

**CM/DEC.412 (LXVIII) REPORT ON THE OAU COMMISSION ON THE
SITUATION OF REFUGEES, RETURNEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS IN
AFRICA - (DOC. CM.2067 (LXVIII))**

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report of the OAU Commission on Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in Africa and endorses the recommendations contained therein;
2. REQUESTS Member States to address the root causes of the refugees and displaced persons and to create the propitious conditions to spare their populations forced movements and asylum drive, by establishing a climate of peace and stability as well as the necessary democratic institutions;
3. FURTHER REQUESTS the countries of origin to promote peace, security stability and national reconciliation so as to encourage and facilitate voluntary repatriation of refugees and return of displaced persons to their places of residence;
4. APPEALS to Member States to respect the basic principles enshrined in the UN and OAU Conventions on Refugees;
5. EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE to the Member States in particular those which offer asylum and/or assistance to refugees in the spirit of African solidarity and brotherhood;
6. TAKES NOTE of the recommendations of the OAU/UNHCR Regional Meeting on Refugee Issues in the Great Lakes Region held in Kampala and CALLS UPON OAU and UNHCR to continue to work with the Member States in the region to identify solutions to all outstanding refugee problems in Central Africa;
7. REITERATES ITS APPEAL to the International Community, in the spirit of burden-sharing, to extend to the asylum countries, increased material assistance so as to

augment their capacity to shoulder the heavy responsibilities of hosting the refugees as well as cope with the socio-economic and environmental consequences arising from it;
8. EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE to the International Community, and the humanitarian organizations which provide assistance to refugees and displaced persons, in particular, the UNHCR, WFP and the ICRC; REITERATES ITS PROFOUND SATISFACTION

with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees as well as her organization for the work and the relentless efforts deployed in favour of refugees and URGES them to increase their assistance and to cooperate with the OAU and Member States in the search for lasting solutions to the problem of refugees and displaced persons in Africa;

9. INVITES all Member States to take part actively in the Ministerial Session of the OAU Commission on Refugees and Displaced Persons slated for Khartoum, the Sudan, in December 1998;

10. REQUESTS the OAU Commission on Refugees and the Secretariat to pursue their efforts in close co-operation with the UNHCR to implement the Programme of Action adopted during the 64th Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers held in Yaounde Cameroon, in July 1996;

11. TAKES NOTE WITH SATISFACTION the work done by the OAU Commission on Refugees and REQUESTS it to continue implementing its Programme for Action.