

RECOMMENDATION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNITED
NATIONS PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (UNPA)

THE PAN-AFRICAN PARLIAMENT:

CONSIDERING Article 3 of the Constitutive Act of the African Union, on the objectives of the African Union, including promotion of popular participation and good governance and protection of human and peoples' rights;

CONSIDERING Article 3 of the Protocol of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community relating to the Establishment of the Pan African Parliament, which provides that the Pan-African Parliament (PAP) shall, inter alia, facilitate the effective implementation of the policies and objectives of the AU; contribute to a more prosperous future for the peoples of Africa by promoting collective self-reliance and economic recovery; to promote peace, security and stability;

CONSIDERING FURTHER Rule 5 of the Rules of Procedure of the Pan-African Parliament, which empowers the PAP to, inter alia, organize debate, discuss, express an opinion, make recommendations and take resolutions on the objectives and on any matter relating to the African Union and its organs, Regional Economic Communities, Member States and their organs and institutions;

HAVING REGARD to the PAP resolution on a UNPA adopted on 24 October 2007;

RECALLING its commitment to achieve the creation of a consultative UNPA within the United Nations (UN) system in accordance with Article 22 of the Charter of the United Nations that empowers the UN General Assembly to establish subsidiary bodies;

REAFFIRMING its view that a UNPA is necessary to strengthen democratic participation and representation of the world's citizens in the UN;

CONVINCED that a UNPA will contribute to strengthening democratic oversight over UN operations, particularly in Africa;

REITERATING that a UNPA as parliamentary body of the UN system can significantly complement the valuable work of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the umbrella organization of national parliaments;

NOTING that a UNPA is indispensable for the realization of the right of all to participation in global decision-making as stated in the UN General Assembly's resolutions on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order, most recently A/RES/70/149 of 17 December 2015;

WELCOMING the efforts of the International Campaign for a UNPA that was launched in 2007;

NOTING that all regional supranational organizations have included parliamentary institutions in their institutional architecture as a means to ensure meaningful and effective peoples' participation and involvement in the affairs of the said regional organizations;

FURTHER NOTING with concern that the creation of a UNPA is currently not part of the official UN reform agenda;

THEREFORE

CALLS ON the African Union and its Member States to support the creation of a UNPA and to take necessary steps to advance this goal at the UN by triggering and initializing a preparatory intergovernmental process for the purpose of establishing a UNPA;

RECOMMENDS that the African Union develops and advance a common African position on the matter;

REQUESTS the President of the Pan-African Parliament to take all necessary measures to submit and defend this recommendation to the African Union Policy organs and to call for its full support by the Member States of the African Union and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission.

Adopted in Midrand on 12th May 2016