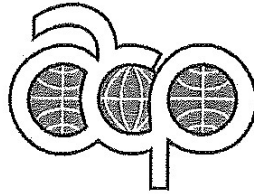


Groupe des Etats d'Afrique
des Caraïbes et du Pacifique
(Groupe ACP)



African, Caribbean and
Pacific Group of States
(ACP Group)

REFERENCE

ACP/28/054/19 FINALX

Nairobi 11 December 2019

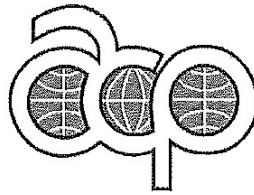
9TH SUMMIT OF ACP HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

NAIROBI, KENYA

9 - 10 DECEMBER 2019

NAIROBI NGUVU YA PAMOJA DECLARATION

A TRANSFORMED ACP COMMITTED TO MULTILATERALISM



REFERENCE

9th SUMMIT OF ACP HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

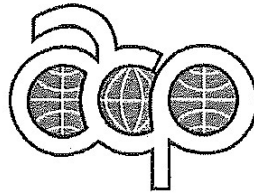
NAIROBI, KENYA, 9 - 10 DECEMBER 2019

NAIROBI NGUVU YA PAMOJA DECLARATION

PREAMBLE

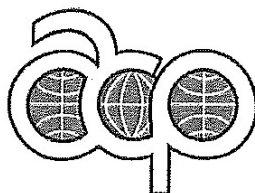
We, the Heads of State and Government of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP Group), meeting at our 9th Summit in Nairobi, Kenya, on 9 and 10 December 2019 under the theme: "A Transformed ACP Committed to Multilateralism;"

- A. Reaffirming** our deep commitment to the Charter of the United Nations and to the objectives and principles enshrined in the (Revised) Georgetown Agreement establishing the ACP Group of States;
- B. Building** on the commitments made at our previous Summits held in Libreville (1997), Santo Domingo (1999), Nadi (2002), Maputo (2004), Khartoum (2006), Accra (2008), Malabo (2012), and Port Moresby (2016);
- C. Underlining** that the unique identity and strength of the ACP Group, spanning three continents and constituting the largest formal and structured organisation of developing countries lies in its unity, solidarity, and rich common and diverse cultural, historical and economic characteristics;
- D. Reaffirming** our commitment to multilateralism, which is indispensable to establishing common approaches to all aspects of global governance and a rules-based international order;
- E. Further reaffirming** the centrality of the United Nations, to the preservation and maintenance of international peace and security, and the strengthening of international cooperation;



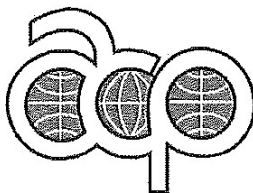
REFERENCE

- F. **Concerned** by the threat to multilateralism and to multilateral institutions that could undermine progress in solving critical global economic and social challenges;
- G. **Recalling** that there cannot be peace and security without sustainable development, and sustainable development without peace and security, and **determined** to reinforce this nexus in the realisation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
- H. **Noting** with concerns that sanctions have debilitating and deleterious impacts on any country and its people.
- I. **Condemning** terrorism in all its forms and its increasing links with organised transnational crime and human trafficking, and **deeply concerned** by the increase in new threats to regional and international peace, security and stability; **Alarmed** also by the rise in violent extremism, radicalization and cyber-criminality;
- J. **Concerned** by the different types of transnational crime and illicit trafficking that jeopardise maritime security and hinder the development of the blue economy in coastal ACP States, and **determined** to take measures to guarantee sustainable political, economic, social, and environmental stability, as well as safe and protected maritime domains;
- K. **Reaffirming** our commitment to the protection of migrants and refugees and to the advancement of their rights as enshrined in the various international, regional, and bilateral instruments;
- L. **Recalling** our commitments to the protection of the fundamental rights of women and girls, as provided for in the various United Nations Conventions and Declarations; and **Conscious** of the effects of insecurity and instability on women and girls in our countries and their increasing vulnerabilities as targets of Gender-Based Violence (GBV), particularly in conflict situations;
- M. **Alarmed by** the increasing vulnerability of our States to the effects of climate change and environmental degradation, and of their potential to cause loss of lives, disrupt livelihoods and economies, and deplete natural resources, as well as being a serious threat to peace, security and stability of ACP States;
- N. **Recognising** that trade is an engine for inclusive economic growth and poverty reduction, and that it is essential for the transformation of our economies;



REFERENCE

- O. Further recognising** the vulnerability of an increasing number of ACP States due to low participation in global value chain processes and the failure of the multilateral trading system to address the concerns and interests of our States;
- P. Recalling** that the central purpose of ACP-EU Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) is to serve as tools for economic development and regional integration; and **noting** that not all ACP States have concluded such Agreements;
- Q. Reaffirming** the need and increased urgency for mobilising additional, predictable, and concessional resources for the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in order to achieve its goals;
- R. Recognising** the contribution that the long-standing partnership with the European Union continues to make in the development of our States;
- S. Acknowledging** the need to adjust to new forms of cooperation and diversification of our partnerships, including through South-South and Triangular Cooperation, taking account of new global realities and in order to achieve a level of social and economic development, in keeping with the expectations of our peoples;
- T. Reaffirming** our quest for collective self-reliance, including making our organisation financially sustainable, thereby reinforcing our unity and capacity for joint action; and
- U. Committed** to strengthening intra-ACP cooperation and enhancing multilateralism, ensuring good governance, peace and security and tackling environmental and climate change issues, to enable our States to foster unity and solidarity, enhance opportunities, increase competitiveness, and address current and emerging challenges at national, regional and global levels;

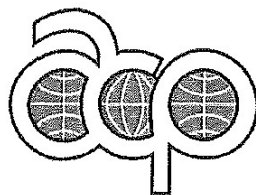


REFERENCE

HEREBY DECLARE:

MULTILATERALISM

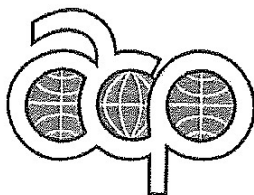
1. **We reaffirm** our commitment to multilateralism as indispensable in enabling States to develop and maintain rules-based and fair global, economic, and social relations among countries and peoples, and for resolving potential conflicts among partners and competitors for global resources, markets, and influence, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and International Law.
2. **We further reaffirm** our commitment to identify relevant strategic policy changes and organisational transformation to enable the ACP Group of States to be a 'more effective global player' and utilise all appropriate platforms in the multilateral arena to enhance the visibility and recognition of our Group.
3. **We welcome** the process to renew and re-energise ACP-EU relations into a strengthened, mutually beneficial political partnership that would facilitate the adoption of common positions and promote multilateralism and a rules-based international order.
4. **We affirm** the need to preserve and secure the centrality of multilateralism in the functioning of the WTO and **call** on the 12th WTO Ministerial Conference to be held in Nur Sultan, Kazakhstan in June 2020, to provide meaningful direction to the WTO negotiations for the preservation of the multilateral trading system.
5. **We call upon** developed countries to desist from unilateral actions, threats of action, and pronouncements that undermine the multilateral trading system.
6. **We condemn** the use of unilateral and coercive measures such as the illegal sanctions against certain developing countries in particular Sudan, Burundi, and Zimbabwe, with a view to preventing these countries from the exercise of their right to determine their own political, economic and social system; and **reject** the increased application of the unilateral and extra-territorial laws and measures contrary to international law, such as the "Helms - Burton Act" in the case of notably Cuba and **reaffirm** our solidarity with the Government and people of these Member States.



REFERENCE

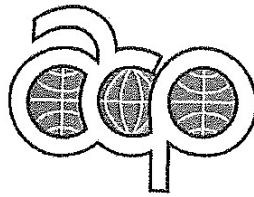
GOOD GOVERNANCE, PEACE AND SECURITY

7. **We welcome** the positive trend in democratisation, governance and political transformation of many ACP States; and **reaffirm** our commitment to pursue governance and development policies that honour the social contract obligations of our governments for the benefit of our peoples.
8. **We commit** to the prioritisation of poverty and inequality reduction strategies, the reduction of social, political and economic exclusion, addressing demographic challenges to our national development plans and ensuring a balanced implementation of the SDGs as essential to achieving and sustaining peace and security in ACP States.
9. **We reaffirm** our steadfast support for the principle of self-determination and respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all ACP States under international law.
10. **We applaud** the significant developments made since our 8th Summit towards peaceful resolution of threats to territorial integrity through the International Court of Justice, particularly in relation to the ongoing Guyana-Venezuela controversy, Guatemala's Territorial and Insular Claim on Belize.
11. **We urge** the United Kingdom to comply with the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice of 25 February 2019, which found that the decolonisation process of Mauritius was not lawfully completed upon its accession to independence in 1968, following the separation of the Chagos Archipelago from Mauritius, and the UN General Assembly Resolution 73/295, which demands that the United Kingdom put an end to its unlawful occupation of the Chagos Archipelago.
12. **We welcome** other positive developments that have recently brought an end to long periods of political insecurity and instability in some of our States and resolve to ensure the maintenance and bolstering of the newly restored peace in those States. **We deplore**, however, the emergence or persistence of crises in some of our regions, such as the Sahelo-Saharan area or the Great Lakes region and **pledge** to take concerted action in collaboration with the UN and relevant regional security mechanisms wherever terrorism, organised crime or violent extremism and radicalisation threaten the sovereignty, authority, and territorial integrity of our States. **We therefore invite** the ACP Group, in the spirit of solidarity, to support the countries and regions concerned.



REFERENCE

13. **We strongly condemn** the terrorist attacks in ACP countries and regions and express our solidarity with the countries affected. **We commend** the national and regional efforts made to stabilise the security situation in these countries.
14. **We call for** strong coordination among ACP States for all actions aimed at combatting different transnational crimes, risks, and threats relating to maritime security, and **we urge** the relevant regional and international organisations to support coastal ACP States, particularly those working towards the development of the blue economy.
15. **We are concerned** that economic, political and institutional weaknesses leave many countries vulnerable to terrorist penetration, radicalisation and violent extremism. **We commit** to addressing conflict and poverty, marginalisation, human rights violations, ethnic and religious-based discrimination, and the lack of employment and meaningful opportunities for youth.
16. **We reaffirm** our full commitment to tackling corruption and money-laundering, the financing of terrorism and related offences, by making them policy priorities supported by appropriate legal instruments and adequate financial, human, and institutional resources. **We also call** on all our development partners, especially the European Union, to undertake appropriate legislative measures to outlaw the transfer of illicit financial flows from and to ACP States by their financial institutions.
17. **We pledge** to actively undertake, in collaboration with the international community, concrete actions to ensure peace, security and stability in all our Member States and regional communities. **We agree** to the exchange of information to improve awareness of terrorist threats and the sharing of good-practices, as well as to provide capacity building to strengthen institutions and mechanisms that prevent, prepare for, and respond to terrorism. In this regard, **we agree** to strengthen intra-ACP cooperation in the fight against terrorism.
18. **We commit** to combatting transnational organised crime, piracy, trafficking, especially of human beings, drugs and arms; cyber-crime, money laundering and abuse of crypto currencies that jeopardise stability in our countries, and **agree** to establish intra-ACP dialogue to address these crimes. **We further call** on development partners to collaborate and cooperate in supporting capacity-building programmes in these areas.

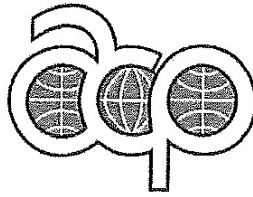


REFERENCE

19. **We reaffirm** our commitment to mainstreaming gender in our security policies; creating the legal basis for the reduction of impunity for Gender-Based Violence, including the meaningful participation and contribution of women in formulating these policies, especially in times of conflict and political instability; and to the implementation of policies that will provide for the socio-economic reintegration of victims within communities, including psychological support.

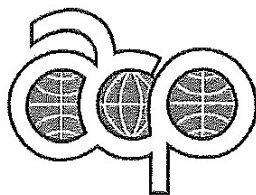
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

20. **We are committed** to the full and effective implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Paris Agreement, taking into account the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in order to ensure that the global temperature rise is kept well below 2°Celsius. We **call** on all Parties to the UNFCCC to increase efforts to limit the temperature rise even further to 1.5°Celsius; **and reaffirm** our commitment to maintain the political momentum at Conference of Parties (COP) 25 in Madrid, Spain, in particular, with regard to completing outstanding work needed for the full implementation of the Paris Agreement.
21. **We emphasise** that the ACP States most vulnerable to economic, social and security impacts of climate-related disasters will need additional financial support, technology transfer and capacity-building for their adaptation and mitigation actions. To this end, **we commit** to building the capacity of ACP countries and regions to access additional financial resources from the Green Climate Fund, the Adaptation Fund, Global Environment Facility, Special Climate Change Fund, and Least Developed Countries Fund and **call for** urgent simplification of conditions to access these resources and the establishment.
22. **We recognise** that the quest to achieve sustainable development in our Member States, has been severely compromised by environmental challenges, arising from droughts, floods and sea level rise, loss of biodiversity, land degradation and desertification, increasing water scarcity, and natural disasters.
23. **We commit** to working through existing alliances to mainstream the protection of the environment and the fight against climate change and building resilience into all policies, plans, and investments that support sustainable economic growth. **We commit** to building effective alliances at the international level on environmental issues, with a view to driving global action to contribute to the effective implementation of multilateral environmental agreements.



REFERENCE

24. **We stress** the need to act in solidarity with the concerned countries at the multilateral level, to ensure that the existing maritime boundaries are not affected by the impacts of climate change, and that ACP States are not deprived of rights and access to ocean resources.
25. **We agree** that the greening of our economies would, *inter alia*, support poverty eradication, create employment, increase food security, protect the environment and serve as a driver to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals; and **recognise** the need for this transition to be locally-developed and nationally-owned and to be supported by adequate financial resources, capacity-building, and the development and transfer of technology.
26. **We call** on our development partners to ensure Carbon Border Taxes are not used as new barriers to trade.
27. **We recognise** that access to energy, including renewable energy, remains a major challenge impacting our states; and therefore **call** for support to research and innovation, and development and transfer of technology, in order to improve energy efficiency and promote the use of renewable energy in ACP States.
28. **We emphasise** our commitment to the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goal 14 to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development. **We commit** to closer international cooperation and action to enhance the international ocean governance frameworks to address the increasing human pressure on seas and oceans, such as overfishing, IUU fishing, ocean acidification and pollution, in particular, plastic litter and declining biodiversity, and thereby contribute to a sustainable blue economy.
29. **We recognise** the security impacts of climate change and environmental degradation, especially the depletion of natural resources. **We commit** to designing and implementing mitigation and adaptation policies and interventions to reduce potential climate-induced conflicts and violence.



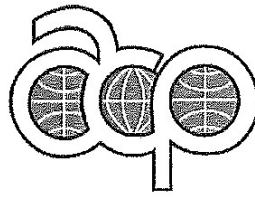
REFERENCE

INTRA-ACP COOPERATION - SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

30. **We renew our pledge** to reform and reposition our Group to more effectively respond to the opportunities and challenges of sustainable development and ensure that the Group is truly transformed and in a manner that expresses in word and deed, commitment to multilateralism, while forging a more dynamic intra-ACP cooperation at continental, regional and local community levels. **We commit** to confront current and emerging local and global challenges with confidence and determination in the true spirit of "*Nguvu ya Pamoja*".
31. **We call** for the urgent establishment of a trans-regional policy framework that will guide the implementation of actions that forge and enhance intra-ACP cooperation. To this end, it would be important to establish a political framework for intra-ACP consultation on the implementation of security actions.
32. **We reaffirm** our conviction that the financial sustainability of the Group remains a key dimension of a transformed ACP, and **we hereby** launch the ACP Endowment and Trust Fund as a viable option for mobilising resources for the Secretariat's core budget and other activities, while stressing the importance of regular contributions by ACP Member States.
33. Further, **we urge** development partners, private sector and philanthropic organisations, as positive agents for development, to generously contribute to the Endowment and Trust Fund to support our development efforts.

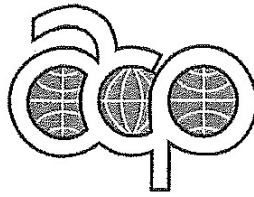
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

34. **We reaffirm** our collective commitment to intra-ACP cooperation through the strengthening of our regional institutions, technical cooperation, exchange of best practices and information sharing in areas such as health and education.
35. **We commit** to achieving universal health coverage (UHC) by ensuring strong, efficient health systems, which can deliver quality services on a broad range of health priorities.
36. **We underscore** that strategies for our cooperation in education and capacity-building, should continue to address and enhance the interventions that target access to education for all.



REFERENCE

37. **We reaffirm** our commitment to joint action in building innovation and knowledge-based economies, while recognising that education systems for the future should train learners to be innovative and adaptable to the job market, and to pursue continuous learning.
38. **We recognise** the crucial role of women and girls in fostering the social mobility of their families and the transformation of economies, and **commit** to the elimination of discriminatory laws and policies, which entrench existing inequalities and widen the gaps in the socio-economic and political development of women and girls in ACP States.
39. **We further commit** to mainstreaming gender equality in all our policies, including creating opportunities for decent work, equal pay for all, and extensive participation and decision-making in public life.
40. **We underscore** that youth constitute a unique demographic dividend that can contribute to achieving sustainable development. **We recognise** the importance of implementing inclusive and effective policies that create opportunities for personal growth and the transformative development of young people to enable the achievement of their aspirations, and **commit** to ensure that the right of every young person to social, economic, political, and cultural development is respected.
41. **We recognise** that migration is a natural phenomenon and **acknowledge** the nexus between migration and development, since migrants contribute positively to labour markets and to the economic growth and human capital development of host countries, including ACP States.
42. **We remain deeply concerned** about the challenges caused by irregular migration at regional and international levels and are aware that some ACP States are not only countries of origin, but also transit and destination countries. **We highly commend** ACP States that welcome and host migrants and refugees, and **call** for increased financial support to these countries.
43. **We call** on our development partners to join us in addressing the root causes of migration, conscious of the fact that most migration is a consequence of under, unequal, or incomplete development and support member states hosting migrants.

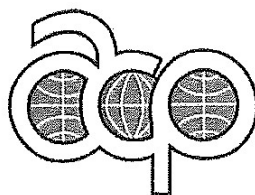


REFERENCE

44. **We are distressed** by the increasing vulnerability of irregular migrants to human trafficking, slavery, prostitution and sexual violence, illegal detention, and torture, and by the many deaths resulting from the routes taken by these migrants. **We underscore the fact** that the promotion of the structural transformation of ACP countries is critical to ending the exploitation of migrants, so as to create increased remunerative employment and income-earning opportunities, while improving access for regular migrants to employment opportunities in host countries, on the basis of the rights and protection accorded to nationals of the host countries.
45. **We welcome** the contribution of the Diaspora to the development efforts of our countries and **affirm** that we will prioritise strategic Diaspora engagement and enhance our support to the Diaspora, by creating enabling legal and administrative processes that will facilitate Diaspora investments in various sectors of our national economies.
46. **We reiterate** the importance of culture as a catalyst for development and **reaffirm** our commitment to promoting the development of cultural and creative industries in ACP States. To this end, **we agree** to incorporate into national and regional development strategies, opportunities for employment in the cultural and creative industries, through the promotion of training, finance, trade and tourism. **We call** for unhindered access to international markets for our cultural goods and practitioners such as artists.
47. **We are deeply concerned** about and **commit** to cooperate in the fight against the illicit trafficking of ACP cultural property. **We reiterate our call** for the immediate restitution of cultural property to their countries of origin.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

48. **We commit** to the targeted definition of areas for intra-ACP action grounded in the principles of subsidiarity, complementarity, and proportionality in addressing issues of common concern, in relation to efforts to promote export diversification and structural transformation for sustainable, people-centred growth and development.
49. **We recognise** the importance of structural economic transformation and industrialisation in achieving the sustainable growth and economic development of our States, and aim to attain higher productivity levels through diversification, technological improvements, and innovation, by focusing on high value-added sectors and enacting policies to absorb the abundant labour in our countries.

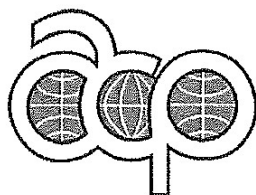


REFERENCE

50. **We reaffirm** our commitment to joint efforts to create a sound, competitive, sustainable and diversified economic base in ACP economies, which promotes the role of the public and private sector in the social and economic transformation of ACP Member States, attracts sustainable and inclusive investments, deepens regional integration and promotes the economic empowerment of women, vulnerable and young people, in ways that contribute to the achievement of the SDGs.
51. **We underline** the central role of the digital economy as a driver for economic diversification, increased productivity, operational efficiency, job creation and growth, and **commit** to promote the accessibility of information and communication technologies (ICTs) to all our citizens.
52. **We reiterate** the significance of investing in and transferring new technologies on a concessionary basis – including embracing the fourth industrial revolution – and **call** for global cooperation and a shared view and response to how technology is reshaping our economic, social, cultural and individual lives.
53. **We commit** to undertake joint actions with our partners at the international level, to re-balance global value chains in commodity markets, and help commodity-dependent countries to better position themselves within the chain, to ensure that there is transition to high value-added economic activities, enhanced competitiveness and productivity, which could lead to export diversification, structural transformation, and sustainable growth and development.

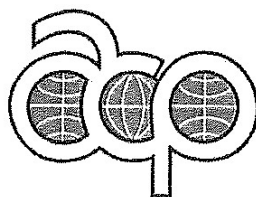
TRADE MATTERS

54. **We remain committed** to the World Trade Organization (WTO) as the internationally recognised multilateral institution for governing trade between nations. **We stress**, therefore, that international trade rules should fully take into account the development status of ACP States by according them appropriate special and differential treatment. **We call** for the right of ACP States to special and differential treatment to be fully recognised and applied in the design and implementation of preferential trade agreements.



REFERENCE

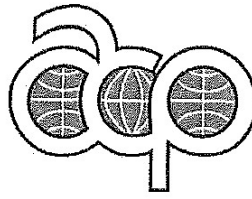
55. **We insist** on the removal of tariff and non-tariff measures including those related to Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS), Technical Barriers to Trade (TBTs) and growing private standards that restrict access of our products to international markets, and stress the need for enhanced dialogue on the design and implementation of measures essential to preserve human, plant, and animal health in ways which minimise barriers to trade.
56. **We stress** that in our bilateral trade relations with the European Union, Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) must be genuine tools for sustainable development that go beyond trade liberalisation, by helping to foster ACP competitiveness, develop regional value chains, address supply-side and trade-related infrastructure constraints, help strengthen regional integration, and play a key role in fostering industrialisation.
57. **We call** for flexibility in resolving outstanding issues with regard to those ACP countries facing difficulties in concluding Economic Partnership Agreements, and **stress** the importance of an all-ACP-EU EPA monitoring and evaluation mechanism, under the new ACP-EU partnership agreement.
58. **We applaud** the establishment of the African Continental Free Trade Area. **We recognise** that ACP countries would benefit from a Free Trade Area (ACP FTA), which would further promote intra-ACP trade and investments. **We therefore call** for an assessment of the pre-conditions for negotiating and concluding an all-ACP Free Trade Agreement.
59. **We agree** to improve intra-ACP trade connectivity and facilitation through e-commerce, in particular, to benefit our countries in remote geographic locations, through maritime connectivity, which is essential for global trade in goods.
60. **We reaffirm** the need to finalise the creation of an all-ACP trade portal for the dissemination of information about manufactured products, commodities, services, and investment opportunities in ACP States.



REFERENCE

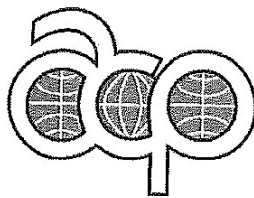
DEVELOPMENT FINANCE

61. **We subscribe** to the principles of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) as the multilateral framework for development finance and **emphasise** the importance of financing for development as key to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.
62. **We underscore** the need for international solidarity, especially through North-South, South-South and Triangular Cooperation, in the mobilisation of additional and predictable concessional resources for the economic transformation of our States;
63. **We recognise** that Official Development Assistance (ODA) remains an important source and catalyst for development financing for several ACP States, in particular LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS and African States. **We commend** developed countries that have honoured their commitment to allocate 0.7% of GDP to ODA, of which 50% is intended for LDCs, and **urge** those that have not done so to take immediate steps to reach this target.
64. **We agree** to accord the highest priority to strengthening and reforming our tax administrations to be simpler, more balanced and predictable, and based on a broad, diversified, socially responsible, internationally compliant, and progressive tax base.
65. **We recognise** that the development of our countries requires domestic resource mobilisation from both tax and non-tax sources, including through the minimising of tax evasion and the ensuring that international corporations pay their fair share of taxes in ACP countries, since cooperation in this regard should form part of the support provided by our development partners.
66. **We emphasise** that the new ACP-EU agreement must preserve the acquis of past agreements, notably development financing through the European Development Fund, by maintaining its predictability, multi-annual commitments, and its management structure comprising the joint institutions and the co-management principles, at the beneficiary levels.



REFERENCE

67. **We urge** all our development partners to prioritise the delivery of ODA as far as possible, through general budget support, in keeping with the national ownership principles, and therefore **commit to** accord the highest priority to continuing to improve the management of public finances and related institutions, in accordance with international standards, and with the support of the international community.
68. **We underscore** the importance of the taxation of transnational financial flows, tax transparency and fairness, and fair transfer prices, as well as the fair, balanced, and appropriate taxation of multinational companies, for an equitable accrual of benefits and resources in ACP States. **We agree** to collectively support and put into place such a framework.
69. **We undertake** to enhance our fight against capital flight, in particular, the tax evasion schemes of multinational enterprises, money laundering and other forms of illicit financial flows, and **call** on our international partners to intensify practical cooperation to minimise tax avoidance and ensure that international corporations pay their fair share of taxes in ACP States.
70. **We strongly urge** the European Union and its Member States, and other relevant international institutions, to carry out inclusive political and technical dialogue with the Organisation of ACP Group regarding cooperation on tax matters, to ensure that the outcome neither prejudices nor harms the development and investment promotion of financial and business sectors of ACP States.
71. **We reaffirm** our commitment to ensure sustainable public debt management, including timely debt restructuring where warranted, as a fundamental premise in securing resources for financing development. **We recognise** the need to make debt sustainable in the long-term through cohesive policies geared towards financing, mitigating, restructuring, or appropriately managing debt, and therefore **agree** to build debt-management and restructuring capacities in our countries.
72. **We recognise** the importance of remittances and diaspora investments as important sources of financial flows to ACP States, and their contribution to reducing poverty, improving the livelihoods of our people, and safeguarding the balance of payments. **We undertake** to further promote secure, rapid, and less costly modes of remittances, in both recipient and host countries, by using legal channels and establishing innovative and affordable transfer solutions.

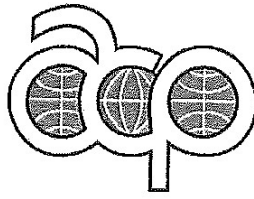


REFERENCE

73. **We acknowledge** that middle-income ACP countries (MICs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) continue to face inherent vulnerabilities and challenges to sustainable development. **We stress** that MICs and SIDS should continue to benefit from ODA and other concessional finance, and **call** for their concerns to be addressed in agreements to be concluded with international development partners, including in the new ACP–EU partnership agreement.
74. **We recognise** that SIDS will face significant challenges in accessing concessional financing for development, as outlined in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and **express concern** about the exclusion of many SIDS from concessional financial resources on the basis of their status as middle and high-income countries and the persistent use of per capita GNI as a criterion for determining access eligibility. **We therefore call** for the establishment of a vulnerability index as a criterion to be used for accessing development finance
75. **We underscore** the need to build the resilience of ACP States against external economic shocks, through the provision of support measures, including the necessary investments, which would reduce vulnerability.

FINAL PROVISIONS

76. **We agree** to meet at our 10th Summit in Angola at a time to be decided by the ACP Council of Ministers, in consultation with the President of the 9th Summit and the authorities of the future host country.
77. **We commend** the outgoing Secretary General Dr. Patrick Ignatius Gomes from the Caribbean Region for his outstanding visionary leadership of the Group and the manner in which he steered and protected the interests of the Group in the international fora.



REFERENCE

78. **We instruct** the Secretary-General of the ACP Group to forward this Nairobi Declaration to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the President of the European Council, the President of the European Commission, the President of the European Parliament, Heads of ACP regional integration organisations and international organisations, as well as to the other development partners of the ACP Group of States.

Done in Nairobi, 11 December 2019

His Excellency Uhuru Muigai Kenyatta

President of the Republic of Kenya

and

**President of the 9th Summit of ACP
Heads of State and Government**