

**NINETEENTH ANNUAL  
INTERNATIONAL MODEL AFRICAN UNION**



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**HOWARD UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

**DELEGATION HANDBOOK**

## **Nineteenth Annual International Model African Union**

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Distinguished Delegates:

Welcome to the 2021 Virtual International Model African Union. Over the next few months as a representative of one of the member states of the AU, you will become a diplomat from an African country. You will take on the character of your chosen country and will adopt the role of its representative -- as the Head of State or Government, as its Ambassador, as its Minister. You will be that country at the annual gathering of the regional organization for the African continent.

The work of becoming an African diplomat takes place in the classroom of your university or college. In essence this is a seminar on diplomacy. Under the guidance of your faculty advisor you will begin intensive reading and discussion about the history, culture, economy, and politics of your country. You will internalize the many facets of this character and see the world through the eyes of the government of your country. At that point you will develop an understanding of the foreign policy of your country and be able to forcefully present its position.

Reaching the point where you are confident and comfortable as a diplomat or Head of State from your country is only the first step. You must also become thoroughly conversant with the organization in which you will work, the Model AU. Like all such organizations, and the real AU, it is governed by a set of rules and procedures. All of your work in preparing the character of your country will come to nothing if you are unable to effectively participate in debate. You must learn the rules of procedure so that their use in meetings becomes second nature.

Your participation in the Model will provide the opportunity to put into practice your substantive and procedural knowledge. In so doing I expect you to live up to the highest standards of excellence in presenting this knowledge and in your behavior. If you have prepared well you will have no difficulty in living up to this expectation.

Representing the government of a country at the Model AU is a great responsibility. For all intents and purposes you are that nation for the time being. You must protect its national interests but must do so in a way that protects its dignity and good name. You are expected to comport yourself in a way that achieves these goals. You will use appropriate diplomatic language and extend diplomatic courtesies to your fellow delegates as well as to the Officers of the Model and members of the Secretariat. It is part of the Model experience that you will behave with the decorum and courtesy to be expected in a meeting of representatives from sovereign states.

If you go through this seminar on diplomacy in these ways you will find it to be a uniquely rewarding one. What you learn you will never forget. I do expect you to work very hard during your preparation and at the Model and I can assure you that it will be worth it.

Please accept my best wishes during this period of preparation. I look forward to our virtual meeting in 2021 for the Nineteenth Annual International Model African Union.

Yours Sincerely  
Michael C. Nwanze, Ph.D.  
Director

## **THE VERY FIRST THING YOU SHOULD DO IS READ THIS HANDBOOK!**

### **ABOUT THIS HANDBOOK.....**

This handbook contains resources you will need to prepare for and participate in the Model AU. The handbook is a resource book. It is not a step-by-step guide and its use alone will neither prepare you for the Model nor will it ensure your success in participating in the Model. Your success at the Model mainly depends on how well you prepare to conduct yourself as a diplomat representing your country. As a resource, however, the handbook contains a number of documents that will assist you in this preparation. It contains the Rules of Procedure for the Model, the Schedule of Events on a day-by-day basis, and other information you will find useful.

The rules and guidelines contained in this handbook create a procedural framework within which the Model operates. This framework is like the superstructure of a building. It is indispensable but lifeless. What makes a building a part of society is the activity of the people who live and work in it. What makes the Model AU live is the activity of its delegations within the framework of its rules.

If in the course of your preparations you need further advice or information about the Model feel free to contact Dr. Michael Nwanze (mnwanze@howard.edu) at Howard University.

## **DELEGATION PREPARATION, ORGANIZATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **Delegation Preparation**

***Know your country!*** The key to success in representing your country is to know it inside and out. You may wish to begin by getting a good general history of your country and having the delegation read it. A good working knowledge of the history of the country will be invaluable in developing the character of its government. You will then be in a position to research the contemporary economic, social, and political situation in your country. You need to know what makes your country tick and its government's plans, aspirations, and problems.

The history and character of your country is not something that will suddenly appear in your mind. You will, as individuals and as a delegation, have to **read, read, and read!**

***Know your region and the continent!*** With a firm grasp on your own country you will be in a position to begin researching the regional and continental situation of your country. How does your country relate to major world powers? How does your country relate to other countries in the African continent? What positions does your country take on the regional, continental, and global issues of the day? How has it voted in the past on resolutions at the regional, continental, and global levels? What current issues would your country want to bring up at an AU meeting? What position would your country take on issues it would not initiate but on which it would vote?

A key website in researching these topics is that of the African Union itself ([www.au.int](http://www.au.int)). The AU website contains a lot of documentation on the Union and current work related to the agenda of the Model AU as well as links to member states. On the AU website you may also find a link to the “AU Handbook.” The Handbook is a joint project of the Government of New Zealand and the AU Commission. The Handbook contains a wealth of information about the AU and its work.

**Divide up the work!** Every delegate needs to have a firm grasp on the character of your country and its government regardless of the Committee or Council on which he or she sits. But each delegate needs to specialize by focusing their research on the agenda of their assigned committee or the council. Having done so, each delegate can then present the results of that research to the rest of the delegation. In that way everyone will be familiar with the work of all the Committees and the Executive Council while the delegate responsible for that particular Committee or the Executive Council will have detailed information about its work.

You may wish to consider having the delegation create position papers and working papers. A position paper would develop the position of your country on a particular issue topic. It would therefore include a statement of the goals and aspirations of your country based on the principles upon which the country is founded. Each country, for example, would have a position regarding regional economic development and could create a position paper on that issue. A working paper would outline the process, the actions, leading to the realization of the goals dealt with in the position paper. A working paper therefore is oriented around the actions required to realize goals. For example, if the position of your country is that AIDS prevention programs should be implemented regionally in Africa, then a working paper would deal with the details of how to bring this about through, for example, creating AIDS prevention agencies within existing regional organizations like the SADC or ECOWAS. You might find it useful to have delegates on specific Committees develop position and working papers as preparation for drafting resolutions.

Whether or not you have a full set of position and working papers -- which are purely for the internal use of your delegation -- your country will have positions on the issues and actions confronting the AU. So you will need to think in terms of issue oriented goals and the actions required to achieve those goals. That is the substance of the resolutions, communiqués and declarations considered by the formal organs of the AU.

## **Delegation Organization**

All delegations are members of the following organs of the Model AU:

1. Assembly of Heads of State and Government
2. Executive Council
3. Committee on Peace and Security
4. Committee on Economic Matters
5. Committee on Social Matters
6. Committee on Democracy, Governance and Human Rights

Delegations are free to determine their own organization. The general guideline is that the delegation should be so organized as to accomplish the best representation for the country concerned. Normally delegations have five members in order to be represented on each of the Committees and the Council.

Each delegate is also a member of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Model AU. **It is crucial that all members of the delegation participate in the Assembly since Rule 49 requires that the delegate from each Committee represent the country when resolutions from the Committee are presented and voted on in the Assembly. Consistent representation from the Committees to the Assembly is essential.**

Subject to the normal requirement that delegations have five members, delegations may have fewer members and therefore not be represented on all organs of the IMAU. Should delegations have more than six members and therefore have more than one person working on a particular Committee, each member state will cast one and only one vote on a particular resolution. Your delegation will speak officially with one voice even if internally you divide up the work among a number of delegates.

### **Delegation Responsibilities**

**The overriding responsibility of a delegation to the Model AU is to represent the interests of its country in the most realistic and effective way possible.** It is your responsibility to ensure that the national interests of the country you represent are presented and taken into account in the work of drafting and passing resolutions. This general responsibility means that **you will need to know in detail what the national interests of your country actually are, and how best to represent those interests.** The identification of national interests will require detailed preparation of the character of the country leading to positions on a wide variety of issues; the representation of the interests of your country will require thorough preparation in the realms of techniques of diplomatic activity and behavior and in terms of the substance of regional issues. Your overall responsibility is therefore to prepare yourself to ensure that your country plays its proper part in the talks that take place at a summit meeting of the African Union.

This responsibility requires that you **develop and stay within the character of your country.** This is not always an easy and comfortable task. You may personally disagree with the position of your country on a particular issue. You may wish to see a more radical position taken on an issue than your country in reality would ever contemplate. You will find yourself having to forcefully represent views with which you substantially disagree. But **you must put aside your personal feelings, actual national identity, and personal political preferences.** Your task is to put yourself in the situation of the government of the country you represent and to faithfully represent the character of that government. **Preparation** is the key to meeting this responsibility.

## PREPARATION FOR THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEES, EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, AND ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

### COMMON CONSIDERATIONS

The work of the Model AU takes place in its five Committees, the Executive Council, and the Assembly of Heads of State and Government. The Committees, Council, and the Assembly are designed to deal with the multifaceted issues of political, social and economic change through the development of resolutions- passed by a simple majority in the Committees and by a two-thirds majority in the Assembly.

### PREPARING FOR COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL MEETINGS

The drafting, debating, amending, and passage of resolutions form the substance of the work of Committees and Council. It may not always seem so. Some of the procedural nitty-gritty often seems to get in the way. But the Model is about a group of nations getting together to hammer out agreements to do something about something. The about something is the substantive issue of resolutions and the do something are the actions which are required to achieve the substance. The process of getting from one to the other is the process of international negotiation, debate and diplomacy. The end product of what is being debated and agreed are resolutions. **Good resolutions are therefore essential. The preparation of delegations therefore should pay close attention to the resolutions resulting from this process.**

Delegates preparing for a Committee or the Council should draft resolutions on issues vitally affecting the national interests of their country and which would normally be considered under an agenda item of the Model AU. Draft resolutions should conform to the standard format used at the Model AU. The standard format for resolutions is as follows:

(Name of Committee)  
(Committee Agenda Topic)  
(Country of Original Sponsorship)

Resolution Number \_\_\_\_\_

**(Title of Resolution-in bold type)**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the International Model African Union, Meeting in its Nineteenth Ordinary Session, on February 21, 2021:

[There follows the basis statements stating the nature of the issue and detailing the reasons for the AU's attention to the matter. The basis statements begin with appropriate phrases and are underlined. Examples of how basis statements might begin are:]

Having examined...  
Recalling...  
Noting...  
Taking note of...  
Recognizing...  
Taking cognizance of...  
Aware that....  
Alert to...  
Considering...  
Disgusted by...  
Concerned with...  
Committed to...  
& Etc.....

[Basis statements are followed by action statements that are indented and prefaced with a number for each action and an underlined phrase or word setting the tone of the action such as:]

1. Condemns...
2. Demands...
3. Urges...
4. Congratulates...
5. Requests...
6. Calls upon...
7. Proposes...
8. Suggests...

An example of a resolution passed at a previous Model African Union is the following:

Assembly of Heads of State and Government

Res. No. S05



## **Women as Equal Partners in African Development**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the National Model African Union, Meeting in its Eighth Ordinary Session in Washington, D.C., on March 6, 2010:

Aware that women are responsible for a large proportion of the labor force for food production countries on the African continent;

Believing that the contribution of women is exceptionally important to African development;

Having adopted the Lagos Plan of Action in 1980, the AU fully acknowledges the importance of giving special attention to the vital roles of women;

Fully aware that the Lagos Plan of Action covers three main areas which speak to the development of women in Africa which (1) stresses the need to include women in higher administrative and policy making levels, (2) urges steps to lessen the domestic burden on rural women, and (3) encourages supporting services for working women:

1. Supports the criteria stated within the Lagos Plan of Action with regard to the participation of women in the economy;

2. Affirms that the increased role of women will make countries on the continent more productive;

3. Encourages the incorporation of women in medical fields, higher education and technological areas such as agriculture;

4. Calls upon member states to create programs and processes that will increase the proportion of women in elective office.

[Resolutions should follow this general format although obviously the wording and substance will depend upon the Committee involved and the circumstances of the issue.]

***Does your delegation want to have resolutions considered in Committee meetings? If so, read this!*** There are certain formal procedures that have to be followed for resolutions to be considered and in addition there are some informal points to be noted. Some of the formal requirements are noted below but you should also **carefully read the Rules of Procedure regarding resolutions and amendments.** Below are also noted some of the informal points to be kept in mind.

1. Delegations are restricted to submitting a maximum of one draft original resolution to each Committee. In other words no delegation may submit more than one original resolution to each of the five Committees and the Council.

2. A resolution cannot be introduced or debated until all delegations have a copy. **Each delegation will submit draft resolutions electronically to the appropriate committee or the council between 8:00 a.m. on Monday, February 15 and Thursday, February 18, by 6:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (2:00 a.m. East African Time on February 19).**

4. All resolutions of the AU with almost no exceptions must originate in one or another of the Committees. The Assembly of Heads of State and Government will only consider resolutions passed by the Committees. To be considered by a Committee, a resolution must logically come under one or another agenda topic of the Committee.

5. Be prepared to compromise. The committees are expected to negotiate and agree upon one comprehensive resolution on each agenda topic. There are likely to be multiple draft resolutions on each agenda topic and the process of debate and negotiation will result in basis and action statements upon which a majority can agree. So you will need to be prepared to work with other delegations in reaching agreement on consolidated resolutions for each agenda topic.

#### PREPARING FOR THE MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

The work of the Assembly is to consider resolutions that have been passed by the Committees. Resolutions passed by a simple majority vote as Committee resolutions become the sponsored draft resolutions to be considered by the Assembly.

There are very significant differences in the role and rules of the Assembly in comparison to the Committees. For example, to pass in the Assembly, these resolutions must achieve a two-thirds majority vote. The most important difference is that the resolutions at the Assembly have already been thoroughly debated in Committee and have achieved majority assent. The principles of the resolutions and their provisions are by this time well known to the delegations and countries have already taken a position on the resolutions.

Since the resolutions submitted to the Assembly have already been approved by Committees, the chair will – as each resolution comes to the floor – open a Speaker’s List of one for and up to two against the resolution. On conclusion of this debate, the chair will ask if there are any motions of divide the question. There may be one provision of the resolution that for several countries is a deal breaker even though they support the overall thrust and provisions of the resolution. A delegation, therefore, may move to divide the question by voting on that one provision on its own. If the motion to divide the questions succeeds, there will be separate votes on that provision and the remainder of the resolution. There may be more than one motion to divide the question. Delegates will need to study these rules in detail. Only the main provisions are highlighted here.

**All delegates need to attend the Assembly meeting.** The Assembly meeting is the culmination of the deliberations in the AU and all delegates should be present. The practical reason why all delegates should be present is that even if there is a Head Delegate, no delegate could be conversant with all the debates that went into the passage of draft resolutions from all the Committees. A delegation voting on a resolution in the Assembly without the benefit of the advice of the delegate who sat on the Committee will not cast an informed and consistent vote. This is why Rule 49 states that: The delegate representing the Head of State or Government of each delegation must be the delegate who represented the country in the Committee sponsoring the resolution on the floor.

## **INTERNATIONAL MODEL AFRICAN UNION INTRODUCTION TO RULES OF PROCEDURE**

This section of the handbook contains the Rules of Procedure for the Virtual Model AU. The rules provide a structure for the proceedings and debate in the various organs of the AU. The rules create a neutral and regular procedure or means through which the substantive work of the Model is conducted. The rules do not presuppose any particular outcome in terms of the substance of resolutions. The rules do create a framework of expectations and actions regarding the process of introducing and debating resolutions. Together with the schedule of events, the rules are the bones of the Model and the diplomatic activity of delegates puts flesh on those bones.

The Rules of Procedure tell you what you may or must do as well as what you may not do. The rules, for example, tell you that you must gain recognition from the Chair in order to speak. The rules also tell you that you may not interrupt a speaker in order to debate the substance of what that speaker is saying. The rules therefore create a means through which the business at hand is done.

The rules create both opportunities and limits for participation. These opportunities and limits affect all delegations in the same way. The rules do not favor one delegation over another. The rules in that sense are neutral. They apply to everyone and everyone is obligated to follow the rules.

The neutrality of the rules does not mean that their use has no effect on the eventual outcome. A skillful use of the rules by a delegation can delay the vote on a

resolution or even lead to its defeat. This can be frustrating to delegations supporting a resolution and in their frustration those delegations may begin to believe that it is the rules themselves that are to blame. They may believe that the opposing delegation is misusing or abusing the rules. But the truth is that the opposing delegation has simply used the rules to meet its objective, in this case to delay or kill a proposal that does not meet the national interests of that country. Delegations supporting the proposal have the very same set of rules to use to keep the proposal alive.

The rules of the Model are therefore analogous to the rules for a sporting game. The rules of basketball apply to both teams in the same way. The teams will each use the rules to what they regard as their advantage but will be bound to observe the same set of rules. The outcome will depend upon the preparation of the players before the game for example on their physical conditioning, knowledge of the rules, and the thoughtfulness of their game plan. The rules of the Model are the same; they apply to all delegates equally. The ability of a delegation to represent the interests of a country in the process of debate will depend upon their advance preparation of the character of their country, their understanding of the rules of debate, and the thoughtfulness of their resolutions and activities furthering resolutions in which they are interested.

**It is absolutely essential that every single delegate should understand and be able to use the Rules of Procedure for the Model AU. Delegates are expected to know the rules in detail and to have practiced the rules sufficiently to be able to use them effectively during Committee and Executive Council meetings and in plenary session. During the Model all delegates will without exception abide by the Rules of Procedure contained in the following pages.**

## INTERNATIONAL MODEL AFRICAN UNION

### RULES OF PROCEDURE

1. These Rules incorporate and take precedence over the procedural portions of the Constitutive Act of the African Union. In the event of dispute the interpretation of the Chair is final provided there is not a successful appeal.
2. The official language for all sessions is English. Business may be conducted in other languages only if the speaker provides translation.
3. All Member States belong to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government as well as the following organs:

The Executive Council  
The Committee on Democracy, Governance and Human Rights  
The Committee on Economic Matters  
The Committee on Social Matters  
The Committee on Peace and Security

4. Other subsidiary bodies may be established with the approval of the Assembly.

## **FACULTY ADVISORS AND CONSULTANTS**

5. The Secretariat of the Model African Union shall designate Faculty Members to serve as Faculty Advisors and Consultants in the various organs of the Model AU.
6. The Faculty Advisors and Consultants shall attend to the needs of all delegates and shall not be limited to their own delegates.
7. The Faculty Advisors and Consultants shall assist the Chairs and other Officers in running the sessions as necessary. Faculty advisors and consultants shall not vote or participate in debate.
8. Faculty Advisors with the guidance of the Director shall take actions as necessary to ensure the smooth functioning and integrity of all organs of the Model AU.
9. In accepting a country assignment, faculty advisors, their sponsoring institutions and delegations accept the responsibility to fully prepare the representation of their country and to observe the process of the Model as contained in materials provided by the Director.

## **OFFICERS**

10. Committees, Council and the Assembly of Heads of State and Government shall have two officers, namely the Chair and Vice-Chair, who shall be appointed by the Director.
11. Officers appointed by the Director shall attend virtual training sessions as required and will perform the work of their office as specified in the rules of procedure, the program, and as communicated to the officer by the Director. With respect to appointment to office and the interpretation of work to be performed, the decision of the Director is final. Officers will work with Faculty Advisors and Consultants, and the Secretariat to ensure the smooth running of all aspects of the Model.
12. Officers of the Committees, Council and the Assembly of Heads of State and Government are officers of the Model AU and may not represent their delegation in deliberating and voting on resolutions in the Assembly of Heads of State and Government.
13. All officers shall meet with the Secretariat as needed to discuss the Committee and Council process and their duties therein.
14. In addition to those powers specified elsewhere, the Chair of a Committee or Council and of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government shall interpret these Rules, rule on Points of Order, assure parliamentary order, accord speaking rights, put

the question, announce decisions, limit the number of times a delegate may speak on any question, open and close the speakers list and close debate.

## **AGENDA**

15. The agenda of the Opening Plenary Session on Saturday, February 20 will be the following (in order): (1) Convening of the Model AU; (2) Keynote Address; (3) Adjournment to Committee.

16. The agenda for the ordinary sessions of the Committees and Council on Saturday, February 20 and Sunday, February 21 shall be to consolidate draft resolutions under each topic into a single draft resolution on each topic and for the Committee or Council to debate and vote on each consolidated draft.

17. The Committees and Council shall only consider the agenda topics assigned to them.

18. The agenda for the Assembly of Heads of State and Government shall be to consider, debate and vote on the resolutions passed by the Executive Council, the Committee on Democracy, Governance and Human Rights, the Economic Committee, Committee on Peace and Security, and Social Committee.

## **GENERAL PROCEDURES AND RULES OF DEBATE**

19. An amendment is anything that adds to, deletes from, or changes a draft resolution. A motion totally replacing the original proposal or not directly related to it is not an amendment and shall be ruled out of order by the Chair. An amendment may not itself be amended. An amendment which is counter to an amendment already adopted shall be ruled dilatory by the Chair.

20. No one may speak without first being recognized by the Chair.

21. When speaking, delegates will see that their remarks are germane to the motion on the floor. If they fail to do so, the Chair shall call them to order without delay.

22. At any time, a delegate may complain of improper procedure under these Rules by raising a Point of Order. The Chair shall immediately rule upon the Point and his/her decision is final, unless a two-thirds majority votes to Appeal (and thereby reverse) his/her decision. A Point of Order is the only action that may interrupt a speaker.

23. In order to ask a question of the Chair on any matter, delegates will rise to a Point of Information. The Point of Information will not interrupt any speaker.

24. To end the session for a specified period of time, a motion to suspend the session will be required. Such a motion would be required to end the session in expectation of

resuming at a specified time. Such a motion will also be required for either moderated or un-moderated caucuses. Such a motion requires a second, is not debatable, and is decided by a simple majority. The same applies to a motion to adjourn, which is necessary when the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, a Committee or the Executive Council has dispensed with all its business and wishes to end its deliberations for the year. These motions may be ruled dilatory by the Chair, whose decision is subject to Appeal.

25. The order of precedence of motions is as follows: (1) Point of Order; (2) Suspend the Session; (3) Adjourn the Session; (4) Suspend/Resume Debate; (5) Close Debate; (6) Other motions; (The Proposal under Discussion [main motion]).

### **GENERAL VOTING RULES**

26. Each Member State shall have one vote and only one voting representative on each Committee, the Council and in the Assembly of Heads of State and Government.

27. Drafting consolidated resolutions and amendments thereto in Committee or the Council requires a simple majority.

28. In determining a simple majority in Committees and the Council, only those votes of yes or no shall be counted. A vote of abstain shall not be used in determining whether there is a majority in Committees or the Council.

29. Unless otherwise specified, all voting will be electronic. Before voting commences, any delegation may request a roll-call vote. The Chair shall rule on the request, and his/her ruling is subject to Appeal. The roll call shall be in alphabetical order, starting at a random point determined by the Chair for each vote. The voting may not be interrupted except by a Point of Order concerning voting procedure.

30. In Committee and Council only when taking a vote electronically, the Chair will ask for those in favor, those opposed, and abstentions. When named in a roll call, a delegate shall answer yes, no, abstain, or Pass. If he/she responds with the latter, the delegate has indicated his/her desire to pass at this time. The Chair will run through the entire roll once, and will then call those who have Passed. Upon being called a second time, a delegate will respond yes, no, or abstain (only).

31. Once all votes have been tabulated, the chair, only on roll-call votes, will ask for changes in vote. After any changes have been noted, the result of the vote is announced.

32. After debate on a proposal or amendment has been closed, but before voting commences, a delegate may move to divide the question. He/she would do so if he/she desires to vote on the proposal or amendment in several parts. Such a motion must specify the intended division, is not debatable, and is put to an immediate vote, a simple majority being required. Once all parts of a proposal or amendment are voted on, the entire proposal or amendment shall be put to a vote. If all of the operative parts of a proposal are rejected, then the proposal itself is rejected.

33. While in voting procedure, each voting delegate must have their camera on. At other times delegates may elect to have their camera turned on, off, or have a place holder. The propriety of any place holder or virtual background will be determined by the Chair to ensure decorum.

### **PROCEDURES FOR COMMITTEE/COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS AND AMENDMENTS**

34. A draft resolution is a substantive document related to a specific topic on a Committee or Council agenda submitted for decision. Draft resolutions may be submitted to a Committee or Council folder in GoogleDocs beginning on February 15 and no later than February 18.

35. No single delegation may be the original sponsor of more than one resolution in each Committee.

36. A motion or proposal may be altered by a friendly amendment meaning a change agreed to by all sponsors of that motion or proposal. Such amendments must be announced to the Chair. All other amendments are unfriendly. Such ordinary amendments must be moved and seconded. An amendment moved and seconded will be debated and voted on in accordance with the rules for debate and voting of the main motion or proposal. Motions to introduce proposals or amendments (or any other motion, for that matter) may be made either in a speech or after being recognized by the Chair.

37. Motions for reconsideration are not allowed.

38. Once a Committee or the Council decides to open discussion on a consolidated draft resolution under an agenda topic or sub-topic, the Chair will establish a speakers list of no more than ten. Those wishing to speak will raise their placards and will be assigned a position on the list. The Chair will call upon delegates to speak in the order they appear on the speakers list. Delegates may request to be added to the list any number of times until the Chair limits the number of times a delegate may speak, closes the speakers list, or debate is closed by a motion. Once a specific speakers list is exhausted, any delegate may move to reopen the speakers list. This motion must be seconded and is not debatable. Debate will continue until it is suspended or closed, the meeting is suspended or adjourned, or the speakers list is exhausted (once exhausted, the Chair will announce closure of debate and bring the proposal, if any, to an immediate vote).

39. During discussion of a topic, any delegate may make a motion for a moderated caucus of the Committee or Council on a specific agenda item. The delegate will specify the amount of time for the caucus and the topic to be moderated. In a moderated caucus the Committee or Council remain in session but operate informally. The Chair in Committees and Council and designated Moderators in agenda topic groups will recognize delegations that wish to speak in turn at the Chair's or Moderator's discretion. No speakers list is used however the original mover of the motion will be allowed to



speak first. The moderated caucus may be used as a question and answer period for certain or multiple delegations, or as a means to facilitate a discussion of provisions in a draft resolution.

40. During discussion of a topic, a delegate may make a motion for an unmoderated caucus. The delegate making the motion must specify an amount of time for the caucus. The adoption of this motion requires a majority of members present and voting. If passed, the unmoderated caucus allows delegates to enter a caucus room, and converse and negotiate with other delegates without any formal rules or limitations. Due to the unstructured nature of these suspensions, delegates are permitted no more than 40 minutes of unmoderated caucus time for every hour of debate. Delegates are encouraged not to spend more time in unmoderated caucuses than necessary—they are most useful for the writing of draft language.

41. When a speakers list is used, the speakers shall be given one and one-half minutes. The Chair will call speakers to order if they exceed their time. The Chair shall ensure that all delegates have equal opportunity to participate in debate.

42. Prior to beginning his/her speech, a delegate may request that all or part of his/her time be yielded to another. Once yielded, time may not be yielded a second time.

43. A delegate may speak to the draft resolution, amendments moved thereto and the agenda topic, or all of the above while on a particular speakers list.

44. A Point of Inquiry may be used to question a speaker after he/she has finished his/her remarks: a questioner will address the Point to the Chair, who will then ask the speaker if he/she wishes to yield. In order to ask a second question, a second Point of Inquiry will have to be raised, and the speaker again asked to yield. The Chair will ensure that Points of Inquiry are only used to raise questions of clarification or for additional information.

45. At any time prior to the exhaustion of the speakers list, a delegate may move closure of debate on a proposal or amendment. The Chair will allow two speakers against closure (only), and will limit time and ensure that the remarks are germane to the closure. A vote will immediately follow the speeches, with a two-thirds majority necessary.

46. After the debate is closed, either through exhaustion of the speaker list or a successful closure motion, the proposed draft resolution or amendment will come to an immediate vote. If debate is closed on a topic, proposed resolutions will be voted on in the order they were submitted to the Secretariat. If adopting one resolution necessarily implies excluding a subsequent proposed resolution, this latter resolution shall be ruled out of order.

47. The Committees shall establish an order of presentation of their resolutions to the Assembly.

48. Committees and Council shall deliberate and act upon draft resolutions until the time for the meeting has ended or the agenda is exhausted.

## **PROCEDURE FOR RESOLUTIONS IN THE ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT**

49. Resolutions passed by Committees and the Council are automatically the agenda of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government. The delegate representing the Head of State or Government of each delegation must be the delegate who represented the country in the Committee sponsoring the resolution on the floor.

50. For each Committee and Council resolution in turn the Chair shall open a Speaker's List of one for and up to two against the resolution.

51. On conclusion of debate the Chair will ask if there are any motions to divide the question. If there are one or more such motions the procedure for dividing the question will be followed for each in turn. On completion of this process or if there are no motions to divide the question the Assembly will vote yes or no on the main motion a two-thirds majority being necessary for passage.

## **HOME GOVERNMENT**

52. There shall be a Secretariat composed of Faculty Advisors appointed by the Director.

53. Any delegate, delegation or officer may request information, clarification or guidance from the Secretariat.

## **ADMISSION OF NEW MEMBERS**

54. Any motion on the admission of new Members shall first be submitted at the beginning of the Opening Plenary Session. Passage requires a two-thirds majority.

## **AMENDING THE TREATY**

55. Amendments to the Constitutive Act may not be considered by this Assembly but it may consider the creation of protocols mentioned in the Act.

## **CERTIFICATES**

56. Certificates of participation shall be awarded to all delegates and certificates of service shall be awarded to all officers.

## **AWARDS**

57. The following awards shall be given at the closing ceremony of the Model African Union:

Committee Leadership Award  
Michelle Tooley Outstanding Delegation Award

58. The Officers of each Committee and the Council shall consult with one another and the committee faculty advisor(s) to nominate up to three individuals for the Committee/Council Leadership Award. This award shall go to the individuals who have made the most significant contribution to fostering consensus, capturing the essence of complex issues, and leading the respective Committees and Council toward effective action.

59. Immediately prior to the final adjournment of each Committee and the Council, they shall vote for the Michelle Tooley Outstanding Delegation in Committee/Council Award for all Committees and the Council. Each delegation votes for up to three delegations it believes contributed most to the accomplishments of the Committee or Council. Chairs and Vice-Chairs are also given a ballot. There is no ranking on individual ballots.

60. The Faculty Advisors shall tally the votes from each Committee and the Council.

61. The three delegations receiving the most points will normally receive Michelle Tooley Outstanding Delegation in Committee/Council Awards, but Faculty Advisors may confer fewer or more awards after considering the final vote tally.

62. Winners of the Committee/Council Leadership Award will be announced at the conclusion of the Assembly Meeting. The winners of the outstanding delegation in committee/council award will be notified through their faculty advisors shortly after the conclusion of the Model.

63. Faculty who incorporate the Model African Union simulation into a credit-bearing course are discouraged from employing measures such as number of resolutions passed, speaking time in committees, or awards won at conference for the purpose of course evaluation as such external pressures can distort the simulation. To maximize the experience for all participants and make it as realistic as possible, it is recommended that faculty advisors emphasize pre-conference and/or post-conference evaluation instruments in their course design.

## **PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

64. Robert's Rules of Order, Revised will be the parliamentary authority for all rules of procedure not covered above.

## **ADDENDUM**

### **Definitions and Clarification**

1. Simple majority: 50% + 1 of those voting on the issue, excluding all abstentions.
2. Two-thirds majority: 66.67% of those voting on the issue, excluding all abstentions in Committee/Council only. In the Assembly two-thirds is 66.67% of all delegations present.
3. Two-thirds absolute majority: 66.67% of the membership of the Committee/Council or Assembly of Heads of State and Government.
4. There is one speakers list on any one issue, set of inquiries or amendment except as explicitly stated in the rules. It is not divided into for and against since some speakers are not specifically for or against the issue but rather may wish to propose amendments, etc.

<b>Model African Union Committee/Council Parliamentary Quick Reference</b>							
<b>Motion/Point</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Rule</b>	<b>Needs Second</b>	<b>Interrupt Speaker</b>	<b>Debate</b>	<b>Amend</b>	<b>Vote Needed</b>
<b>Points</b>							
Point of Privilege	Personal discomfort impairing participation, e.g. cannot hear speaker	N/A	No	Yes	No	No	No
Point of Order	Complain of improper procedure/rules violation	28	No	Yes	No	No	No
Point of Information	To ask a question of the Chair on any matter	29	No	No	No	No	No
Point of Inquiry	Question speaker after he/she finishes speaking; address point to chair	48	No	No	No	No	No
<b>Motions</b>							
Motion to suspend session	End session for specified period of time for moderated/un-moderated caucuses or other, e.g. lunch	30	Yes	No	No	No	Simple Majority
Motion to suspend debate on resolution	Suspends debate on a resolution or topic; Resume only after a motion to resume debate on resolution	49	Yes	No	Yes, 2 for, 2 against	No	Simple Majority
Resumption of debate on resolution	Required to resume debate on a resolution or topic already suspended	49	Yes	No	No	No	Simple majority
Motion to close debate	Ends debate and moves to vote when speakers list is not exhausted	50	Yes	No	Yes, 2 against	No	2/3 majority
Motion to extend debate	Reopen a speakers list on a resolution, amendment, topic	44	Yes	No	No	No	Simple majority
Motion for Friendly Amendment	Alteration of a motion or proposal agreed to by all sponsors	42	No	No	No	No	None
Motion for ordinary amendment	Amend a motion/proposal currently under debate	42	Yes	No	No	No	Simple majority
Motion for a Caucus (moderated or unmoderated)	See Motion to Suspend the Session	30	Yes	No	No	No	Simple majority
Motion to set the agenda	Typically the first motion to set the order of agenda topics	18	Yes	No	Yes	No	2/3 majority
Motion to change agenda topic order	To change the order of topics on the agenda	19	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	2/3 majority
Motion to Introduce Proposal/Resolution	Introduce a resolution for consideration or to amend a motion or clauses to a motion	42/44	Yes	No	No	No	Simple majority
<b>Voting Procedure Motions</b>							
Motion to divide the question	To vote on a resolution/amendment in two or more parts	38	Yes	No	No	No	Simple majority
Motion for a roll call vote	Vote by calling on each member individually in turn	35	No	No	No	No	Discretion of Chair (subject appeal)
<b>Yields</b>							
Dais	Remaining speaking time will be absorbed by the dais	46	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Another delegate	Remaining speaking time will be given to another delegate	46	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Questions	Remaining speaking time to answer questions from other delegates through the Chair	46/48	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

## **Model African Union General Program Notes**

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There will be a Technical/Informational Opening Meeting on Friday February 19. The General Session will meet for about an hour from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. EST. The parameters of the virtual model will be discussed and questions answered about the process. Zoom will be used for all meetings so delegates should become familiar with how it works. It is also important that delegates have the most recent version of Zoom. Once the more general questions have been answered, delegates will adjourn to their respective committees. In these breakout rooms the officers and delegates may introduce themselves. The Officers will explain how they will proceed with their meetings and answer questions. Once the officers and delegates are comfortable with the process, the meetings will be terminated. These meetings are for the purpose of familiarizing participants with the technology. No substantive business will be conducted. These organizational training sessions are not part of the formal opening and business of the IMAU. But these meetings are essential to the smooth operation of the virtual model. Please attend.

The Opening Plenary Meeting will take place from 8:00 a.m. to 9 a.m. EST on Saturday, February 20. Delegations will be welcomed by the Director, Howard University and the African Union. A Keynote address will be followed by adjournment to Committees.

The Committees will open their substantive sessions and begin the process of consolidation of draft resolutions into a working single draft that will be fully debated and voted on by the whole committee. During this process the committee may operate in full session or in moderated or unmoderated caucuses depending upon the need at the time. On Saturday this process will continue from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. EST with breaks including a lunch break to be determined by the Committee. This process will continue on Sunday, February 21 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. EST. At 12:00 p.m. the Committees and Council will adjourn. The officers will meet with the officers of the Assembly of Heads of State.

At 1:00 p.m. the Assembly of Heads of State and Government will open its annual session to consider and vote on resolutions passed in Committee and in the Council. Following this consideration and vote the Assembly will close its session and adjourn. This adjournment will be followed by a Closing Ceremony that will include recognitions for outstanding performance and a reflection on the work of this year's IMAU. At 3:00 p.m. the 19<sup>th</sup> IMAU will adjourn sine die. A Faculty Advisor meeting will follow the adjournment at 3:00 p.m.

Throughout the meetings there will be a Secretariat freely available to Faculty Advisors and Officers. Delegates may access the Secretariat through their faculty advisor.

The platform for the meetings will be Zoom. Presumably by this time you and your students are familiar with Zoom. We will have a couple of training sessions to talk about the committee process and how caucusing will be handled. You and your students need to be sure to have downloaded the latest version of Zoom since it is regularly updated with new, sometimes useful, features. When logging on, delegates should change their name to the name of the country they represent. Faculty should log on as “Faculty Advisor.”

When registering, you will be asked to provide the following information for each delegate: name, email address, cellphone number, and committee/council to which they are assigned. This information should be submitted when the assignment to committees is definite. It will be extremely difficult to change this assignment once in the system. It is unlikely that the cellphone number will be needed but in case there are significant connection or other issues it will be possible for the Secretariat to contact the delegate.

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



### **Friday, 19 February 2021**

1 – 5 p.m. EST/9 p.m. – 1 a.m. EAT: Secretariat for Officer/Faculty meeting

2 p.m. – 3 p.m. EST/10 p.m. – 11 p.m. EAT: Delegates General Technical/Training Session

3 p.m. – 4 p.m. EST/11 p.m. – 12 a.m. EAT: Committee/Council Technical/Training Session

### **Saturday, 20 February 2021**

7:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. EST/3:30 p.m. – 11 p.m. EAT: Secretariat (Officers meeting 7:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. EST/3:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. EAT)

8 a.m. – 9 a.m. EST/4 p.m. – 5 p.m. EAT: Opening Plenary and Keynote Address

9 a.m. – 2 p.m. EST/5 p.m. -10 p.m. EAT: Council and Committees meet to consolidate, draft and debate resolutions on assigned agenda topics

### **Sunday, 21 February 2021**

7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. EST/3:30 p.m. – 12 a.m. EAT: Secretariat (Officers to meeting 12 p.m. – 1 p.m. EST/8 p.m. – 9 p.m. EAT)

8 a.m. – 12 p.m. EST/4 p.m. - 8 p.m. EAT: Council and Committees meet to consolidate, draft and debate resolutions on assigned agenda topics

1 p.m. – 3 p.m. EST/9 p.m. – 11 p.m. EAT: Assembly of Heads of State and Government meets to consider final resolutions and Closing Ceremony

4 p.m. EST/ 12 a.m. EAT: Faculty Meeting



## **AGENDA FOR THE INTERNATIONAL MODEL AFRICAN UNION**

### **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

1. A Protocol for Coordinating and Integrating Continental, Regional, State and Non-State Mechanisms for Pandemic Preparedness and Response. [Preparations for the Headquarters of the Africa Center for Disease Control Underway at the African Union | African Union \(au.int\)](#)

### **COMMITTEE ON DEMOCRACY, GOVERNANCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

1. Silencing the guns through building resilient democracies and accountable governance  
[9th High-Level Dialogue on Democracy, Human Rights and Governance in Africa | African Union \(au.int\)](#)
2. Entrenching universal principles of human rights, gender equality, justice and the rule of law: aspirations and implementation.

### **COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC MATTERS**

1. Accelerating intra-African trade and boosting Africa's trading position in the global market by strengthening Africa's common voice and policy space in global trade negotiations. [African Continental Free Trade Area \(AfCFTA\) | African Union \(au.int\)](#)
2. Confronting the national, regional and continental economic consequences of Covid 19 in Africa: A plan for recovery.

### **COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL MATTERS**

1. The youth in African development: education, employment, entrepreneurship and engagement. [Africa Youth Month 2020 | African Union \(au.int\)](#)
2. Empowering the African woman and eliminating all forms of violence and discrimination (social, economic, political) against women and girls: aspirations and implementation.

### **COMMITTEE ON PEACE AND SECURITY**

1. Operationalizing the African Standby Force: A Protocol for Post conflict Reconstruction, Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) and Security Sector Reform to Prevent and Combat Terrorism and Violent Extremism.  
[8 Report on PSC on its Activities and the State of Peace & Security in Africa \(au.int\)](#)

[NATO - News: NATO-African Union plan closer collaboration, 04-Nov.-2019](#) .

2. Conflict Management and Resolution in:
  - a. Somalia
  - b. SADR/Morocco
  - c. South Sudan
  - d. Ethiopia

**ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT**

1. Debate and Adopt Final Resolutions
2. Closing Ceremony and Adjournment

## ETCETERA

### **The Model AU Secretariat**

The Model AU Secretariat is the administrative office of the Model. Overall responsibility for the Secretariat is exercised by Faculty Advisors to the Model AU Secretariat under the authority of the Director. Officers and Faculty Advisors will have automatic access to the Secretariat. Delegates may reach the Secretariat through their faculty advisor or email IMAUSecretariat@gmail.com.

### **Committee and Council Officers**

The officers of the Executive Council and Committees are the Chair, and Vice-Chair. The officers, like you, are students who have been appointed based on their experience and then trained in the parameters of a virtual. Their job is to ensure the smooth running of the model from a procedural point of view. Their leadership in facilitating your deliberations through their management of the meeting is crucial to the success of the meeting. You are asked to respect this role.

## SOME FINAL THOUGHTS

For almost all of you the Model experience will be a memorable and important one. You will learn things about Africa and Africans that will change your outlook on the continent, its people, and its prospects. You will also learn much about yourself and working with other people.

As a learning experience it is important to bring to it the same seriousness and respect for those participating in it as you would in a formal class. You need to show your fellow delegates, the officers, and the faculty that same level of commitment and respect. We are all here to learn.

As a virtual event, the 2021 IMAU Conference will be unique and singular. None of us have done this before so we do not know exactly how it will work or what problems to anticipate. We have consulted other simulations that have been done but each one is different so it is not possible to know if we have covered all of our bases. All of us need to embark on this experience in the spirit of teamwork and good will anxious for it to succeed and committed to being flexible and adapting as needed while the simulation unfolds.

Patience, forbearance, good will, mutual respect, flexibility and adaptability are qualities that facilitate the Model at the best of times, they are especially needed at this virtual Model. With these qualities guiding our behavior and good preparation for representing our countries, we know we will succeed.

See You in February.....

## CONSTITUTIVE ACT OF THE AFRICAN UNION

We, Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the Organization of African Unity (OAU):

**INSPIRED:** by the noble ideals which guided the founding fathers of our Continental Organization and generations of Pan-Africanists in their determination to promote unity, solidarity, cohesion and cooperation among the peoples of Africa and African States;

**CONSIDERING** the principles and objectives stated in the Charter of the Organization of African Unity and the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community;

**RECALLING** the heroic struggles by our peoples and our countries for political independence, human dignity and economic emancipation;

**CONSIDERING** that since its inception, the Organization of African Unity has played a determining and invaluable role in the liberation of the continent, the affirmation of a common identity and the process of attainment of the unity of our continent and has provided a unique framework for our collective action in Africa and our relations with the rest of the world;

**DETERMINED** to take up the multifaceted challenges that confront our continent and peoples in the light of the social, economic and political changes taking places in the world;

**CONVINCED** of the need to accelerate the process of implementing the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community in order to promote the socio-economic development of Africa and to face more effectively the challenges posed by globalization;

**GUIDED** by our common vision of a united and strong Africa and by the need to build a partnership between governments and all segments of civil society, in particular women, youth and the private sector, in order to strengthen solidarity and cohesion among our peoples;

**CONSCIOUS** of the fact that the scourge of conflicts in Africa constitutes a major impediment to the socio-economic development of the continent and of the need to promote peace, security and stability as a prerequisite for the implementation of our development and integration agenda;

**DETERMINED** to promote and protect human and peoples' rights, consolidate democratic institutions and culture, and to ensure good governance and the rule of law;

**FURTHER DETERMINED** to take all necessary measures to strengthen our common institutions and provide them with the necessary powers and resources to enable them discharge their respective mandates effectively;

**RECALLING** the Declaration which we adopted at the Fourth Extraordinary Session of our Assembly in Sirte, the great Socialist People’s Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on 9.9 99, in which we decided to establish an African Union, in conformity with the ultimate objectives of the Charter of our Continental Organization and the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community;

**HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:**

**Article 1**

**Definitions**

In this Constitutive Act:

“Act” means the present Constitutive Act;

“AEC” means the African Economic Community;

“Assembly” means the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Union;

“Charter” means the Charter of the OAU;

“Commission” means the Secretariat of the Union;

“Committee” means a Specialized Technical committee of the Union;

“Council” means the Economic, Social and Cultural Council of the Union;

“Court” means the Court of Justice of the Union;

“Executive Council” means the “Executive Executive Council of the union;

“Member State” means Member State of the Union;

“OAU” means the Organization of African Unity;

“Parliament” means the Pan-African Parliament of the Union;

“Union” means the African Union established by the present Constitutive Act.

**Article 2**

**Establishment**

The African Union is hereby established in accordance with provisions of this Act.

**Article 3**

**Objectives**

The objectives of the Union shall be to:

- (a) achieve greater unity and solidarity between the African countries and the peoples of Africa;
- (b) defend the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of its Member states;
- (c) accelerate the political and socio-economic integration of the continent;
- (d) promote and defend African common positions on issues of interest to the continent and its peoples;
- (e) encourage international cooperation, taking due account of the charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;
- (f) promote peace, security and stability on the continent;
- (g) promote democratic principles and institutions, popular participation and good governance;

- (h) promote and protect human and people's rights in accordance with the African Charter on Human and People's rights and other relevant human rights instruments;
- (i) establish the necessary conditions which enable the continent to play its rightful role in the global economy and in international negotiations;
- (j) promote development at the economic, social and cultural levels as well as the integration of African economies;
- (k) promote co-operation in all fields of human activity to raise the living standards of African peoples;
- (l) coordinate and harmonize the policies between the existing and future Regional Economic Communities for the gradual attainment of the objectives of the Union;
- (m) advance the development of the continent by promoting research in all fields, in particular in science and technology;
- (n) work with relevant international partners in the eradication of preventable diseases and the promotion of good health on the continent.

#### **Article 4**

#### **Principles**

The Union shall function in accordance with the following principles:

- (a) sovereign equality and interdependence among Member States of the Union;
- (b) respect of borders existing on achievement of independence;
- (c) participation of the African peoples in the activities of the Union;
- (d) establishment of a common defense for the African Continent;
- (e) peaceful resolution of conflicts among Member States of the Union through such appropriate means as may be decided upon by the Assembly;
- (f) prohibition of the use of force or threat to use force among Member States of the Union;
- (g) non-interference by any member States and their right to live in peace and security;
- (h) the right of the Union to intervene in a Member State pursuant to a decision of the Assembly in respect of grave circumstances, namely: war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity;
- (i) peaceful co-existence of Member States and their right to live in peace and security;
- (j) the right of member States to request intervention from the Union in order to restore peace and security
- (k) promotion of self reliance within the framework of the Union;
- (l) promotion of gender equality
- (m) respect for democratic principles, human rights, the rule of law and good governance;
- (n) promotion of social justice to ensure balanced economic development;
- (o) respect for the sanctity of human life, condemnation and rejection of impunity and political assassination, acts of terrorism and subversive;
- (p) condemnation and rejection of unconstitutional changes of governments.

## **Article 5**

### **Organs of the Union**

1. The organs of the Union shall be:
  - (a) The Assembly of the Union;
  - (b) The Executive Council;
  - (c) The Pan-African Parliament;
  - (d) The Court of Justice;
  - (e) The Commission;
  - (f) The Permanent Representatives Committee;
  - (g) The Specialized Technical Committee;
  - (h) The economic, Social and Cultural Council;
  - (i) The Financial Institutions;
2. Other organs that the Assembly may decide to establish.

## **Article 6**

### **The Assembly**

1. the Assembly shall be composed of Heads of States and Government or their duly accredited representatives.
2. The Assembly shall be the supreme organ of the Union.
3. The Assembly shall meet at least once a year in ordinary session. At the request of any member State and on approval by a two-thirds majority of the member states, the Assembly shall meet extraordinary session
4. The office of the Chairman of the Assembly shall be held for a period of one year by a Head of State or Government elected after consultations among the Member States.

## **Article 7**

### **Decisions of the Assembly**

1. The Assembly shall take its decisions by consensus or, failing which, by a two-thirds majority of the Member States of the Union. However, procedural matters, including the question of whether a matter is one of procedure or not, shall be decided by a simple majority.
2. Two-thirds of the total membership of the Union shall form of quorum at any meeting of the Assembly.

## **Article 8**

### **Rules of Procedure of the Assembly**

The Assembly shall adopt its own Rules of Procedure.

## **Article 9**

### **Powers and Functions of the Assembly**

1. The functions of the Assembly shall be to:
  - (a) determine the common policies of the Union;
  - (b) receive, consider and take decisions on reports and recommendations from the other organs of the Union;
  - (c) consider requests for Membership of the Union;
  - (d) establish any organ of the Union;
  - (e) monitor the implementation of policies and decision of the Union as well ensure compliance by all Member States;
  - (f) adopt the budget of the Union;
  - (g) give directives to the Executive Council on the management of conflicts, war and other emergency situations and the restoration of peace;
  - (h) appoint and terminate the appointment of the judges of the Court of Justice;
  - (i) appoint the Chairman of the Commission and his or her deputy or deputies and Commissioners of the Commission and determine their functions and terms of office.
2. The Assembly may delegate any of its powers and functions to any organ of the Union.

## **Article 10**

### **The Executive Council**

- A. The Executive Council shall be composed of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs or such other Ministers or Authorities as are designated by the Governments of Member States.
- B. The Executive Council shall meet at least twice a year in ordinary session. It shall also meet in an extra-ordinary session at the request of any Member State and upon approval by two-thirds of all Member States.

## **Article 11**

### **Decisions of the Executive Council**

1. The Executive Council shall take its decisions by consensus or, failing which, by a two-thirds majority of the Member States. However, procedural matters, including the question of whether a matter is one of procedure or not, shall be decided by a simple majority.
2. Two-thirds of the total membership of the Union shall form a quorum at any meeting of the Executive Council.

## **Article 12**

### **Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council**

The Executive Council shall adopt its own Rules of Procedure.



## **Article 13**

### **Functions of the Executive Council**

1. The Executive Council shall coordinate and take decisions on policies in areas of common interest to the Member States, including the following:
  - (a) foreign trade;
  - (b) energy, industry and mineral resources;
  - (c) food, agricultural and animal resources, livestock production and forestry;
  - (d) water resources and irrigation;
  - (e) environmental protection, humanitarian action and disaster response and relief;
  - (f) transport and communications;
  - (g) insurance;
  - (h) education, culture, health and human resources development;
  - (i) science and technology;
  - (j) nationality, residency and immigration matters;
  - (k) social security, including the formulation of mother and child care policies, as well as policies relating to the disabled and the handicapped;
  - (l) establishment of a system of African awards, medals and prizes.
2. The Executive Council shall be responsible to the Assembly. It shall consider issues referred to it and monitor the implementation of policies formulated by the Assembly.
3. The Executive Council may delegate any of its powers and functions mentioned in paragraph 1 of this article to the Specialized Technical Committees established under Article 14 of this Act.

## **Article 14**

### **The Specialized Technical Committees Establishment and Composition**

1. There is hereby established the following Specialized Technical Committees, which shall be responsible to the Executive Council:
  - (a) The Committee on Rural economy and Agricultural Matters;
  - (b) The Committee on Monetary and Financial Affairs;
  - (c) The Committee on Trade, Customs, and Immigration Matters;
  - (d) The Committee on Industry, Science and Technology, Energy, Natural Resources and Environment;
  - (e) The Committee on Transport, Communications and Tourism;
  - (f) The Committee on Health, Labour and Social Affairs; and
  - (g) The Committee on education, Culture and Human Resources.
2. The Assembly shall, whenever it deems appropriate, restructure the existing Committee or establish other Committees.
3. The Specialized technical Committees shall be composed of Ministers or senior officials responsible for sectors falling within their respective areas of competence.

## **Article 15**

### **Functions of the Specialized Technical Committees**

Each Committee shall within its field of competence:

- (a) prepare projects and programmes of the Union and submit it to the Executive Council;
- (b) ensure the supervision, follow-up and the evaluation of the implementation of the decisions taken by the organs of the Union;
- (c) ensure the coordination and harmonization of projects and programmes of the Union;
- (d) submit to the Executive Council either on its own initiative or at the request of the Executive Council, reports and recommendations on the provisions of this Act; and
- (e) carry out any other functions assigned to it for the purpose of ensuring the implementation of the provisions of this Act.

## **Article 16**

### **Meetings**

Subject to any directives given by the Executive Council, each Committee shall meet as often as necessary and shall prepare its Rules of Procedure and submit them to the Executive Council for approval.

## **Article 17**

### **The Pan-African Parliament**

1. In order to ensure the full participation of African peoples in the development and economic integration of the continent, a Pan-African Parliament shall be established.
2. The composition, powers, functions and organization of the Pan-African Parliament shall be defined in a protocol relating thereto.

## **Article 18**

### **The Court of Justice**

1. A Court of Justice of the Union shall be established;
2. The statute, composition and functions of the Court of Justice shall be defined in a protocol relating thereto.

## **Article 19**

### **The Financial Institutions**

The Union shall have the following financial institutions whose rules and regulations shall be defined in protocols relating thereto:

- (a) The African Central Bank;
- (b) The African Monetary Fund;
- (c) The African Investment Bank.

## **Article 20**

### **The Commission**

1. There shall be established a Commission of the Union, which shall be the Secretariat of the Union.
2. The Commission shall be composed of the Chairman, his or her deputy or deputies and the commissioners. They shall be assisted by the necessary staff for the smooth functioning of the Commission.
3. The structure, functions and regulations of the Commission shall be determined by the Assembly.

## **Article 21**

### **The Permanent Representatives Committee**

1. There shall be established a Permanent Representatives Committee. It shall be composed of Permanent Representatives to the Union and other Plenipotentiaries of Member States.
2. The Permanent Representatives Committee shall be charged with the responsibility of preparing the work of the Executive Council and acting on the Executive Council's instructions. It may set up such sub-committees, or working groups as it may deem necessary.

## **Article 22**

### **The economic, Social and Cultural Council**

1. The Economic, Social and Cultural Council shall be an advisory organ composed of different social and professional groups of the Member States of the Union.
2. The functions, powers, composition and organization of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council shall be determined by the Assembly.

## **Article 23**

### **Imposition of Sanctions**

1. The Assembly shall determine the appropriate sanctions to be imposed on any member state that defaults in the payment of its contributions to the budget of the Union in the following manner: denial of the right to speak at meetings, to vote, to present candidates for any positions or post within the Union or to benefit from any activity or commitments, therefrom;
2. Furthermore, any Member State that fails to comply with the decisions and policies of the Union may be subjected to other sanctions, such as the denial of transport and communications links with other Member States, and other measures of a political and economic nature to be determined by the Assembly.

## **Article 24**

### **The Headquarters of the Union**

1. The headquarters of the Union shall be in Addis Ababa in the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.
2. There may be established such offices of the Union as the Assembly may on the recommendation of the Executive Council determine.

## **Article 25**

### **Working Languages**

The working languages of the Union and all its institutions shall be, if possible, African Languages, Arabic, English, French and Portuguese.

## **Article 26**

### **Interpretation**

The Court shall be seized with matters of interpretation arising from the application or implementation of this Act. Pending its establishment, such matters shall be submitted to the Assembly of the Union, which shall decide by a two-thirds majority.

## **Article 27**

### **Signature, Ratification and Accession**

1. This Act shall be open to signature, ratification and accession by the Member States of the AU in accordance with their respective constitutional procedures.
2. The instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the AU.
3. Any Member State of the AU acceding to this Act after its entry into force shall deposit the instrument of accession with the Chairman of the Commission.

## **Article 28**

### **Entry into Force**

This Act shall enter into force thirty (30) days after the deposit of the instruments of ratification by two-thirds of the Member States of the AU.

## **Article 29**

### **Admission to Membership**

1. Any African State at any time after the entry into force of this Act, notify the Chairman of the Commission of its intention to accede to this Act and to be admitted as a member of the Union.
2. The Chairman of the Commission shall upon receipt of such notification, transmit copies thereof to all Member States. Admission shall be decided by a simple majority.

of the Member States. The decision of each Member State shall be transmitted to the Chairman of the Commission who shall, upon receipt of the required number of votes, communicate the decision to the State concerned.

### **Article 30**

#### **Suspension**

Governments which shall come to power through unconstitutional means shall not be allowed to participate in the activities of the Union.

### **Article 31**

#### **Cessation of Membership**

1. Any state which desires to renounce its membership shall forward a written notification to the Chairman of the Commission, who shall inform Member States thereof. At the end of one year from the date of such notification, if not withdrawn, the Act shall cease to apply with respect to the renouncing State, which shall thereby cease to belong to the Union.
2. During the period of one year referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article, any Member State wishing to withdraw from the Union shall comply with the provisions of this Act and shall be bound to discharge its obligations under this Act up to the date of its withdrawal.

### **Article 32**

#### **Amendment and Revision**

1. Any Member State may submit proposals for the amendment or revision of this Act.
2. Proposals for amendments or revision shall be submitted to the Chairman of the Commission who shall transmit same to Member States within thirty (30) days of receipt thereof.
3. The Assembly, upon the advice of the Executive Council, shall examine these proposals within a period of one year following notification of Member States, in accordance with provisions of paragraph 2 of this Article;
4. Amendments or revisions shall be adopted by the Assembly by consensus or, failing which by two-thirds majority and submitted for ratification by all Member States in accordance with their respective constitutional procedures. They shall enter into force thirty (30) days after the deposit of the instruments of ratification with the Chairman of the Commission by a two-thirds majority of the Member states.

### **Article 33**

#### **Transitional Arrangements and Final Provisions**

1. This Act shall replace the Charter of the Organization of African Unity. However, the Charter shall remain operative for a transitional period of one year or such further period as may be determined by the Assembly, following the entry into force of the Act, for the purpose of enabling the AU/AEC to undertake the necessary measures

regarding the devolution of its assets and liabilities to the Union and all matters relating thereto.

2. The provisions of this Act shall take precedence over and supersede any inconsistent or contrary provisions of the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community.
3. Upon the entry into force of this Act, all necessary measures shall be undertaken to implement its provisions and to ensure the establishment of the organs provided for under the Act in accordance with any directives or decisions which may be adopted in this regard by the Parties thereto within the transitional period stipulated above.
4. Pending the establishment of the Commission, the OAU General Secretariat shall be the interim Secretariat of the Union.
5. This Act, drawn up in four (4) original texts in the Arabic, English, French and Portuguese languages, all four (4) being equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the OAU and, after its entry into force, with the Chairman of the Commission who shall transmit a certified true copy of the Act to the Government of each signatory state. The Secretary-General of the OAU and the Chairman of the Commission shall notify all signatory States of the dates of the deposit of the instruments of ratification or accession and shall upon entry into force of this Act register the same with the Secretariat of the United Nations.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, WE** have adopted this Act.

Done at Lome, Togo, this 11<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2000.