**FORUM:** African Union

**QUESTION OF:** Measures to strengthen the African Union

THE AFRICAN UNION,

*Stressing* that the main objective of the African Union (AU) is to create a cohesive bond between the African states, their leaders and their peoples,

*Deeply concerned* by socio-economic and political internal conflicts within member states, such as the Arab spring and Darfur genocides that are destabilizing the continent and the African Union,

*Bearing in mind* that the suspended memberships of Madagascar, Guinea-Bissau, Central African Republic, and Egypt from the AU, as well as Morocco’s non-membership, is severely detrimental to the African Union, contradicting its constitutive act,

*Recognizing* the Peace and Security Council’s power to authorize peace mission, impose sanctions and take independent appropriate actions, particularly in cases of war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity as noted in Article 4h of the Constitutive Act of the African Union,

*Drawing attention* to the low percentage of internal trade within Africa that has been stagnating between 11% and 12%, and the prominent role that a single African currency, the proposed Afro and central aim of the African Union, could play,

*Alarmed* that the debt of African Central Government has risen from 90 billion to 130 billion Euros in the 2002-2007 period, and the significant, crippling interest repayments that such debts incur,

*Highlighting* the immense socio-economic issues caused by the rapid spread and lethal impact of diseases prevalent to Africa such as AIDS and malaria, and the need to coordinate African nations in measures of prevention, treatment and research as a central imperative;

1. Suggests the expansion of regional monetary unions within Africa by:
	1. Inviting more member states to join the two already in existence (which use West African CFA franc, and the Central African CFA franc respectively through the Central Bank of West African States (BCWAO) and the Bank of Central African States (BEAC)),
	2. Creating further monetary unions based on countries in the existing RECs, the currency of which will be set by the African Economic Community (AEC),
	3. Allowing AEC to set base inflation and interest rates as well as currency exchange rates within these regional monetary unions, which will consequently,
		1. Allow for more financial cohesion between regions,
		2. Improve integration of the African Union within regions,
		3. Aid inter-continental trading;
2. Requests all member states of the African Union (AU) to encourage international trade between members in order to financially stabilize countries and to ameliorate the Human Development Index (HDI) by:
	1. Creating the “African Trade Commission” as a permanent body of the AU ensuring peaceful economic cooperation, compromised of:
		1. Ten temporary members elected on a biannual basis for the “Trade Emergency Council (TEC): two members each elected from the five UN sub-regions in Africa (Northern Africa, Western Africa, Central Africa, Eastern Africa, and Southern Africa),
		2. A TEC body in the Assembly of the AU comprised of all members states of the AU which meets annually and passes resolutions by a majority vote,
	2. Recommending all member states to improve, construct, or rebuild important trading routes if necessary as appropriate to the condition,
	3. Charging the AEC with the responsibility to:
		1. Set external trade tariffs,
		2. Create cohesive African trade policies in order to give Africa greater negotiating power on a global platform as a whole;
3. Calls for all member nations to support governments of member states in cases of civil unrest to support governments of member states in civil unrest after being approved by the African Court of Justice to restrain from providing aid to rebels despite political or cultural beliefs, agreeing to allow the African Court of Justice (ACJ) to oversee the cause of the civil unrest within a nation and to work with the nation to find solution, in order to:
	1. Avoid undermining the unity of the African Union on an international scale,
	2. Encourage diplomatic solutions instead of long lasting guerilla warfare,
	3. Encourage cooperation between member states to allow the African Union to be stable and to produce solid solutions that benefit all;
4. Urges member nations of the African Union to tackle the problem of education by working with the UNICEF to create a standard education system between al AU countries available to all children living in Africa through means such as, but not limited to:
	1. Having this system available to children from 5-18 years of age,
	2. To create a system that is separate from other countries and include a brand new African style system of education collaborating with UNESCO to make a standard education system throughout all AU countries,
	3. To create a standard curriculum that is flexible in areas such as History, Language, Arts, etc.,
	4. Make such education system compulsory for children ages 5 to 12,
	5. To improve higher education (universities, specialized schools) for African youth and adults, regarding staff, facilities, and courses, all funded by the AU, in collaboration with UNESCO and UNICEF;
5. Calls for the creation of the African Infrastructure Union (AIU) as a sub-body of the AU with the goal of:
	1. Repairing, maintaining, and creating road and railways within and between nations,
	2. The establishment and maintenance of electrical infrastructure within nations,
	3. The creation and maintenance of telecommunication infrastructure between and within nations;
6. Suggests the creation of a UN funded organization, the UNHCFPO (United Nations Capital Flight Preservation Organization) that would preserve Africa from the brain drain by:
	1. After the African students have graduated from African universities, building partnerships with local companies/institutions to encourage the African graduates to stay in Africa and not to go seek employment abroad (e.g. hospitals),
	2. Build/renovate African universities in order to prevent the African students to feel the need to go and study abroad, giving teaching positions to the African elite instead of western expatriate professors,
	3. Promote inter-African university partnerships in order to improve African cooperation,
	4. Fund the construction/renovation according to the situation, with taxation of the richer population and the expatriate elite, as well as local companies’ investments, and in order to make the companies benefit from this, each student receiving a scholarship will have to accept to work at least 2 years in the investing private company;
7. Calls upon the encouragement of the consumption of national and inter-continental products by:
	1. Open borders between regional economic unities in between member states and ensuring tax-free transport of goods by:
		1. Restoring important trade routes,
		2. Encouraging governments to reduce tax for inter-continental transport as exemplified by, but not limited to, ships and trains,
		3. Emphasizing the importance of appropriate inspection, ensuring no illegal substances can be transported,
	2. Creating promotional campaigns for goods of local production, such as encouraging citizens to buy fair trade products from local farmers, in order to stabilize incomes,
	3. Selling natural resources at a more favorable price to inter-continental industries;
8. Encourages all member states of the African Union to provide adequate health care for their citizens:
	1. Urging all members to communicate and collaborate with the World Health Organization (WHO),
	2. Calling for the WHO to, once a year, recommend a percentage of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to each respective country to be allocated to health care,
	3. Asking member states to allocate the respective percentages of the GDP recommended by the WHO to ameliorate health care,
	4. Recommending that the AU and the WHO supervise health care spending in member countries:
		1. On a regular basis of once per year,
		2. On an unannounced basis of once per year,
	5. Proposing all member states to review their current spending on health care and to improve it in order to make it more efficient,
	6. Requesting member states to provide immunizations, contraception and other preventative measures where appropriate,
	7. Taking into account that Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that everyone has the right to medical care,
	8. Urging member states to launch national mass media campaigns within the next two years, in conjunction with the Management Sciences for Health (MSH) and the WHO to increase awareness of the social issues, such as, but limited to terminal diseases:
		1. HIV/AIDS
		2. Malaria
		3. Tuberculosis;
9. Recommends all respective Member States in the African Union (AU) to immediately adopt and implement the African Charter on Democracy, Elections, and Governance (ACDEG) in means such as but not limited to:
	1. Signing and ratifying the articles described in the charter with greater emphasis on free elections and democracy guided by the Executive Council of the AU,
	2. Instilling incentives for all countries that ratify and abide by the measures listed in the charter including but not limited to tax reductions on trade;
10. Recommends that the African Union strengthen and fund more appropriately its own independent armed force, supplied by each country’s army, in view of another attack or illegal terrorist action upon any African nation:
	1. Organize a special election whereby participants should be members of the AU, where the elected leader stays in office for a year-year term which will be preceded by another election, to designate a fitted leader for the said army, then conferring them a strong position to act swiftly and efficiently in given situations,
	2. To pressurize member countries not respecting the authority and sovereignty of this Union,
	3. Create a mobile force to maintain order in Saharan and guerilla-prone territories,
	4. Create a viable, altermondialist workforce composed of war prisoners and reconverting child soldiers.