

**RESOLUTION ON AFRICAN COMMON POSITION**  
**ON FOOD SECURITY AND THE PREPARATIONS**  
**FOR THE WORLD FOOD SUMMIT**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Thirty-Second Ordinary Session in Yaounde, Cameroon, from 8 to 10 July, 1996,

Recalling its Resolution AHG/Res.244 (XXXI) on Food Security and Agricultural Development, adopted at its Thirty-First Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, from 26 to 28 June, 1995,

Recalling further the OAU Council of Ministers Resolution CM/Res. 1643 (LXIII) adopted at its Sixty-Third Ordinary Session, held in Addis Ababa, from 26 to 28 February, 1996,

Recalling the outcome of the Nineteenth FAO Regional Conference for African that was held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso on 16 – 20 April, 1996,

Aware that H.E. Mr Meles Zenawi, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and Out-going Chairman of the OUA, sent a letter to all OAU Heads of State and Government inviting them to participate in the World Food Summit, to be held from 13 to 17 November, 1996 in Rome, Italy,

Mindful of the deteriorating food and agricultural situation in Africa,

Considering the risk of recurrent drought and other disasters as related to food and agricultural production,

Considering further the need to intensify food and agricultural production in order to confront the growing needs of African populations,

**Having considered Document CM/1954 (LXIV) entitled, “Report of the Secretary-General on the Preparations on the World Food Summit”:**

- 1. ADOPTS the African Common Position on Food Security and Agricultural Development as Africa’s contribution to the World Food Summit;**
- 2. EXPRESSES ITS STRONG SUPPORT to the FAO, which has a crucial role to play in the development of the sector of food and agriculture in Africa;**
- 3. EXPRESSES FURTHER APPRECIATION to the Government and people of Burkina Faso for having hosted the Nineteenth FAO Regional Conference for Africa;**
- 4. COMMENDS the efforts of H.E. Meles Zenawi, Prime Minister of Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and Out-going Chairman of the OUA, for inviting all OAU Heads of State and Government to participate in the World Food Summit;**
- 5. CALLS UPON all African Heads of State and Government, to participate actively, in the forthcoming World Food Summit;**
- 6. STRONGLY RECOMMENDS the participation of Women in the World Food Summit as they play a vital role in food production in Africa;**
- 7. REQUESTS the Secretary-general of OAU to transmit the African Common Position on Food Security and Agricultural Development to the Director-General of FAO as an official document, as Africa’s contribution to the World Food Summit and to all member countries of the FAO;**
- 8. FURTHER REQUESTS OAU Member States, OAU General Secretariat and the African Group in Rome, to use the African Common Position on Food Security as an instrument of negotiation with the international community;**

9. **URGES** FAO to assist Member States and the OAU General Secretariat to develop and implement programmes for sustainable Food Security and Agricultural Development;
10. **CALLS UPON** the international community to accord special assistance to African countries to develop their food and agricultural sector;
11. **REQUESTS** the OAU Secretary-General to submit a preliminary report, on the World Food Summit to the Sixty-Fifth Ordinary Session of the Council of Ministers and an evaluation report to the Thirty-Third Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government.