

**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, 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, ANGOLA, 9 DECEMBER 2022**

OACPS LUANDA DECLARATION

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, 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 world 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 the visibility of OACPS on the international scene by revitalising multilateralism through inclusive dialogues and equitable partnerships;
- E. Reaffirming our commitment** to multilateralism and our determination to building new alliances to maximise our collective impact on the international agenda;

- F. **Considering** the world economic situation and the repercussions of the current geo-political tensions, the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the economic social and environmental challenges our Members States and regions;
- G. **Concerned** about the repercussions of ongoing economic crisis in our Regions, the upcoming global economic crisis, notably the handling the COVID-19 pandemic, the impact of climate change and the 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 threats 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, 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 security, and pandemics that demand urgent and concerted actions at the international level;
- K. **Stressing** that the definition and implementation of efficient actions to avert, minimize and address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to these effects and not the primary contributors to this phenomenon require a better understanding of the obligations and identifications 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 war in Ukraine;

- M. Recognising** the need for strengthening capacity building support for Members of the OACPS, including in designing road safety policies; investing in risk proofing roads, retrofitting existing transport infrastructure to ensure quality, durable infrastructure that takes account of the changing weather and climate conditions;
- N. Desirous of** creating resilient societies and communities in our countries and thereby lay the foundations 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 and others;
- 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 EU in the context of the current and future agreements to ensure that the OACPS Member States fully benefit 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 and noting that OACPS members, in particular those in Africa, are particularly exposed to the

negative effects of such flows, stressing that they, 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 to adapt to the changing and numerous needs of its Member States ;
- T. Recognising the** need to secure sustainable funding for the Secretariat, including through diversifying funding sources, to ensure efficient and effective execution of its role, responsibilities and functions in support of achieving OACPS goals and objectives ;
- U. Committed to** promoting the equitable integration of our members into the global economy;
- V. Reaffirming** our commitment to strengthening the integration processes of our regions in addressing development challenges; **Recognising** in this regard 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 (MSME) 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 deaths and injuries, which one of leading cause 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 OACPS Member States.
- CC. Acknowledging** the strategic significance of fostering togetherness and camaraderie among the 1.4 billion individuals of African origin in the diaspora, who are distributed across the globe due to historical population movements and more recent migrations, in order to advance social, political, and economic success.
- DD. Recognising e** 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 a combined population of 1.1 billion people. **We reaffirm** our pride in our uniqueness and numerical and demographic strength, covering three continents, three oceans with a rich social, economic, cultural and political diversity and genuinely committed to development and cooperation, and our determination to foster resilient societies and sustainable economies of our members, by the ability to overcome crises, and the pooling of resources
- 1A. **We recognise** that the socio-economic development of our respective countries first and foremost rests with us and we are determined to assume our responsibility in this respect. This is also important to ensure ownership of our development models and achievements of our priorities and obligations.
2. **We note** with regret South Africa's decision to withdraw from the OACPS with immediate effect task the Secretariat to continue to review the process and report to Council
3. **We grant** the Maldives' full membership of 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 (SMMEs) to achieve sustainable economic growth in an environment of peace and security.
6. **We commit** to address climate change and resilience, seek sustainable and secure systems for access to food and energy, address the biodiversity crisis and other environmental challenges. Therefore, **we call** on our development partners

to support the economic structural transformation of our countries, facilitate investments, honour their obligations on climate financing, and technology transfer provide access to technology and share expertise for rapid economic recovery.

7. **We commit** to deepen and strengthen economic, political, social, and cultural relations amongst 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 financial sustainability of the OACPS. **We congratulate** those Member States that have paid their contributions to the FDF for 2022, and those that have made voluntary contributions for investment activities.
9. **We call** on other Member States who have not yet done so to pay their annual dues for 2022. We encourage them to make voluntary contributions in support of the FDF and urge our partners to 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 Reaffirm our solidarity with the governments and people of these member States

ADDRESS 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 combating 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 transfer to our countries.

13. **We commit** to cooperate 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 to allocate adequate **fresh** resources to the Fund, finalise its **governance structure** together with a robust monitoring and evaluation mechanism, and ensure that it is easily accessible to all OACPS Member States, in particular the vulnerable Small Islands Developing States 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

less conditionality and to strengthen support to members in their engagement on climate change and disaster risk governance in multilateral processes.

20. **Decides** , in this respect, 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 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 that 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 to actively engage in global initiatives to mobilize action to support Members implementation of biodiversity commitments, and emphasize the need to link the biodiversity, climate, ocean and blue economy agendas in order to build a resilient and sustainable future of our people and the planet.

Food Insecurity

27. **We commit** to promote national food systems transformation pathways that facilitate locally-led sustainable production of foods 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 seventh meeting of OACPS Ministers in charge of Fisheries and Aquaculture **and stress** the urgent need for its effective implementation.
29. **We call** bilateral and multilateral partners to support the efforts of Member States particularly those vulnerable to food insecurity in building sustainable and resilient food systems, including through support to livelihood activities, and the provision of emergency assistance to affected communities and vulnerable populations.

Challenges of Peace and Security

30. **We call** on International partners to work together and to find ways and various conflicts in the world.
31. **We welcome** initiatives by Members 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 for inciting violence and terrorist act, which violate the UN Charter and the International law.
35. **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 consolidate 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 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 integrate youth perceptives 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** invest in educating young people on road safety and support them to develop and promote innovative road safety solutions that are adapted to national strategies and municipal contexts.
44. **We task** the OACPS Secretariat to support the Member States in seeking financing for i) implementation of proper road infrastructure, ii) capacity building on road safety legislation, education, enforcement, technology and international regulatory frameworks and to establish a platform for knowledge sharing, technology transfer programs and 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 combating tax evasion,

money laundering, and terrorist financing through a unilateral listing methodology based on listing which poses serious problems and which must stop in view of its illegality, illegitimacy and inconsistency.

46. **We therefore call on** the European Union 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 rob our countries of valuable resources which 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, support the development of such 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 encourage the EU to continue to provide technical and financial support to OACPS Members 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 combating 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 ACP-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-ACP 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 exchange 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 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 as well as broader partnerships with other development actors from the South and the North 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 experience 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 OACPS Member States and facilitating communication in their cooperation.

57. **We commit** to further promote intra-ACP cooperation and South-South and Triangular cooperation, integrate it into our national development strategies, and strengthen the capacities of national institutions or focal points in charge of South-South and Triangular cooperation.
58. **We commit** ourselves to support our States in pursuing the implementation of the Declarations of the OACPS Ministers of Culture as well as 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 develop and implement relevant policies and appropriate mechanisms to foster the participation of the diaspora in national development.
60. **We welcome the** creation of the OACPS Platform to global diaspora nation state initiatives. **We encourage** collaboration in research, development and technology transfer through the 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 of exchange of global issues and the offer by of Nigeria to host a Centre of Excellence for the Diaspora that will facilitate these exchanges and 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 OACPS diaspora engagement mechanisms as a strategy to develop the glue that will help OACPS remain relevant 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 for signing to take place before the expiry of the transitional measures of the Cotonou Partnership Agreement 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 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 capacity to address multifaceted development challenges, and to facilitate their integration into a globalized knowledge economy.
67. **We commit** to create a conducive environment for research and innovation, and we **call** for strong collaboration among OACPS members 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, benefiting 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 to OACPS members and regions 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 more 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 MNF 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 OACPS countries in addition to sufficient timeframes up to **2050** when the EU

ambition 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, **recalls** 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 in 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 the actualization of the Global Connectivity Infrastructure to boost Africa's competitiveness.
76. **We call** 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, lack of natural resources, etc. **We urge** on the WTO to establish a robust dispute settlement mechanism for the benefit of all members.
77. **We commit** to actively engaging the WTO to establish 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 support OACPS countries and regions to strengthen their resilience and recovery to build back better.

Value Chains

80. **We recognise** that agricultural production in the ACP countries 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 **attainment of** all 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals.
81. **We acknowledge** that the production of raw materials accounts for a substantial part of the economy in OACPS countries; whereas the diversification of value chains within OACPS countries 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 moving up the value chains.
84. **We emphasise** that the use of appellations of origin and geographical indicators by OACPS countries 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 the 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 seeks to guide and assist OACPS Members 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 a partnership with notably 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 developing 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 industry wide cooperation through cluster and associations.
93. **We further commit** to investing in productivity, logistics, transport, and energy to connecting our MSMEs to other industries such as tourism, sports

and industries with a view to offering adequate platforms for our MSMEs to thrive.

FINAL PROVISIONS

94. We congratulate the Government of Angola for the excellent organization and express our gratitude for the hospitality and welcome extended to all participants of the 10th Summit of Heads of State and Government of the OACPS
95. **We agree** to meet at 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, as well as 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 deferred the interests of the organisation in the 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 for 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 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 OACPS.

Done in Luanda, 9 December 2022

**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**