



COMMUNIQUE
TELECONFERENCE MEETING OF THE BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY OF AFRICAN
UNION (AU) HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT
ENLARGED WITH THE CHAIRS OF RECS
HELD ON 4 OCTOBER 2021

H.E President Felix-Antoine Tshisekedi, President of the Democratic Republic of Congo in his capacity as Chairperson of the African Union (AU), convened a teleconference meeting of the Bureau of the Assembly of the African Union Heads of State and Government on 4 October 2021.

The following members of the Bureau participated in the teleconference meeting: H.E. President Macky Sall of the Republic of Senegal, H.E. President Azali Assoumani of the Union of Comoros, and H.E. President Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa of the Republic of South Africa. The Arab Republic of Egypt was represented by H.E Mostafa Madbouly, Prime Minister.

Also in attendance was Chair of CEN-SAD, the Republic of Madagascar, Chair of COMESA, the Republic of Ghana, Chair of ECOWAS, the Republic of Congo, Chair of ECCAS, the State of Libya, Chair of UMA and the Republic of Malawi, Chair of SADC.

The Chairperson of the African Union Commission, H.E Moussa Faki Mahamat and the Director for the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), Dr. John Nkengasong, also participated in the meeting.

In his opening remarks, H.E President Felix Tshisekedi welcomed all to the fourth meeting of the Bureau of the Assembly, outlined the objectives of the meeting and paid tribute to H.E. President Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa as African Union Champion on COVID-19, for establishing the Commission on African COVID-19 response, and for his relentless efforts and commitment in combatting the pandemic. He also expressed profound gratitude to Dr. John Nkengasong, Director of Africa CDC for his outstanding service to his country and the continent especially for the operationalization of the common African strategy and for the international recognition he has received as Ambassador of AIDS to the United States. He further indicated that on the matter related to Israel being accredited as an observer to AU he has been undertaking consultation with Heads States in that regard and upon finalization of such consultations he is recommending that this matter be exclusively discussed at the Heads of States level and this recommendation has been endorsed by the Bureau of the Assembly. He concluded by underscoring the need to decide on the venue and format of the 39th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council and the 3rd Mid-Year Coordination Meeting.

Following the presentation made by the Chair of the Union, H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat stressed that the political situation in Africa is dominated by unconstitutional transitions and therefore there is a need for transparent elections, reconciliation, and solidarity with the affected countries. He also stressed that Africa will be participating in the 2021 United Nations

Climate Change Conference in November 2021 in Glasgow, United Kingdom and will have to assert its common position in one voice.

1. ON THE MEETING OF 8 JUNE 2021 OF THE COMMITTEE OF AFRICAN HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE (CAHOSCC)

H.E. Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa, President of the Republic of South Africa, Coordinator of CAHOSCC and Rapporteur of the African Union briefed the Bureau on the continuous work carried out with Dr. John Nkengasong and Mr. Strive Masiyiwa to launch a massive campaign around the world through Africa CDC to ensure that the continent has a secured access to vaccines. In terms of climate changes, Africa has to enhance its capacity for adaptation and resilience to climate changes. He underscored the need of working together in the spirit of solidarity and unity in achieving the climate change objective in Glasgow for November 2021. CAHOSCC received state on 3 climates commissions, Sahel chaired by the Republic of Niger, Congo Basin chaired by the Republic of Congo and the Islands States chaired by the Republic of Seychelles.

2. ON THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC SITUATION

Dr. John Nkengasong, Director of Africa CDC updated the Bureau on the epidemiological situation in Africa, on the Covid19 Vaccines and concluded with the following recommendations:

- ❖ Without vaccines and vaccination, the COVID-19 situation will get worse;
- ❖ There is need to act decisively to avert going into a state of endemicity;
- ❖ In order to also avert social harm and devastating economies through new COVID-19 waves, there is need to enhance vaccination coverage;
- ❖ Highlighted the importance of financing AVATT as the route to overall economic recovery.

3. ON THE VENUE AND THE DATES OF THE 39TH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND THE 3RD MID-YEAR COORDINATION MEETING

Following the presentation by the Acting Secretary to the Commission, the Bureau of the Assembly considered and endorsed the recommendation made by the Chair of the Union as follows:

- ❖ 39th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council: 14 - 15 October 2021, physically in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia,
- ❖ 3rd Mid-Year Coordination Meeting between the African Union, the Regional Economic Communities and Regional Mechanisms: 16 October 2021, by videoconference.

4. ON THE HOLDING OF THE 2ND AFRICAN UNION-EUROPEAN UNION MINISTERIAL MEETING IN KIGALI, RWANDA, 25-26 OCTOBER 2021

The 2nd African Union-European Union Ministerial Meeting will be held from 25 to 26 October 2021 physically in Kigali, Rwanda.

5. ON THE HOLDING OF THE AFRICA-TURKEY SUMMIT

The Africa – Turkey Summit will be held from 17 to 18 December 2021 in Turkey, taking into consideration of a reservation from the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Ghana on potential conflicting dates with a probable holding of an ECOWAS Summit in the same period.

Kinshasa 05th October 2021