize the theme on African Women's Decade with the yearly theme of the Assembly of the Union;
8. **AGREES** that the contribution to the Fund for African Women be based on the staggered implementation modalities of 1% of Member States' assessed contributions to the AU budget in accordance with Assembly Decision (Assembly/AU/Dec. 277(XVI)) and Executive Council Decision (EX.CL/Dec.539(XVI));
9. **STRESSES** the need to support the mobilisation of activities in favour of the African Women Fund;
10. **REQUESTS** the Commission to report, on regular basis, on progress attained in the implementation of the African Women's Decade 2010-2020, including the status of the Fund;