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AFRICAN MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE
ON THE ENVIRONMENT
Second special session
Maputo, 9-10 June 2003

**DRAFT DECISION ON THE ACTION PLAN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT INITIATIVE OF THE
NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT**

We, the Ministers of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment,

Recalling the Kampala Declaration on the Environment for Development adopted at the ninth meeting of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment held in Kampala from 1 to 5 July 2002,

Recalling also the Plan of Implementation adopted by the World Summit on Sustainable Development,¹ held in Johannesburg, from 26 August to 4 September 2002 and its chapter 8 on sustainable development for Africa,

Recalling also the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development² adopted on 16 September 2002 by the General Assembly, at a high-level plenary meeting,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration³ adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in September 2000,

Recalling also the relevant decision on the New Partnership for Africa's Development adopted by the group of eight major industrialized countries at their meeting held in Kananskis, Canada from 25 to 27 June 2002,

Expressing its appreciation to the United Nations Environment Programme and the Global Environment Facility for their support in the development of the action plan,

Concerned that Africa is the only continent in which poverty is expected to rise during the twenty-first century,

Concerned also about the increasing environmental threat facing the African continent as a result of global environmental changes with adverse effects,

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Decide to:

1. Note with appreciation the results of the fourth meeting of the Steering Committee of the United Nations Environment Programme/Global Environment Facility medium-sized project on the environment initiative of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, held at ministerial level in Maputo, Mozambique from 23 to 24 April 2003;
2. Note the reports of the nine thematic workshops on the finalization of the action plan on the environment initiative of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;
3. Endorse the action plan on the environment initiative of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;
4. Reaffirm that the African Process for the Development and Protection of the Coastal and Marine Environment is an integral part of the action plan for the environment initiative of the New Partnership for Africa's Development and its recommendation and projects should be entrusted to African institutions under the overall coordination of the Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Region (Nairobi Convention) and Convention for Cooperation in the Protection and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the West and Central African Region (Abidjan Convention);
5. Invite the President of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment and the host of the special session, with the members of the Steering Committee, to submit the action plan to the Summit of the African Heads of State to be held in Maputo, in July 2003 and encourage the members of the Steering Committee to attend the meeting;
6. Invite the President of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment and the host of the special session in consultation with the Steering Committee, to submit the action plan, to the next meeting of the Heads of State Implementation Committee of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;
7. Invite also the President of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment and the host of the special session, in consultation with the Steering Committee, to submit the action plan to the Secretary-General of the United Nations;
8. Invite bilateral and multilateral donors to actively participate in the donors meeting on the action plan for the environment initiative of the New Partnership for Africa's Development to be held in Algiers, in December 2003;
9. Invite the Global Environment Facility in partnership with the African Development Bank, the United Nations Environment Programme, the secretariat of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment and the New Partnership for Africa's Development to play a leading role in mobilizing additional financial resources for the implementation of the action plan and its associated projects, with special emphasis on the implementation of its annex on capacity-building;
10. Welcome the offer by Egypt to host in October 2003, at ministerial level, the fifth meeting of the Steering Committee, on capacity-building for the implementation of the action plan;
11. Keep under review the implementation of the action plan at the regular meeting of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment and mandate the Steering Committee to continue playing a leading role in overseeing the implementation of the action plan and its annex on capacity-building;
12. Invite the President of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment and the host of the special session to submit through the Steering Committee a detailed report on the implementation of the action plan at the next meeting of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment to be held in 2004;

13. Express its appreciation to the Governments of Algeria, Cameroon, Kenya, Mali, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal and South Africa for hosting and supporting the convening of the nine thematic workshops for the finalization of the action plan;

14. Further express its appreciation to the Government of Mozambique for hosting the fourth meeting of the Steering Committee and in particular Mr. John Kachamila for his leadership in the finalization of the action plan.

¹ Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 Augst-4 September 2002 (United Nations publications, Sales N. E.03.II.A.1), chap. 1 resolution 2, annex.

² General Assembly resolution 57/2 of 16 September 2002.

³ General Assembly resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000.
