



AFRICAN PARLIAMENTARY UNION A P U

R.130/34/11

RESOLUTION

on

«The role of parliamentary institutions in strengthening cooperation and solidarity among the African countries with view to promote security, stability, and prosperity of people»

The African parliamentary Union, meeting at its 34th Conference in Khartoum (Sudan), from 30 November to 1st December 2011,

Considering the importance of creating common African understanding and cooperation on peace, security, anti-terrorism, respect for all human rights, stability and prosperity of peoples,

Mindful of the huge challenges of underdevelopment and the need to advance African cooperation on infrastructure, free movement of persons, goods, services and capital,

Conscious of the drawbacks of colonial legacy on education, politics, economics and cultural ties,

Deeply concerned by the persistent conflicts, insecurity and instability and their humanitarian and socio-economic impacts, especially, internal displacements, forced migration, violation of human rights and the significant deterioration of infrastructure and environment,

Mindful of the rapid global change and the need for Africa to liberate the siege of policies designed to maintain outflow of raw materials and maintenance of markets needed by the developed world against African interests,

Aware that the benefits of globalization and liberalization have not been evenly distributed, and have contributed to the widening the gap between Africa and the rest of the world,

Cognizant that the huge technological, fiscal, saving and foreign exchange gaps and the debt burden constitute handicaps to fund the growth and sustainable development for most African economies,

Stressing the importance of the role of the parliaments in the promotion of dialogue, cooperation and solidarity among the African nations and peoples,

Affirming the necessity of harmonizing electoral laws and rules by national governments to guarantee peaceful transfers of power,

Emphasizing the need for an independent judiciary capable to deliver justice and equality for all,

Convinced that parliamentarians participate in the decision making process regarding regional and international economic and trade institutions,

Recalling the Declaration of the Speakers of national parliaments entitled “Parliamentary vision for international cooperation at the dawn of the third millennium” adopted in September 2000 and the one titled: “Bridging the democracy gap in international relations: a stronger role for parliaments” adopted on 9 September 2009 which call on parliaments and their organizations, including the inter-parliamentary union, to provide a parliamentary dimension to international cooperation,

1. *Urges* the parliaments to adopt and harmonize policies, strategies and initiatives ensuring human security, in accordance with the objectives of African Union (AU) protocol establishing the Peace and Security Council adopted by the First Ordinary Sessions of AU Heads of State Conference in Durban 9 July 2002;
2. *Reiterates* its adhesion and support to Africa’s integration and urges national parliaments to harmonize and implement legislations enhancing infrastructure, free movement of persons, goods, services and capital;
3. Calls upon National Parliaments and the parliamentary institutions of the continent to prioritize, acquisition of knowledge and skills badly needed in Africa;
4. *Calls* for the development of concerted inter-African collaboration for conflict prevention, management, and resolution;
5. *Calls* on the national parliaments of the African countries to ensure that their countries mobilize the necessary resources for development and good governance;
6. *Calls* on States to increase the institutional capacity of the parliaments to enable them to efficiently exercise their legislative, budgetary, oversight, and scrutiny functions;
7. *Recommends* to the national parliaments to formulate, harmonize adopt and monitor policies that ensure the maintenance of macroeconomic stability, by adopting appropriate standards and targets for fiscal and monetary policies, and introducing appropriate institutional framework;
8. *Calls* on African governments to work at bilateral and multilateral levels in favor of the security of each country by strictly observing the sovereignty and territorial integrity of states as well as honoring the international principles of noninterference in the internal affairs. States will be required to abide by and respect human rights embodied in United Nations declaration and the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights;
9. *Further calls* the AU to formulate, harmonize and adopt common African standards, norms and practices for fair, free and transparent elections;
10. *Urges* the national parliaments to create legal frameworks to regulate financial markets avoid risks and dangers resulting from global financial crises;
11. *Further calls* on national parliaments and governments to ensure Courts deliver justice in competent and efficient manners in all aspects, including crimes against humanity;

12. *Recommends* the establishment, in each country, of joint committees consisting of representatives of parliaments and governments responsible for monitoring the implementation of bilateral and multilateral agreements;
13. *Further encourages African* parliaments and governments to observe gender equality and equity;
14. Calls upon the parliamentary institutions to work for the restructuring of the international trade system to make it democratic, unambiguous, transparent and equitable.