

**Organisation of African,
Caribbean and Pacific
States (OACPS)**



**Organisation des États
d'Afrique, des Caraïbes et
du Pacifique (OEACP)**

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**10TH SUMMIT OF OACPS HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT
LUANDA, REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA**

9 DECEMBER 2022

OACPS LUANDA DECLARATION

**3 CONTINENTS, 3 OCEANS, 1 COMMON DESTINY:
BUILDING A RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE OACPS**



10th SUMMIT OF OACPS HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT LUANDA, REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA

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PREAMBLE

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS), meeting at our 10th Summit in Luanda, Republic of Angola, on 9 December 2022, under the theme: **"3 Continents, 3 Oceans, 1 Common Destiny: Building a Resilient and Sustainable OACPS;"**

- A. **Reaffirming** the objectives pursued by our Organisation as defined in the Revised Georgetown Agreement, in particular the fight against poverty in the Member States, their sustainable development, and their integration into the global economy;
- B. **Reaffirming** our deep commitment to the Charter of the United Nations and to the principles, objectives and values enshrined in the 2019 Revised Georgetown Agreement establishing the OACPS;
- C. **Stressing** that the strength of the OACPS, as the largest formal and structured organisation of developing countries on three continents, lies in its unity, solidarity and cultural diversity, as well as its economic potential;
- D. **Acknowledging** the need to enhance and broaden the role and visibility of the OACPS on the international scene by revitalising multilateralism through inclusive dialogue and equitable partnerships;
- E. **Reaffirming** our commitment to multilateralism and our determination to build new alliances to maximise our collective impact on the international agenda;



- F. Considering** the global economic situation and the repercussions of the current geo-political tensions, the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the economic, social and environmental challenges of our Members States and Regions;
- G. Concerned** about the repercussions of ongoing economic crises in our Regions, the looming global economic crisis, notably the handling of the COVID-19 pandemic, the impact of climate change and armed conflicts around the world on the exacerbation of poverty, inequality and unemployment in most of our countries and regions;
- H. Concerned** about the resurgence of terrorism in our regions and member countries and the threat it poses to international and regional security;
- I. Recognising** that the seriousness of the challenges to peace, security and development in the world, such as growing conflicts, the rise of organised crime and violent extremism, misuse of ICT for inciting violence and terrorist attacks, maritime piracy, trafficking of all kinds, including human trafficking, and increasing climate-related risks and cyber insecurity, should necessitate a review of traditional methods of prevention, management and resolution;
- J. Also concerned** by deepening multi-dimensional crises and their consequences, including the adverse impacts of climate change and disasters, biodiversity loss, food insecurity, and pandemics that demand urgent and concerted actions at the international level;
- K. Stressing** that the definition and implementation of effective actions to avert, minimize and address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change in developing countries, which are particularly vulnerable to these effects and not the primary contributors to this phenomenon, require a better understanding of the obligations and the identification of commitments of governments and various stakeholders in the framework of the United Nations;



- L. Concerned** about the deterioration of the global food security situation due to conflict and war, extreme weather conditions related to climate change, land and ocean degradation, pollution, economic and financial shocks, including those induced by the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine;
- M. Recognising** the need to strengthen capacity-building support for Members of the OACPS, including by designing road safety policies, investing in risk proofing roads, retrofitting existing transport infrastructure to ensure quality, and building durable infrastructure that takes account of changing weather and climate conditions;
- N. Desirous** of creating resilient societies and communities in our countries, thereby laying the foundation for prosperous and sustainable economies in line with our multilateral commitments under the Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction;
- O. Deeply concerned** about the depletion of biodiversity and the degradation of our ecosystems and their disastrous consequences for livelihoods, economies, food and nutrition security, and human health, as well as for the way of life of future generations;
- P. Recognising** that research and innovation play a crucial role in addressing contemporary complex and interconnected global challenges such as pandemics, food and energy insecurity, and the inter-linked global crises of climate change, ocean degradation and biodiversity loss, by providing evidence for decision making, filling data gaps and finding new and innovative solutions;
- Q. Desirous** of strengthening cooperation with the European Union (EU) in the context of the current and future agreements to ensure that the Members of the OACPS benefit fully from the provisions of these agreements, particularly relating to financing for development;



- R. Aware** that the fight against illicit financial flows is a key development challenge; **concerned** about the increasing level of such flows; **noting** that Members of the OACPS, especially those in Africa, are particularly exposed to the negative effects of such flows, and **stressing** that these illicit flows, including tax evasion and avoidance, as well as money laundering and terrorist financing, reduce the resources available for financing development;
- S. Committed** to continuing the process of adaptation and modernisation of the OACPS Secretariat in order to effectively support the proper functioning of the organs of the Organisation, and the need to adapt to the changing and numerous needs of its Member States;
- T. Recognising** the need to secure sustainable funding for the Secretariat, including by diversifying funding sources, to ensure the efficient and effective execution of its role, responsibilities and functions with a view to achieving OACPS goals and objectives;
- U. Committed** to promoting the equitable integration of our Members into the global economy;
- V. Reaffirming** our commitment to strengthen the integration processes of our regions in addressing development challenges; and **recognising** the significant role of regional organisations;
- W. Aware** that creating the right conditions for private investment and private sector development, in particular Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) development, is crucial for improving access to international markets for Member States' export products;
- X. Determined** to promote gender equality through the protection and empowerment of women and girls; and **further aware** of the need to meaningfully include youth, women and all other vulnerable segments of society in political and development processes;



- Y. Concerned** about the significant negative socio-economic and environmental impact of road traffic accidents and injuries, which are among the leading causes of death among young people worldwide;
- Z. Determined** to share our knowledge and expertise through South-South and Triangular Cooperation to take account of new global realities, and achieve a level of social and economic development that matches the expectations of our peoples;
- AA. Acknowledging** the critical role that culture can play in addressing major global challenges, and determined to pursue cultural diplomacy and intercultural dialogue, including with our strategic partners, in furtherance of international peace and security, equity and social justice, and the attainment of the sustainable development goals;
- BB. Further recognising** that the cultural and creative industries serve as an important lever for economic diversification and growth, and should be fostered, while noting that they account for a large and growing share of the GDP of many Members of the OACPS;
- CC. Acknowledging** the strategic importance of fostering togetherness and camaraderie among the estimated 1.4 billion individuals of African origin in the Diaspora, who are distributed across the globe as a result of historical population movements and more recent migrations, to advance social, political, and economic success;
- DD. Recognising** the significant contribution of the Diaspora to economic, social and cultural development; and **determined** to facilitate its involvement;



HEREBY DECLARE:

TOWARDS GREATER OACPS RESILIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY

1. **We welcome** the transition into an international organisation with a growing membership representing an estimated combined population of 1.1 billion people; **we reaffirm** our pride in our uniqueness and numerical and demographic strength, covering three continents and three oceans with a rich social, economic, cultural and political diversity; and **we are genuinely committed** to inclusive development and cooperation, and determined to foster resilient societies and sustainable economies in our Members, by overcoming crises and pooling resources.
 - 1A. **We recognise** that the socio-economic development of our respective countries, rests, first and foremost, with us, and we are determined to assume our responsibility in that respect. This is also important to ensure ownership of our development models and the achievement of our priorities and obligations.
2. **We note**, with regret, South Africa's decision to withdraw from the OACPS with immediate effect, and we task the OACPS Secretariat with continuing to review the process and report to the OACPS Council of Ministers.
3. **We grant** the Republic of Maldives full membership in the OACPS.
4. **We reaffirm** that the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, remains our main challenge and a necessary condition for sustainable development.
5. **We undertake** to pursue an inclusive, greener, resilient and sustainable economic recovery by addressing the needs of the most vulnerable sectors of society and creating jobs, especially in Small, Medium and Micro Enterprises (MSMEs), to achieve sustainable economic growth in an environment of peace and security.



6. **We commit** to addressing climate change and resilience, seeking sustainable and secure systems for access to food and energy, addressing the biodiversity crisis and other environmental challenges. **We call**, therefore, on our development partners to support the economic structural transformation of our countries, facilitate investments, honour their obligations on climate financing, provide access to, and transfer of, technology, and share expertise for rapid economic recovery.
7. **We commit** to deepening and strengthening economic, political, social, and cultural relations among our countries and regions in the fields of trade, science and technology, industry, transport and communications, education, training and research, information and communication, the environment, demography, and human resources.
8. **We welcome** the establishment of the OACPS Endowment and Trust Fund (ETF) to support the financial sustainability of the OACPS. **We congratulate** those Member States that have paid their contributions to the ETF for 2022, and those that have made voluntary contributions for investment activities.
9. **We call** on other Member States which have not yet done so, to pay their annual dues for 2022. We encourage them to make voluntary contributions in support of the ETF and urge our partners to also contribute.
10. **We condemn** the use of unilateral and coercive measures such as the illegal sanctions against certain developing countries, with a view to preventing these countries from exercising their right to determine their own political, economic and social system; and **reject** the increased application of unilateral and extra-territorial laws and measures contrary to international law, such as the Helms Burton Act in the case of Cuba, and **we reaffirm** our solidarity with the Governments and people of these Member States.



ADDRESSING CURRENT GLOBAL CHALLENGES

11. **We reaffirm** our commitment to make meaningful, concerted and coordinated contributions to key global issues, and to promote the interests of the OACPS in its quest for inclusive growth and sustainable development.

Climate Change and Biodiversity Crises

12. **We reaffirm** our commitment to combat climate change as an existential threat to the livelihoods, well-being, and security of our peoples and countries; and **reiterate** our call to high-emitting and developed country Parties to the Paris Agreement to scale up mitigation, and increase Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) with the objective of aligning with the 1.5 degrees Celsius pathway, to enhance their adaptation actions and ambition, and **urge** them to scale up technical and financial support, including for capacity building and technology transfers to our countries.
13. **We commit** to cooperating on enhanced disaster risk reduction and resilience to the short and long-term impacts of disasters and **encourage** attention to improved coordination and collaboration in implementing disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation strategies and plans, noting their synergies and complementarity.
14. **We call** on developed country Parties to fulfil their promise to deliver the USD 100 billion commitment, without further delay, to double adaptation finance by 2025, and to scale up financing towards the new collective quantified goal on climate finance post-2025.



15. **We welcome** the breakthrough agreement at COP 27 in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, to establish a new Global Fund for Loss and Damage for vulnerable countries affected by climate disasters, and **call** for utmost urgency in allocating adequate **fresh** resources to the Fund, finalising its **governance structure** together with a robust monitoring and evaluation mechanism, and ensuring that it is easily accessible to all Members of the OACPS, in particular the vulnerable Small Islands Developing States (SIDS), through a dedicated window.
16. **We support** the call in the COP 27 'Sharm El-Sheikh Implementation Plan' for the shareholders of multilateral development banks and international financial institutions to urgently reform multilateral development bank practices and priorities, align and scale up funding, ensure simplified access, and encourage multilateral development banks to define a new vision and commensurate operational model, channels and instruments that are fit for the purpose of adequately addressing the global climate emergency, including deploying a full suite of instruments, from grants to guarantees and non-debt instruments to Members of the OACPS, taking into account debt burdens, and their unique vulnerabilities to climate change and need to build resilient and sustainable communities.
17. **We call** on the international community to provide grants and highly concessional financing for building resilience and sustainability with emphasis on adaptation as the planet warms. In this regard, there is an urgent need:
 - (i) to reform the Resilience and Sustainability Facility (RSF) in order to provide financing on more concessional terms and make access easier;
 - (ii) to mobilize unused Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) to create RSF-type instruments in the World Bank and Regional Development Banks (Africa Development Bank (AfDB), Asian Development Bank (ADB), Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB);



- (iii) to facilitate access to EU resources for grants to finance the build-up of Resilience and Sustainability in Members of the OACPS and SIDS by supporting peer lending and peer support; and
 - (iv) to encourage bilateral donors to provide grants and/or concessional financing to complement resources from the Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) and the EU.
18. **We also welcome** the financing solution proposed by the “2022 Bridgetown Initiative”, which seeks a reform of the global financial architecture for developing countries.
19. **We task** the OACPS Secretariat with supporting members to secure access to climate finance, including readiness grants from the Green Climate Fund. Further, **to support** the efforts of Members to access the newly set up Resilience and Sustainability Fund (RSF) at the IMF, whilst striving for the RSF to be more concessional and with fewer access conditionalities. **We urge** the Secretariat to strengthen support for Members in their engagement on climate change and disaster risk governance in multilateral processes.
20. **We decide** to organise, in 2023, a SIDS International Resource Mobilisation Conference to secure pledges to finance our Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).
21. **We call** on all UN Member States to give strong consideration to voting in support of the adoption of the UN General Assembly Resolution for an Advisory Opinion from the International Court of Justice on the obligations of States, under International Law, to protect the rights of peoples and individuals of present and future generations against the adverse effects of climate change.



22. **We welcome** the convening of the second part of the 15th Conference of Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity which aims to adopt a new global framework for managing nature through to 2030. **We stress** that priority be accorded to degraded ecosystems and maintaining them in a healthy, productive state, for the socio-economic development needs of present and future generations.
23. **We call** for the adoption of an ambitious post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework with clear means of implementation and support mechanisms that will trigger transformative actions to halt biodiversity loss, and conserve and sustainably use biodiversity for the benefit of our peoples and the planet.
24. **We further call** for a substantial increase in new, predictable, adequate, and accessible financial resources dedicated to the effective implementation of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, including the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the establishment of a dedicated Global Biodiversity Fund.
25. **We strongly urge** Development Partners and Multilateral Development Banks to mobilize funds to support ambitious biodiversity action, including for capacity-building support and development, technical and scientific cooperation, and technology transfer and knowledge management.
26. **We task** the OACPS Secretariat with actively engaging in global initiatives to mobilize action to support Members' implementation of biodiversity commitments, and to emphasize the need to link the biodiversity, climate, ocean and blue economy agendas in order to build a resilient and sustainable future for our peoples and the planet.



Food Insecurity

27. **We commit** to promoting national food systems transformation pathways that facilitate locally-led sustainable production of food and diets to help small-scale producers (our farmers and fishers) to build resilience to drivers of food insecurity.
28. **We welcome** the OACPS Strategic Plan of Action for Fisheries and Aquaculture 2030, adopted by the 7th Meeting of OACPS Ministers in charge of Fisheries and Aquaculture, **and stress** the urgent need for its effective implementation.
29. **We call** on bilateral and multilateral partners to reinforce the efforts of Member States, particularly those vulnerable to food insecurity, in building sustainable and resilient food systems, through support for livelihood activities, and the provision of emergency assistance to affected communities and vulnerable populations.

Challenges to Peace and Security

30. **We call** on international partners to work together and to find ways to end various conflicts in the world.
31. **We welcome** initiatives by Member States to foster peace and security in various OACPS Regions.
32. **We deplore** the deterioration of peace and security in the world due to, inter alia, the proliferation of conflicts, terrorism, transnational organised crime, small arms and light weapons, violent extremism and cybercrime.
33. **We reiterate** our strong condemnation of all acts of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, and our solidarity with the countries and regions affected. **We welcome** national, regional and global efforts to combat this scourge and **commit** ourselves to strengthening cooperation between states and regions to effectively combat this scourge.



34. **We reject** the misuse of information and communication technologies, including social networks, to incite violence and terrorist acts, which violate the UN Charter and International Law.
35. **We reaffirm** the importance of peace, security and stability for the sustainable development of our countries and **undertake** to contribute to the promotion of international peace and justice in the framework of the SDG 16, as well as through regional and international conventions.
36. **We also reaffirm** our commitment to the promotion of democratic principles, good governance, the Rule of Law and fundamental freedoms as important aspects of our sustainable development processes. **We commit** ourselves to consolidating stability in our countries and regions through, inter alia, the strengthening of transparent, credible and inclusive electoral processes.
37. **We welcome** the initiatives undertaken by Member States for the promotion of peace and security in the different Regions of the OACPS.

Debt

38. **We welcome** the outcome of the May 2020 UN High Level Meeting on Financing for Development in the Era of COVID-19 and beyond, which identified six interrelated areas for concrete action to strengthen support, emergency response and recovery.
39. **Considering** the fact that many countries have huge post COVID-19 debts and that many countries in Africa are de-industrializing, there is a strong case for changing the threshold and conditionalities for countries to be considered middle-income so as to qualify for concessional loans and expedite debt restructuring under the Group of 20's Common Framework Process.



40. **We call** for increased access to the IMF's Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) to address the financial implications of the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine, and to consider a more structured and comprehensive approach, including private creditors and emerging market countries, to address debt vulnerabilities, loss of fiscal space and the depreciation of foreign exchange resources.

Road Safety Challenges

41. **We support** the UN General Assembly Resolution 74/299 on improving global road safety, and **commit to** attaining the SDG target 3.6 to halve road traffic deaths and injuries by 2030.
42. **We commit** to integrating youth perspective in all policy making and to implement transport policies that provide for safe, secure, inclusive, accessible, reliable and sustainable mobility.
43. **We further commit** to investing in educating young people in road safety and supporting them to develop and promote innovative road safety solutions that are adapted to national strategies and municipal contexts.
44. **We task** the OACPS Secretariat with supporting Member States in i) seeking financing for the implementation of proper road infrastructure, and ii) capacity building on road safety legislation, education, enforcement, technology and international regulatory frameworks. Furthermore, **we also task** the Secretariat with establishing a platform for knowledge sharing, technology transfer programmes and the sharing of best practices on a safe system approach to road safety.



EU lists of Non-Cooperative Jurisdictions for Tax purposes and Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT)

45. **We reaffirm** our commitment to intensify international efforts to promote good fiscal governance and to protect the integrity of our financial services centres. **We regret**, however, the EU's unilateral approach to combatting tax evasion, money laundering, and terrorist financing through a unilateral listing methodology, which poses serious problems, and which must be stopped in view of its illegality, illegitimacy and inconsistency.
46. **We therefore call on** the EU and its Member States to cooperate with the OACPS through the establishment of a joint OACPS-EU mechanism for a structured partnership dialogue on these issues of good fiscal governance and financial integrity, which is in our common interest, including in our common fight against illicit financial flows which deprive our countries of valuable resources that could be used to finance our socio-economic development.

Combatting illicit Financial Flows (IFFs) for Sustainable Development

47. **We take note** and welcome the adoption by the United Nations General Assembly of Resolution No. A/C.2/77/L.11/ of 23 November 2022 on a United Nations effective and inclusive Convention on International Cooperation in Tax Matters, and support the development of such a Convention on International Cooperation in Tax Matters, and the establishment of an Ad Hoc Open-ended Intergovernmental Committee under the auspices of the United Nations, led by Member States, to develop a mandate for the negotiation of a UN Convention on International Cooperation in Tax Matters.



48. **We underline** that the OACPS and its Members are not opposed to the intensification of international efforts to define a comprehensive approach to the promotion of good tax governance and financial integrity, that the lack of means and capacity does not facilitate the fight against tax evasion and fraud, as well as AML/CFT, and we encourage the EU to continue to provide technical and financial support to Members of the OACPS for capacity building and for bringing AML/CFT arrangements and tax systems in line with agreed international standards.
49. **We regret**, however, the EU's unilateral approach to combatting tax evasion and fraud, money laundering and terrorist financing, based on the establishment of lists, without proper prior consultation, which poses problems with negative consequences for the development of the countries concerned. We therefore call on the EU and its Member States to urgently engage in a dialogue on its list of Non-Cooperative Countries and Territories for tax purposes and its list of third countries regarding AML/CFT, with a view to establishing a joint mechanism for a structured OACPS-EU partnership dialogue on issues of good tax governance and financial integrity.
50. **We underline** the importance of the establishment of the OACPS virtual platform for sharing information, experiences, and best practices on good governance in tax and AML/CFT matters and encourage Member States to engage in, and benefit from, this instrument which should contribute to capacity building, intra-OACPS cooperation and delisting.

CONSOLIDATE PARTNERSHIPS FOR DEVELOPMENT

51. **We recognise** the importance of building alliances with strategic partners in pursuit of achieving the Agenda 2030 and the objectives of the Paris Agreement, and **welcome** the dialogue held during this summit.



52. **We agree** on the need to create a platform for regular exchanges with strategic partners through South-South and North-South Cooperation and mandate the Secretary-General to explore the appropriate modalities in this regard.
53. **We welcome** the formalisation of the IROCC and reiterate the relevance of this coordination mechanism in the promotion of regional integration, South-South and Triangular Cooperation, as well as in the reinforcement of the dialogue between the regions for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. **We request** the Secretary-General of the OACPS to take appropriate measures to ensure the launch of the IROCC's activities.
54. **We call** for a stronger OACPS-EU partnership and broader partnerships with other development actors to ensure the realization of the development agenda.
55. **We recognise** that the OACPS Centre for South-South and Triangular Cooperation, conceived during our 7th Summit in Malabo, has an important role in promoting and facilitating the exchange of experiences and good practices among Member States in their respective areas of excellence.
56. **We note** the Centre's mandate to create demand-matching platforms/encounters for South-South Cooperation, highlighting the strengths and attractiveness of each Member State, allowing quick access to knowledge and reliable information on key South-South Cooperation indicators in the Members of the OACPS, and facilitating communication through their cooperation.
57. **We commit** to further promoting and integrating intra-OACPS cooperation and South-South and Triangular Cooperation into our national development strategies, and strengthening the capacities of national institutions or focal points in charge of South-South and Triangular Cooperation.



58. **We commit** ourselves to supporting our Member States in pursuing the implementation of the Declarations of the OACPS Ministers of Culture and the Final Declaration of the UNESCO World Conference on Cultural Policies and Sustainable Development - MONDIACULT 2022, held in Mexico City from 28 to 30 September 2022, in order to renew multilateral dialogue, international solidarity, and to fully enhance the transformative impact of culture in favour of the sustainable development of humanity and the planet, in the face of the urgency and the complexity of contemporary challenges in multicultural societies.

Diaspora Engagement

59. **We commit** ourselves to developing and implementing relevant policies and appropriate mechanisms to foster the participation of the Diaspora in national development.
60. **We welcome the** creation of the OACPS Platform for global diaspora nation state initiatives. **We encourage** collaboration in research, development and technology transfer through global, regional and national platforms to provide technical and financial support for diaspora initiatives in host and home countries.
61. **We further welcome** the proposal for the establishment of the OACPS Diaspora Forum as a platform for exchanges on global issues, and the offer by the Federal Republic of Nigeria to host a Centre of Excellence for the Diaspora that will facilitate these exchanges. **We also take note** of the interests of other Member States to also host centers of excellence.
62. **We mandate** the Secretariat to take the necessary steps for the establishment of OACPS diaspora engagement mechanisms as a strategy to develop the cohesion that will enhance the relevance of the OACPS beyond the current challenges.



Relations with the European Union

63. **Despite** our common commitment to our historic and strategic partnership, **we note, with concern**, the delayed signing and provisional application of the new OACPS-EU Agreement and **urge** the EU to hasten the conclusion of their internal procedures to enable the signing to take place before the expiry of the transitional measures of the Cotonou Partnership Agreement, which is set for 30 June 2023.
64. **We reaffirm** the OACPS decision for the new OACPS-EU Partnership Agreement to be signed in Samoa and to be named the Samoa Agreement.
65. **We encourage** the EU to use the existing mechanisms and institutional arrangements to engage the OACPS Regional Organisations and the OACPS Secretariat in the programming of resources and implementation of programmes at national, regional and inter-regional levels, in accordance with the principles of proportionality, subsidiarity and complementarity enshrined in the Cotonou Partnership Agreement.

BUILDING KNOWLEDGE-BASED ECONOMIES

66. **We welcome** the steps taken by our countries and regions to put in place appropriate policies and entities to build research and innovation capacities to address multifaceted development challenges, and to facilitate their integration into a globalized knowledge economy.
67. **We commit** to creating a conducive environment for research and innovation, and **we call** for strong collaboration among Members of the OACPS, and with other partners, to intensify efforts and align our priorities and resources with long- term action plans that will help promote the desired knowledge economy.
68. **We reaffirm** our continued commitment to leveraging emerging technologies (Big Data, Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain, Internet of Things, 5G, Quantum Computing, etc.) for inclusive development, accessible and affordable connectivity for all, benefitting in particular women and girls.



69. **We commit** ourselves to promoting close collaboration between governments, universities and industries; and **therefore encourage** increased levels of private and public spending on research and innovation, at national, regional and international levels.
70. **We call** upon international partners to strengthen their support for the Members and Regions of the OACPS in implementing their national and regional adaptation actions to address the challenges of building a knowledge-based economy based on a well-functioning innovation and research system.

FOSTERING INVESTMENT AND COMPETITIVENESS

Economic and Trade Issues

71. **We reaffirm** our collective commitment to ensure continued access to traditional markets and to explore new opportunities for the private sector to strengthen trade relations and stimulate job creation, growth and investment.
72. **We commit** to forging mutually beneficial alliances with our traditional and strategic partners to pursue a coordinated approach in multilateral trade negotiations and to discuss market access issues.
73. **We remain concerned** that the market access obtained under EPAs, GSP, GSP+ and EBA is becoming increasingly restrictive and stringent in view of the new directives and regulations on sustainability emanating from the European Green Deal and Farm to Fork Strategy, with the result that EPA signatory states and eligible GSP beneficiaries are finding it extremely difficult to take advantage of such preferences which are being considerably eroded by trade liberalisation at MFN level and the conclusion of an increasing number of FTAs by the EU.



74. **We call** on the EU to provide dedicated accompanying measures in the form of technical and financial support to producers, exporters and national authorities in the Members of the OACPS in addition to sufficient timeframes up to 2050 when the EU aims to have a net-zero carbon emission economy, so as to allow them to domesticate and comply with the new market access requirements. In particular, **we recall** that social and environmental conditionalities attached to the EU's Generalised Scheme of Preferences constitute a serious handicap to the effective utilisation of existing trade preferences within the EU.
- 74A. **We call** on the EU to ensure greater alignment between its trade liberalisation policy and social and environmental policies and to ensure that regulations and directives do not negatively affect OACPS exports and are consistent with WTO rules.
75. **We encourage** the EU to commence actualization of the Global Connectivity Infrastructure to boost Africa's competitiveness.
76. **We call on** the WTO to ensure equal treatment of all members, with a view to levelling the playing field for Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and landlocked developing countries which suffer from inherent structural handicaps, including their remoteness, small size, and lack of natural resources. **We urge** the WTO to establish a robust dispute settlement mechanism for the benefit of all member.
77. **We commit** to actively engaging the WTO in establishing a system that allows our Member States to benefit from a share of trade growth commensurate with their economic development needs, through improved market access, balanced rules, and targeted and sustainably funded technical assistance and capacity-building programmes.
78. **We also commit** to promoting the use of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) through close cooperation with the World Intellectual Property Organisation and the provisions of the World Trade Organisation Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights.



79. **We further call** on our trade and development partners to assist us in addressing the challenges we face due to the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and to support the Members and Regions of the OACPS to strengthen their resilience and recovery to build back better.

Value Chains

80. **We recognise** that agricultural production in Members of the OACPS plays a crucial role in improving the lives of people in their poorest regions and that well-managed large-scale agricultural production can contribute, to a large extent, to the **attainment** of all SDGs.
81. **We acknowledge** that the production of raw materials accounts for a substantial part of the economy in Members of the OACPS, whereas the diversification of value chains within the Members of the OACPS is instrumental in generating sustainable production patterns by potentially reducing transport emissions, creating jobs and supporting the local economy and contributing positively to food security.
82. **We deplore** the fact that many of our Members, which are at the low level in the global value chains, being exporters of raw materials with little or no value addition, are vulnerable to fluctuations in international prices.
83. **We recognise** and appreciate the impact of Aid for Trade in easing and addressing supply-side and trade-related constraints that prevent Members of the OACPS from moving up the value chains.
84. **We emphasise** that the use of appellations of origin and geographical indicators by the Members of the OACPS is a means of adding value to their exports, and **we therefore request** the assistance of development partners to help in this endeavour.
85. **We commit** ourselves to working with our international partners to promote regional economic integration, including through the application of cumulation of rules of origin, as provided for in the Economic Partnership Agreements with the EU.



86. **We reiterate** the importance of effective enforcement of intellectual property rights in combination with traditional knowledge, culture and folklore as a means of generating wealth, and **we therefore call** on the European Union Intellectual Property Office to assist national and regional initiatives to enforce stronger intellectual property rights.
87. **We welcome** the Framework Programme developed by the OACPS and the EU to empower actors along value chains by facilitating access to finance and capacity building, in line with the new OACPS Approach on Investment and Transformation in the ACP Agriculture Sector that focuses on promoting value addition.
88. **We reaffirm** our commitment to collaborate with the EU to operationalise structures that seek to guide and assist the Members of the OACPS in the implementation of trade and sustainable development provisions of the New Partnership Agreement, including the strengthening of institutional capacities to adopt and enforce relevant legislation.
89. **We call** on the EU to draw upon the lessons learnt and best practices from the cocoa sector, where the EU engaged in partnerships, notably with Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana, to link the price increase (living income differential) to further action on deforestation and child labour.

MSME Competitiveness

90. **We recognise** that trade liberalisation coupled with the loss of preferential access to our traditional markets have hindered the ability of OACPS MSMEs to develop prosperity-inducing innovative solutions.
91. **We encourage** collaboration among our Regions to promote the exchange of best practices, to improve access to finance and to develop capacity-building initiatives, with a view to promoting our MSMEs.



92. **We reaffirm** our commitment to develop enhanced national and regional business- conducive climates adapted to MSMEs by fostering digital transition, research and development links between the private sector and technical centres and academia, and promoting industrywide cooperation through clusters and associations.
93. **We further commit** to investing in productivity, logistics, transport, and energy, and to connecting our MSMEs to other industries such as tourism and sports , with a view to offering adequate platforms for our MSMEs to thrive.

FINAL PROVISIONS

94. **We congratulate** the Government of the Republic of Angola for the excellent organization and express our gratitude for the hospitality and welcome extended to all participants in the 10th Summit of OACPS Heads of State and Government.
95. **We agree** to convene our 11th Summit at a time to be decided by the OACPS Council of Ministers, in consultation with the President of the 10th Summit and the authorities of the future host country.
96. **We commend** the outgoing President-in-Office of the 9th Summit, H.E. Dr. William Samoei Ruto, for his leadership since September 2022, and Mr. Uhuru Muigai Kenyatta, former President of the Republic of Kenya, for his commitment to the Organisation and the manner in which he steered and defended the interests of the Organisation in international fora, notwithstanding the challenges posed by COVID-19.
97. **We further commend** the Secretary-General, H.E. Mr. Georges Rebelo Pinto Chikoti, for his outstanding visionary leadership of the OACPS and for the organisation of a successful Summit.



98. **We instruct** the Secretary-General of the OACPS to forward this Luanda Declaration to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Presidents of the European Council, European Commission, and European Parliament, Heads of OACPS Regional Integration Organisations and international organisations, as well as other development partners of the OACPS.

Done in Luanda, 9 December 2022

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be 'João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço', is written over a faint, light-colored watermark of the same signature.

**His Excellency João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço
President of the Republic of Angola
and
President of the 10th Summit of OACPS
Heads of State and Government**