

REPORT OF THE 6th ORDINARY SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Ouagadougou, 22 – 23 August 2001

At the kind invitation of the Government of Burkina Faso, the 6th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council was held in Ouagadougou on 22 – 23 August 2001.

2. Were present at this session the Ministers, Heads and members of delegation of the following countries:

BURKINA FASO
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
CHAD
GAMBIA
GREAT JAMAHIRIYA
EGYPT
ERITREA
MALI
MOROCCO
NIGER
NIGERIA
SENEGAL
SUDAN
TUNISIA

3. The two potential members, TOGO, BENIN, were represented by their Ministers of Foreign Affairs.
4. The CEN-SAD Secretariat-General delegation was lead by the Secretary-General **Dr. MOHAMED AL-MADANI AL-AZHARI.**
5. The African Bank for Development and Trade was represented by its Chairman of the Board of Directors and Managing Director, **M. ALHADI MOHAMED AL-WARFALLI.**
6. A complete list of delegations is attached.

OPENNING CEREMONY

7. The Guest of honour the Prime Minister, Head of Government of Faso **H.E. PARAMANGA ERNEST YONLI** officially opened the sixth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council.
8. After welcoming the Ministers and Heads of delegations, and wishing them an enjoyable stay in Burkina Faso, His Excellency the Prime Minister noted that this session of the Executive Council demonstrates, once more, the firm will of the Member States to make of CEN-SAD a model of

regional integration, and to rise to the multiples challenges they face for the benefit of present and future generations.

9. He stressed that at the political and security levels, and despite its relative youth, the CEN-SAD has already demonstrated its efficiency and its capacity to play the role assigned to it thanks to the support of the guide of the Great AL-FATEH Revolution Colonel **MOUAMMAR EL-KADDAFI**.
10. With regard to the situation in the Sudan and Central Africa, His Excellency YONLI, noted that these points of major concern, require of us to speedily devise a specific mechanism for the prevention, management and settlement of conflicts. He also expressed his hopes that the peace process initiated in the Sudan at the initiative of the Libyan Jamahiriya and the Arab Republic of Egypt, will succeed in order to preserve and consolidate the territorial integrity and sovereignty and national unity of this brotherly country.
11. Considering work accomplished at economic level, His Excellency underscored the progress achieved in establishing cooperation in different fields and wished that the strengthening of such cooperation would lead to the establishment of a CEN-SAD Common Market.
12. His Excellency invited the Executive Council to consider issues such as the establishment of an agency for technical cooperation, of an Institute for training senior staff in the areas of Banking and finance, the development of road infrastructures, the launching of the activities of the African Bank for Development and Trade, the installation of Economic Social and Cultural Council, and the establishment of an Interparliamentary body.
13. The Prime Minister, seized this opportunity to recall that despite the gains of which the organization can be duly proud, the road areas remains a long one. He therefore wished that the 6th ordinary session, in order to consolidate the foundations of CEN-SAD, would dwell on the relevant proposal made, inter alia by Secretary General of the Community through his Interim Report.
14. The Prime Minister concluded his address by urging all participants to adhere to the principle of Communal Work, for a novel integration within the framework of African Union.
15. Then at the suggestion of Dr. A. TRIKI, Head of the Libyan delegation, Secretary of the peoples' committee for African Union, the Ministers and Heads of delegation agreed to adopt the speech of the Prime Minister, Head of Government of Burkina, as an official working document of the session.
16. The Secretary General of CEN-SAD Dr. MOHAMED AL-MADANI AL-AZHARI also made an address in which he hailed the commitment and dedication of His Excellency **BLAISE COMPAORE**, President of Burkina Faso, in the support of African regional communities, in order to achieve the noble goal of African Union in accordance with the Sirte Declaration of 9/9/1999.
17. The Secretary General then spoke of the increasing credibility of the community both at international and national levels. He paid a vibrant tribute to the Members of the Conference of Leaders and Heads of State, especially Colonel MOUAMMAR EL-KADDAFI, whose unrelenting political support for and dedication to the objectives have been decisive in widening its scope and the success of its activities and programmes.
18. The Secretary General also acknowledged the support, which the activities of the Secretarial General has received, and particularly singled out the constructive efforts of His Excellency **OMAR HASSAN AL-BACHIR**, the incumbent Chairman of the Conference of Leaders and Heads of State, President of the Republic of the Sudan, in the service of the Community.
19. The Secretary General gave the gist of the activities carried out since the meetings of Khartoum February 2001, particularly concerning the consolidation of peace and security and the initiatives taken in order to establish cooperation in all fields between Member States, with technical assistance from specialized international institutions.
20. The Chairman of the Session, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Sudan, **Dr MUSTAPHA OSMAN ISMAËL**, outgoing Chairman of the Executive Council addressed the

Conference. He expressed his gratitude to the authorities of Burkina Faso for their generous and overwhelming hospitality extended to the Delegations since their arrival.

21. He also thanked the Ministers and Heads of delegation for their willingness to come to Ouagadougou so as to actively contribute to the building of the CEN-SAD Community in accordance with the guidelines provided by the Leaders and Heads of State.
22. He noted with satisfaction the dynamism gained by the CEN-SAD Community and which was manifested at the Khartoum Summit, in joining of new members whose membership would give a new impetus to this organization for the establishment of a space dominated by peace, concord, solidarity and a sharing of resources.
23. Dr MUSTAPHA urged all the third world countries, and particularly the African Countries including the CEN-SAD Member States to close ranks in this era of globalization.
24. After the opening ceremony, the meeting continued its proceedings in camera and elected the Bureau of the Sixth Ordinary Session. Dr. MUSTAPHA, the outgoing Chairman gave the floor to the Secretary-General of the Community in order to introduce the proposed Bureau.
25. Then the following Bureau was elected by acclamation:
 - * Chairman: Burkina Faso
 - * Vice-Chairman: Sudan
 - * General Rapporteur: The Great Jamahiriya.

26. The Chairman of the 6th Ordinary Session, the State Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Burkina Faso, **H.E. YOUSOUF OUEDRAOGO**, after thanking the outgoing bureau invited the meeting to consider the draft agenda drawn-up by the Secretariat-General and after some amendments, it was adopted as follows:

I. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

- I.A. Report of the outgoing President of the Executive Council.
- I.B. Interim Report of the Secretary-General of the CEN-SAD. February – August 2001.
- I.C. Presentation and adoption of the Report of the CEN-SAD's Committee of Ambassadors in Tripoli.
- I.D. Presentation and adoption of the Report of Expert's Meeting.

II. POLITICAL ISSUES

- II.A. Political and security situation within the CEN-SAD Space.
 - *Situation in the Central Africa Republic.*
 - *Situation in Southern Sudan.*
 - *Developments in the conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea.*
 - *Preliminary exchanges of view on ways and means to create a CEN-SAD's mechanism for maintenance of peace.*
 - *Establishing an observatory for preventing conflicts within the CEN-SAD's Space.*
- II.B. Examination of the 3^d Report of Ministers in charge of the Interior and Public Security. Bamako.
- II.C. Developments in the Lockerbie case.
- II.D. Proposal for the creation of a CEN-SAD interparliamentary body.
- II.E. Assessment of African Union's first steps and outlining a CEN-SAD strategy for consolidating the African Union.

III. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ISSUES

- III.A. Exchanges of view on the economic integration process within the CEN-SAD Space.

- III.B. Installation of the Solidarity Fund of CEN-SAD Member States.
- III.C. Presentation of the Activity Report of the African Bank for Development and Trade – BADC-
 - Increase of capital and proposal to review the Statute of the Bank.
- III.D. Economic, Social and Cultural Council.
- III.E. Examination of the proposal related to the creation of a consultation framework of organisations concerned with humanitarian and voluntary issues.
- III.F. Creation of an Agency for Technical Cooperation.
- III.G. Creation of an Institute for Training of Senior Staff in Finance and Banking.
- III.H. Creation of a stock market for partnership and sub contracting.
- III.I. Organisation of a CEN-SAD's International Fair.
- III.J. Creation of an Authority for the development of Sahara.
- III.K. Creation of a CEN-SAD Scientific Council for thinking and exchanging scientific programs.
- III.L. Development of road infrastructures.
- III.M. Organisation of a Football Tournament.
- III.N. Joint Health Program initiated by Libya and Nigeria.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL ISSUES

- IV.A. Financial situation of the Community.
- IV.B. State of arrears in contributions of Member States.
- IV.C. Scale of contributions for the financial year 2001.
Examination and adoption of the Draft Budget for the year 2001.
- IV.D. Examination of the accounting documents for the budgetary years 2000 and 2001.
- IV.E. Re-inforcement of human resources of the Secretariat-General.
- IV.F. Reactivation of the Department in charge of Women affairs within the Secretariat-General.
- IV.G. Publishing a CEN-SAD's News Bulletin.

V. LEGAL ISSUES

- V.A. State of implementation of the Decision on exemption from visa for the holders of diplomatic and service passports and those on official missions.
- V.B. Presentation of cooperation agreements between CEN-SAD and other intergovernmental organizations.
- V.C. Observer Status of CEN-SAD within the United Nations system.
- V.D. Proposal for the adoption of a draft convention of cooperation between member States of the Community of Sahel-Saharan States against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS

VII. DATES AND VENUE OF THE 7th ORDINARY SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

The Session also adopted the following working program:

- * Morning: 09 H 00- 13 H 00
- * Evening: 15 H 30- 18 H 00.

DISCUSSIONS

27. The Chairman noted at the outset the presence of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and African Integration of the Republic of Benin, **H.E. KOLAWOLE IDJI** and that of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Togo, **H.E. KOFFI PANOU**, both potential members of the Executive Council, then invited the meeting to consider the items of the agenda adopted with taking into account the work carried out by the experts who met on 20 – 21 August 2001 and the recommendations they submit to the Ministerial Meeting.

I. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

28. The Chairman of the Session invited the outgoing President, the Sudan Minister of Foreign Affairs to present his report.

I.A. Report of the outgoing President of the Executive Council.

29. The Honourable Minister **MUSTAPHA OSMAN ISMAËL** presented a report on activities conducted during his term and in the frame of the mandate assigned to him by the 5th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Khartoum on February 2001.
30. The honourable Minister MUSTAPHA addressed the political and security situation in the CEN-SAD Space which is satisfactory in the main, thanks to preventive actions undertaken jointly by the Incumbent President, President **OUMAR HASSAN EL BECHIR** and the Guide of the Great El Fatah Revolution, Colonel **MUAMMAR EL KADDAFI**. He expressed satisfaction on positive evolution of some flash points particularly in the Central African Republic.
31. He also addressed the Joint Egypt – Libya initiative aimed at restoring national concord in the Sudan with the unreserved adherence of the Sudanese Government to the proposals of the aforementioned initiative.
32. He reviewed the program of the sectoral ministerial meetings scheduled during this year. He wished the installation this year of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council and implementation of other actions at the initiative of the Executive Council and other bodies in order to mobilize Member States and close ranks in front of the multiple problems at the regional and international levels.
33. He echoed the administrative and financial difficulties faced by the Secretariat-General and urged Member States to pay their contributions and arrears of contributions in the organization budget as soon as possible.
34. The Honourable Minister presented the action plan proposed by Sudan and aiming at strengthening the Community efficiency so that it can achieve objectives set and satisfy the aspirations of populations.
35. After presentation of this report, some delegations took the floor to pay tribute and thank the outgoing Chairman, Minister **MOUSTAPHA OMAR ISMAËL**, for his noticeable contribution to the consolidation of the CEN-SAD, thanking him for his self-investment for the success of the mission entrusted to him.
36. The Executive Council decided to adopt the report presented by Dr **MUSTAPHA OMAR ISMAËL**.

I.B. Interim Report of the Secretary-General of the CEN-SAD. February – August 2001.

37. The Secretary-General of the CEN-SAD Community, Mr. **MOHAMED AL-MADANI AL-AZHARI** presented the outlines of the interim report which he submitted to the 6th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council and the proposals it contains.
38. The Secretary-General pointed out the actions which he had undertaken in spite of a tense financial situation due to the failure of some Member States to pay their contributions and recommendations he submitted to the Executive Council.

39. At the economic level, the Secretary-General recalled the provisions of the Abuja Treaty of 3 June 1991 and invited Member States to agree on ways and means to establish Common Market through progressive instauration of free trade, stabilizing tariff and non-tariff barriers and gradually eliminating tariff and non-tariff barriers hampering intra-community trade. He expressed the wish that the next meeting of ministries in charge of Trade to be held in Tunis in January 2001 could consider these issues and adopt relevant actions.
40. Dr. MOHAMED AL-MADANI AL-AZHARI recalled the sectoral ministerial meetings scheduled this year in order to enable adoption of sectoral policies and carrying out projects in CEN-SAD Member States.
41. Meetings of Ministers in charge of Transport in N'Djamena; of Ministers of Rural Development in October 2001 in Khartoum; of Ministers of Hydraulics and Water in Tripoli in January 2001, of Ministers in charge of Energy; of Ministers of Public Health in Dakar; of Ministers of Environment, etc.
42. He drew the attention of the Executive Council to the alternative consisting in having recourse to the technical assistance of institutions such as FAO, ECA, CCD, OSS or in signing contracts with consultants if the financial means permit it.
43. He also briefed the Executive Council about the peace and dialogue promotion actions which he undertook, particularly in the Central African Republic, Somalia, Sudan and Eritrea, following the instructions of the Incumbent Chairman of the Conference of Leaders and Heads of State, H.E. OMAR HASSAN AL BECHIR, President of the Republic of the Sudan and of the Guide of the Revolution of the Great El Fatah, Colonel MUAMMAR EL-KADDAFI, in the framework of the mandate he has been entrusted with by the N'Djamena and Khartoum summits.
44. The Secretary-General wished that in addition to the security charter, Member States considered the possibility of formally creating a mechanism of conflict prevention, management and interposition.
45. He finally informed the Executive Council about the formal partnership relations which he had just established with FAO, COMESA, Council of Arab Economic Unity and the organized contacts with UNESCO, IGAD, ECOWAS, WHO, OSS, OIF.
46. The State Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Burkina Faso, H.E. YOUSSEUF OUEDRAOGO has, at the end of this presentation, opened the discussions on interim report of the Secretary-General.
47. The interim report of the Secretary-General was followed by many interventions in which Ministers, Heads of delegations pointed out the completeness in form and content as well as the exhaustiveness of the report presented by the Secretary-General, Dr MOHAMED AL-MADANI AL-AZHARI.
48. The 6th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council expressed satisfaction on the success recorded in several areas and the increasing credibility of CEN-SAD, and greeted the role played by the Secretary-General in stimulating the Community.
49. The members of the Executive Council paid tribute to the Secretary-General for his clear vision of the medium and long-term objectives of the CEN-SAD Community and total commitment to the mission entrusted to him by Leaders and Heads of State. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Chad, Mr. MAHAMAT SALEH ANNADIF seized the opportunity to raise the issue of the filling up of Lake Chad through the transfer of water from the OUBANGUI River and enquired from the Secretary-General the measures he had taken on this issue. The CEN-SAD Secretary-General informed Council of the ongoing consultation particularly with the Lake Chad River Basin Community (CBLT) and the discussions he had on this subject with the Director General of FAO, Mr. **JACQUES DIOUF** at the FAO Headquarters in Rome. In particular, he drew the attention of Council to the excessively high cost of this project.
50. The Executive Council after pointing out the relevance of the actions proposed and recommendations made by the Secretary-General, decided to adopt the interim report.

I.C. Presentation and adoption of the Report of the CEN-SAD's Committee of Ambassadors in Tripoli.

51. The Chairman of the CEN-SAD's Committee of Ambassadors in Tripoli, Ambassador OSMAN DIRAR presented to the Council the report of the Committee in which Ambassadors of the Community Member States in Tripoli noted availability of the Secretary-General Dr. MOHAMED AL-MADANI AL-AZHARI and take the opportunity of the 6th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council to express gratitude to him and his collaborators. The Ambassadors Committee expressed its high appreciation to the Secretary-General who supported their activities by making available facilities and staff of the Secretariat-General despite insufficiency of personnel.
52. The CEN-SAD Ambassadors Committee pointed out to the Executive Council the unfavourable constrains in human and financial resources that handicap the Secretariat-General and hamper launching of some actions; it wished that the Executive Council intercede with concerned Member States in order that they effectively pay their contributions in due time or settle their arrears.
53. The 6th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council, after expressing satisfaction on the commencement of the activities of this consultative body, adopted the report, and requested this committee, in prevision of next meetings, to prepare more elaborate presentation notes for some of the recommendations and proposals made.

I.D. Presentation and adoption of the Report of Expert's Meeting.

54. The Chairman of the Session invited the Chairman of the Expert's Meeting, Ambassador ABOUZEID HASSAN of Sudan, to present the report of the preparatory meeting that experts of Member States had on 20 and 21 August 2001.
55. The Executive Council was then informed that experts have addressed items **III** (Economic and Social issue), **IV** (Financial and Administrative issue), **V** (Legal issue), **VI** (Miscellaneous) and submitted them for consideration and possible adoption of the Economic Council some remarks and proposals.
56. The State Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Burkina Faso, H.E. YOUSOUF OUEDRAOGO, Chairman of the 6TH Ordinary Session of the Executive Council on behalf of the Executive Council thanked the experts for the remarkable work done, the thorough discussions they had on these issues and the proposals they submitted for possible adoption by the Executive Council.
57. The Chairman of the Session invited his colleagues members of the Executive Council to consider item II.

II. POLITICAL ISSUES

II.A. Political and Security Situation in the CEN-SAD Space

58. In introducing this item, the Secretary-General of the Community recalled the particular attention devoted to this issue and to that of Peace and Security, as evidenced by the provisions of the treaty of 4 February 1998 establishing the community, by those of the Security Charter as well as by this eloquent decision entrusting the Guide of the Great EL FATEH Revolution with the mandate to cultivate and / or promote peace within the CEN-SAD's Space. He pointed out that thanks to this, the CEN-SAD's Community is rather well endowed to cope with any crisis in member States.
59. The Executive Council has initiated exchanges on ways and means of strengthening peace, concord, tolerance and stability of democratic institutions in some punctual trouble spots particularly.

The situation in the Central African Republic

60. The Head of Delegation of the Central African Republic, H.E. **BOUCHER VICTOR** Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, informed the Executive Council about the positive evolution of the situation, since the events of 27 and 28 May 2001 when stray elements tried to overthrow the democratically established institutions. He stressed the efforts expended by the President **ANGE**

FELIX PATASSE and the Central African Republic Government in order to forestall the political situation through constructive dialogue with all the Central Africans really patriots and concerned with a better future of the Central African Republic.

61. The Head of Delegation of the Central African Republic expressed on behalf of The President, the Government and the people of Central Africa, his gratitude to all the Leaders and Heads of State of the Community, and particularly to the Guide of the Great EL FATEH Revolution, Colonel MUAMMAR EL KADDAFI whose vigorous and opportune reaction has been saving. He pointed out that the 36th OAU Summit held in Lusaka, Zambia welcomed this commendable attitude of the Member States and the Secretariat of the Community of the Sahel-Saharan States.
62. Minister BOUCHER also presented the Minimum Plan Action aimed at social and economic stimulation and invited the countries as well as the Community to contribute to that end.
63. Finally, Minister BOUCHER, proposed that a telegram or a special motion be transmitted to the Guide of the Great AL FATEH Revolution for his redeeming action in the Central African Republic.
64. Following the speeches in which the Ministers and Heads of Delegations in substance expressed their concern and their wish for rapid return of peace in this country which has other urgencies, particularly in the economic area, the Executive Council adopted a resolution in which it appreciates the considerable efforts made by the Guide of the Great EL FATEH Revolution, Colonel MUAMMAR EL KADDAFI and by the incumbent Chairman of the Community, President OUMAR HASSAN EL BESHIR in order to bring back peace and concord to the Central African Republic.
65. The sixth ordinary session of the Executive Council also noted the decision by the President ANGE FELIX PATASSE to make henceforth available to possible detachments of security forces of CEN-SAD, the military camp of BOUAR.
66. The Head of Chadian Delegation H.E. MAHAMAT SALEH ANNADIF took the floor and pointed out that lessons must be drawn from these events. For there are still within the Continent some persons and forces who believe that they can take over power by force, and no country is shielded. So, member countries of the CEN-SAD have to remain united and vigilant.
67. The Executive Council called upon the International Community so that it brings appropriate political, material and financial support to the legal Central African Government in its efforts to restore peace through dialogue and decided on its own to send an evaluation mission to the Republic of Central Africa.
68. The Secretary-General of the CEN-SAD has been entrusted with the task of following up this issue with Libyan authorities and sending a mission to Bangui so that a mission Report could be presented to the next meetings of the organs.

The situation in Southern Sudan

69. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Sudan, Dr MUSTAPA OUMAR ISMAEL enlightened the Council about the evolution of the armed conflict in Sudan and the peaceful and non-military actions undertaken by President EL BESHIR and the whole Government so as to find a happy and definite solution to this conflict stirred up from outside.
70. The Libyan and Egyptian Delegations briefed the Council on efforts made with a view to reach a general political settlement of conflict in Sudan. They on this occasion highlighted the principles contained in the joint Egyptian – Libyan initiative which met consent of all parties concerned – Government and opposition – and aimed at reaching a peaceful settlement of the conflict, taking into account the Unity of Sudan and the integrity of its territory.
71. The Executive Council adopted a resolution reaffirming the strong support of the whole Community to the Sudanese authorities and congratulates particularly President OUMAR HASSAN EL BESHIR for all the compromises and concessions he accepted to make with the armed opposition, which, henceforth, has no sincere and serious reason to refuse constructive dialogue.

72. The Council also requested that the CEN-SAD member states and their delegations in the various international fora show active solidarity with the Sudanese delegations and obstruct the media smear campaign orchestrated by the enemies of the integrity and unity of Sudan.

Developments in the ETHIOPIA - ERITREA Conflict

73. The Heads of the delegation of the Eritrea State, general MUSSA M. HAMID, informed the Executive Council about the evolution of the situation since the cessation of the armed hostilities.
74. The session Chairman, the State Minister YOUSOUF OUEDRAOGO presented the synthesis of the debates after which the Executive Council urged the parties to comply with the provisions of the Peace Agreement of 18 June 2001 and requested in the same line the OAU and the UN to continue seeing to it through the ad hoc systems set up.
- **Preliminary exchanges on the ways and means for the creation of a CEN-SAD peacekeeping mechanism.**
 - **Creation of an Observatory of conflicts in the CEN-SAD space.**
75. The Secretary General of the Community drew the attention of the Executive Council to the possibilities offered by the United Nation Charters (Chap.VIII) relating to local settlement of conflicts. He wished that the Community could be endowed with a permanent or punctually mobilizable system to cope with serious crisis situations jeopardizing the life of populations.
76. The 6th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council has been informed by the Tunisian State Minister in charge of Maghreb and Africa's Affairs **H.E. SADOK FAYALA** of proposal of establishing an Observatory of Conflicts; the Council decided to reopen debates on this relevant proposal on the occasion of the 7th Ordinary Session and on the basis of a memorandum prepared by Tunisia and which the Secretariat-General will send to the member States in due course.
77. The Executive Council took good note of the proposal and suggested re-examining it and later entering into a thorough debate at the light of the experiences developed in other regions of the Continent and the memorandum, which the Tunisian Republic will work out.

II.B. Examination of the 3rd meeting of the Ministers in charge of Interior and Public Security - Bamako.

78. The 6th ordinary session of the Executive Council examined and endorsed the report of the 3rd ordinary session of the Ministers in charge of Security held in Bamako on 23 and 24 July 2001 and recommends it for adoption by the 4th ordinary session of the Conference of Leaders and Heads of State scheduled to take place in Tripoli in February 2002.

II.C. Developments in the Lockerbie Case

79. The Executive Council followed with attention and great interest the briefing by the Secretary of the General People's Committee for African Unity of the Great Jamahiriya, Dr ALI ABDELSSALEM TRIKI about the Lockerbie case.
80. The 6th ordinary session of the Executive Council, after recalling the resolution adopted by the 3rd CEN-SAD Summit held in Khartoum and opportunely endorsed by the OAU Summit held in SIRTE, expressed its concern about the non compliance with the commitments by the other party after the Great Jamahiriya has respected the conditions imposed.
81. The Executive Council, after having paid tribute to the President **NELSON MANDELA** for his action aimed at reaching a fair solution, decided then to set up an Ad Hoc Committee chaired by Nigeria and comprising Tunisia, Burkina Faso, Senegal, Great Jamahiriya and the Secretary-General of the Community, in order to follow up this issue. The Ad Hoc Committee of the Five and the Arab League's Committee of the Seven.
82. The Secretary-General of the General People's Committee for African Unity, **Dr ABDELSSALAM TRIKI** informed the Executive Council of actions undertaken relating to the situation in Sierra Leone and of establishing a Committee to follow up the construction and rehabilitation process in this country.

II.D Proposal for the Creation of a CEN-SAD Interparliamentary organ

83. The Secretary General of the Community informed the Executive Council about the proposal made by the members of parliament of the CEN-SAD member States to set up a framework for consultation and exchanges.
84. Considering the multiple implications of the creation of this organ, which would require a review of the texts of the Community, the Council was of the view that it was necessary to avoid the dissipation of efforts through the creation of bodies which would constitute a duplication of existing structures.
85. The Executive Council took in the same line good note of the proposal of the Great Jamahiriya through brother ALI ABDELSSALEM ALI TRIKI to host on a date to be agreed upon a meeting of contact and exchanges for the members of parliament of the CEN-SAD member countries.

II.E Assessment of the first steps of the African Union and Outlining the CEN-SAD strategy for the Consolidation of African Union.

86. The Executive Council welcomed the advent of the African Union and the perfect harmony and strong commitment of the CEN-SAD member states. It stressed the need for the Community to continue serving as a locomotive and to remain in the vanguard. To this purpose, it decided to create an Ad Hoc coordinating Committee including members of the Bureau of the 6th Ordinary Session, namely Burkina Faso, Sudan and the Great Jamahiriya as well as the Secretary-General of the Community.

III. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ISSUES

87. The 6th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council finally expressed its concern relating to the worsening situation in Middle East, particularly in the occupied Palestine and decided to address a message of support to the President YASSER ARAFAT and through him to all the Palestinian People.

III.A. Exchanges of views on the Economic Integration process within the CEN-SAD Space.

88. The Executive Council exchanged views on ways and means to enable the Community to have a general integration policy, with Community sectorial policies, to develop and make concrete actions specially in some priority sectors such as infrastructures, food security, desertification control, promotion and facilitation of intra CEN-SAD trade.
89. The Council considered that the step taken by CEN-SAD should be based on long term global strategic plan, taking into consideration the aims and objectives assigned to the Community in the Constituent Treaty and the general objectives of the Abuja Treaty of 3 June 1991. The Economic, Social and Cultural Council the installation of which should be accelerated, should be notified of the content of this general plan, as well as of some important programs and important sectoral projects.
90. The Council considered that the general plan should take into consideration priorities and needs of Member states and take into account the possibilities of integration of respective projects of goods and services production, as well as the financial resources. The sectoral ministerial meetings will set the operational modalities of this general plan.
91. The Executive Council also held the view that in order to guarantee the success of sectoral meetings, it would be judicious to limit them at the initial stages to the priorities identified by the high authorities of the Community, and give preference to meetings of experts and senior officials.

III.B. Installation of the Special Solidarity Fund of CEN-SAD Member States

92. The Secretariat-General of the Community informed the Executive Council about actions and steps undertaken specially toward the Executive Secretariat of the United Nations Convention for Desertification Control to refine the Special Fund draft statutes.

93. The Executive Council requested that provisions should be made to operationalize as soon as possible this Fund aimed at emergency assistance of Member States by organizing during the next session of the high authorities of the Community, a session of announcement of voluntary contributions and recommended that the African Bank for Development and Trade provide a substantial assistance to this Fund.
94. The 6th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council requested that Article VII of the Draft Statutes elaborated by the Secretariat be more explicit concerning revision procedures and possible amendment of the mentioned statutes.

III.C. Exchanges of view on the activities of the African Bank for Development and Trade – BADC-

95. The Chairman and Managing Director of the African Bank for Development and Trade, M. ALHADI MOHAMED AL-WARFALI informed the meeting on the situation and operational prospects of the Institution following the General Assembly meeting held in Tripoli on 12 August 2001.
96. After pointing out the particular importance of such a financing instrument, the Executive Council expressed satisfaction about efforts made to set up the Bank structures and the quality of the report presented by the Chairman and Managing Director of the African Bank for Development and Trade, Mr. ALHADI MOHAMED AL-WARFALLI. He urged the General Directorate of the Bank to take more initiatives and to have close relations with administrations and institutions of the Member States and with international financial institutions.
97. The Executive Council adopts the report presented by the Chairman and Managing Director and invites all Member States to provide strong support to this institution through effective liberation of subscription in the Capital and participation by new members.

III.D. Installation of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council

98. The Secretariat-General of the Community informed the meeting that the Government of Mali provided it with a building to house the permanent services of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council. The CEN-SAD Secretariat-General also pointed out two obstacles to the installation of this statutory body, namely extra financial means and non-communication by some member States of the list of their respective ten representatives.
99. The Executive Council recommended to the Conference of Leaders and Heads of State to provide an exceptional financial grant to enable the installation of ESCC.
100. The Executive Council invites Member States concerned to communicate as soon as possible the list of their respective representatives.
101. The Secretariat-General of the Community was invited to integrate in its 2002 budget proposals, operating costs of this organ and to consider staff recruitment for the Permanent Secretariat taken inspiration from the experience of other organizations, especially WAEMU.

III.E. Examination of the proposal related to the creation of a framework for cooperation between organizations concerned with humanitarian and voluntary issues.

102. The delegations of Sudan and Tunisia highlighted the meeting on the sense and modalities of implementation of this framework of consultation for organization concerned on humanitarian and voluntary issues, the creation of which has already been adopted in principle by the 3rd Ordinary Session of the Conference of Leaders and Heads of State of the Community.
103. The meeting recommended to the Secretariat-General to prepare and dispatch to the Member States the relevant documents before the 7th Session of the Executive Council.

III.F. Creation of an Agency for Technical Cooperation.

III.G. Creation of a Training Institute for Senior Officers in Finance and Banking.

III.H. Creation of a stock market for partnership and sub contracting.

III.I. Organization of a CEN-SAD's International Fair

104. The head of the Tunisian delegation Minister SADOK FAYALA presented these items to the meeting and observed that the explanatory notes would be sent to Member States through the CEN-SAD Secretariat-General.

III.J. Creation of an Authority for the development of Sahara

III.K. Creation of a Scientific Council

105. The head of delegation of Senegal introduced these two items and submitted to the Secretariat-General a presentation note of this item in French version for translation and transmission to Member States.

III.L. Development of road infrastructures.

106. After recalling the proposal it made during the 3rd Ordinary Session of the Conference of Leaders and Heads of State held in Khartoum, the delegation from Senegal stressed the necessity to take into account the New African Initiative adopted at the Lusaka OAU Summit in the preparation of the presentation note on the development of infrastructures, within the CEN-SAD Space.

III.M. Organization of a Football Tournament

107. The out-going Chairman of Council, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Sudan, Dr. MUSTAPHA reminded the Council of his proposal, which was accepted, for the organisation of a CEN-SAD Member States tournament.
The 6th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council took note of the offer by the Great Jamahiriya to host this Football Tournament in February 2002. The Council instructed the Secretariat-General to follow up this issue to ensure it is materialised.

III.N. Joint Health Program launched by Libya and Nigeria.

108. The 6th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council was informed of the imminent commencement of a Health Program initiated jointly by Libya and Nigeria in collaboration with Cuba.
109. The Executive Council expressed satisfaction at the noble intentions of these two member States and instructed the Community Secretary-General to follow up the implementation of this program.

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL ISSUES

IV.A. Financial situation of the Community.

110. Experts and representatives of ministries of finance of member States were invited to consider in the framework of an Ad Hoc Committee chaired by **M. ABDERHMAN A.K. SHARFI**, financial documents presented by the Secretary-General of the Community.
111. The following observations and proposals were adopted by the Executive Council:

General observations:

- Show greater care for the technical aspects in the presentation of the budget items.
- Indicate clearly and systematically exchange losses and gains resulting from banking operations.
- Use only one currency in the accounts.
- Ensure the harmonization of the method of preparation and allocation by chapter using the nomenclature and norms in this field in accordance with practices in similar organizations.

- Send, at least one month before the Executive Council meeting, all accounting documents.
- Invite systematically not only the Accountant but also the Auditor of the Community during sessions where accounting documents are examined.

IV.B. State of arrears of contributions by Member States

112. The 6th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council expressed concern over the accumulation of arrears by some Member countries and urged all member countries to show particular interest in the Community of Sahel-Saharan States during this critical phase of institutional deployment.
113. The head of the Nigerian delegation, Minister of Foreign Affairs, **H.E. ELHADJ SULE LAMIDO** informed the Executive Council of the imminent payment by his country of its contribution for the financial year 2001 and urged all member States to do the same to enable the Secretariat-General have adequate financial and human resources.
114. The Niger head of delegation, **H.E. ALI BADJO GAMATIE**, Niger Finance Minister informed the 6th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council that Niger has just made bank transfer to pay-up its contribution.

IV.C. Contributions scale for the financial year 2001

115. The 6th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council, considering that some member countries had already paid their contributions for year 2001 on the basis of the scale prepared and sent to them by the Secretariat-General of the Community:
- Formally adopted the proposed scale sent to Member States by the Secretariat-General;
 - Invited all Member States to take necessary steps to pay their contributions as soon as possible to avoid accumulation of arrears.

IV.D. Examination of accounting documents in respect of the financial year 2000 and 2001 budget

116. The Executive Council after expressing its gratitude to the Great Jamahiriya for its continuous support to the Community adopted the Report on this issue submitted by the Experts meeting and the Ad Hoc Committee.
117. The Meeting also congratulated the Secretary-General for his efforts and the steps taken to enable the Community to function and overcome financial and other constrains.

IV.E. Enhancement of the human resources of the Secretariat-General

118. Considering the growth and expansion of the Community and the increase in the number of tasks in the political, economic, social and cultural areas and to enable the Secretariat-General carry out the assignments entrusted to it by the Community decision-making bodies particularly with respect to the preparation of plans and programs and their implementation, the Executive Council urged Member States to pay their contributions to enable the Secretary-General to do relevant recruitment.

IV.F. Reactivation of the Department in charge of Women affairs of the Secretariat-General

119. The meeting recommended to the Secretariat-General to ensure that the post in question was filled.

IV.G. Publication of a CEN-SAD News Bulletin

120. The Secretariat-General of the Community informed the meeting of the existence of a Community publication and its desire for administrations and Press Organs of all Member States to contribute to it by sending articles.

V. LEGAL ISSUES

V.A. State of implementation of the Decision on exemption from visa for the holders of diplomatic and service passports and persons on official missions

121. The Experts Meeting was informed by the Secretariat-General of CEN-SAD of the list of countries already implementing this exemption decision and took note of new implementations announced.
122. The Executive Council supported the appeal of the 3rd Ordinary Session of Ministers in charge of Security held in Bamako, 23 – 24 July 2001, for Member States to take the appropriate measures for the implementation of this decision in Member States as soon as possible.
123. The Meeting also recommended that the Secretariat-General should take the initiative to convene technical meetings to prepare the implementation modalities of the principles of free movement of people and goods in Member States of the Community.

V.B. Partnership with other intergovernmental organizations

124. The Executive Council Meeting took note of the cooperation and partnership agreements signed by the Secretary-General of the Community and congratulated him for this policy of openness, which is to the benefit of the Community.

V.C. Observer Status of CEN-SAD in the United Nations system

125. The delegation of the Republic of Sudan informed the meeting about the steps taken by the Sudan Permanent Representation in New-York, in its capacity as representative of the incumbent Chair Country, for this issue to be placed on the agenda of the next United Nations Organization General Assembly.
126. The Executive Council invited all Member States to direct their respective representations in New York to formally support this action taken by the Sudanese Representation.

V.D. Adoption of a draft convention of cooperation against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances

127. The Secretary-General of the Community informed the Meeting of the receipt from the competent authorities of the Great Jamahiriya in accordance with the mandate entrusted to them by the 2nd Meeting of Ministers of Public Security and Interior held in Tripoli, of the text of the draft convention of cooperation against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.
128. After highlighting the relevance and importance of such a convention, the Executive Council requested the Secretariat-General to transmit it to Member States for further consideration and possible amendments for its adoption during the next ordinary session of the Conference of Leaders and Heads of State.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS

129. The Executive Council endorsed the proposal made by the Kingdom of Morocco for the organisation of a meeting of Experts of CEN-SAD member States on the theme: "Training of Man". This meeting would focus on ways and means of consolidating the cooperation between CEN-SAD member States in the area of exchange of students, inter-university cooperation and exchange of experience in the area of professional training.
130. On the proposal of the Moroccan delegation, the 6th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council also agreed to initiate joint reflection for the establishment of a CEN-SAD Cultural Fund. One of

the functions of this Fund would be granting of scholarships to students from CEN-SAD member States for post-graduate studies and / or professional training in the schools of Member States.

131. The meeting pointed out the difficulty of convening the Executive Council as constituted statutorily and recommended that the issue be discussed for the reconfiguration of this organ. In any event, the 6th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council urged all member States to ensure that they were effectively represented at the appropriate level in the meeting and activities undertaken within the Community.
132. The 6th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council also recommended that member States forward, at least two months in advance, to the Secretariat-General of the Community any proposal to include an item on the agenda of the Executive Council (one month for sectoral meetings) with an explanatory note of the proposed item and, if possible, a draft resolution or decision.

VII. DATES AND VENUE OF THE 7th ORDINARY SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

133. In accordance with the Constituent Treaty and following the invitation by the authorities of the Great Jamahiriya, the 7th Ordinary Session will take place in Tripoli in February 2002.
134. At the end of their deliberations, the Ministers and Heads of delegation were granted audience by the President of Faso, H.E. BLAISE COMPAORE, during which a report on the deliberations was presented. The President of Faso expressed satisfaction at the work accomplished by the Executive Council and recommended to each delegation to ensure that what had been agreed upon was implemented in its country.

CLOSING CEREMONY

135. Before the official closing ceremony, the 6th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council considered and adopted its report, which shall be submitted to the 4th Ordinary Session of the Conference of Leaders and Heads of State.
136. The State Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Burkina Faso delivered the closing speech in which he expressed satisfaction at the success of this session because of the depth and fruitful nature of the discussion that augured well for other achievements in the all embracing integration process, decided by the Leaders and Heads of State and by the populations. He made the commitment to execute fully the mandate entrusted to him and to support the Secretariat-General in its activities. He concluded his address by wishing a safe home returning journey to his colleagues, Ministers, Heads and members of delegations.

Done at Ouagadougou, 23rd August 2001.

The Chairman of the Executive Council

Rapporteur

H.E. YOUSOUF OUEDRAOGO

Dr ALI ABDULSALAM TRIKI

The Secretary-General of CEN-SAD Community

MOHAMED AL-MADANI AL-AZHARI