



African Parliamentary Union

81st Session of the Executive Committee
Abidjan, 4 and 5 June 2024

REPORT
OF THE 81ST SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
(Adopted)

The 81st session of the Executive Committee of the African Parliamentary Union (APU) was held on June 4 and 5, 2024 in Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire).

Delegates from the parliaments of the following countries participated in this work: **Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Djibouti, Egypt, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Equatorial Guinea, Libya, Morocco, Nigeria, Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo and Chad.**

The opening ceremony of the 81st Session of the Executive Committee took place on June 4, 2024 under the presidency of the Honorable Woï MELA, Deputy-Speaker of the National Assembly of Côte d'Ivoire, representing His Excellency Adama BICTOGO, Speaker of the National Assembly of Côte d'Ivoire, President of the Executive Committee of the African Parliamentary Union.

The representative of the President of the Executive Committee was flanked by the Honorable Mahamat Oumar MALLOUM, Member of the National Transitional Council of Chad, Rapporteur of the Executive Committee, and Mr. IDI Gado Boubacar, Secretary General of the African Parliamentary Union.

I – OPENING SESSION

In his opening speech, the Honorable Woï MELA, representing His Excellency Mr. Adama BICTOGO, Speaker of the National Assembly of Côte d'Ivoire, President of the Executive Committee, first of all conveyed the greetings and sincere apologies of the Speaker of the National Assembly of Côte d'Ivoire, who, for reasons beyond his control, could not be among the parliamentarians for the opening of the 81st session of the Executive Committee of APU

He indicated that President Adama BICTOGO attached particular importance to this session which is part of the statutory activities of the Union, adding that he asked delegates to express his unwavering commitment to APU. The President hoped that the discussions and work of this session would result in concrete and innovative proposals capable of strengthening democracy and improving the functioning of the Union. He expresses his gratitude to them for their presence and their active participation in this event, convinced that their contributions will be essential for the success of their future initiatives.

The Deputy-Speaker of the National Assembly of Côte d'Ivoire then delivered his speech, discussing the numerous events on the continent that cannot be ignored as the work of the Executive Committee starts.

He recalled that the continent has experienced several elections since the last APU meetings, notably in Senegal, Togo and Chad.

He thus noted the recent presidential elections in Senegal and Chad, as well as the legislative elections in Togo, welcoming the spirit of peace which prevailed during these various elections.

The Deputy-Speaker then spoke of the terrible consequences of climate change on the African continent, which, although responsible for less than 10% of global greenhouse gas emissions, disproportionately bears the impacts of this phenomenon. Indeed, and as underlined by the Secretary General of the World Meteorological Organization, the rise in temperatures in Africa has accelerated in recent decades, causing heat waves, heavy rains, floods, tropical cyclones and persistent droughts with devastating effects on communities and economies. Also, Africa must intensify its efforts to mitigate the effects of climate change. Government climate commitments are crucial to ensuring peace, prosperity and the preservation of the continent's unique natural wonders. These include the Nile, the longest river in the world, the Congo rainforest, the second largest in the world, as well as the exceptional biodiversity sheltered by the different African ecosystems.

The representative of the President of the Executive Committee also indicated that in addition to environmental challenges, Africa is facing numerous politico-military crises which exacerbate already existing difficulties and hinder development and resilience efforts in the face of climate change. He also insisted on political and social stability, essential to enable Africa to face these multiple challenges and prosper sustainably.

He launched a vibrant appeal for peace and stability on the African continent, calling on political, civil and military actors to find peaceful solutions to the ongoing crises, in the best interests of their populations who are suffering considerably.

The Deputy-Speaker also mentioned the persistent threat of terrorism which affects our institutions and our societies across the African continent. Thus, from north to south, from east to west, terrorist acts destabilize States, causing destruction, loss of life, massive displacement of populations and profound misery.

Faced with this alarming situation, he recalled the essential role that APU must play, in collaboration with the United Nations and the specialized structures in the fight against terrorism.

Hence, the imperative to engage in in-depth reflection on the subject in order to find global and lasting solutions to counter terrorism.

Addressing the points which will be examined during this Session of the Executive Committee, the Deputy-Speaker indicated that they will mainly relate to the examination of the Management Account and the Report of the Auditors as well as the preparation of the draft agenda of the next Conference in accordance with article 42 paragraph 3 of the APU Rules of Procedure.

In this regard, he noted that with regard to the financial contributions of members, efforts will have to be made, because it is noted that the majority of parliaments are not up to date with their contributions.

He hoped that each parliament would make more efforts so that APU would have real financial autonomy capable of carrying out its essential missions, namely:

- Promote the unity of action of the Parliamentary Institutions of African States;
- Serve as a framework for dialogue and parliamentary cooperation for the consolidation of peace and stability, the strengthening and consolidation of democracy and good governance, the promotion of human rights and the protection of the rights of women, environmental protection and sustainable development;
- Contribute to the achievement of the goals of the African Union for the establishment of lasting peace through dialogue within the framework of inter-African cooperation and a policy of good neighborliness, peaceful coexistence and African gathering.

On this reminder of the Union's goals, and on behalf of the current President of the Union, His Excellency Mr. Adama BICTOGO, he declared open the 81st session of the Executive Committee of the African Parliamentary Union.

The session was then suspended.

II – ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

When the session resumed, the work took place under the chairmanship of Honorable Abdo Sikieh DIRIEH, Vice-President of the Executive Committee of the African Parliamentary Union.

The Vice-President asked the Secretary General to read the following draft agenda:

1. Consideration of the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Conference
2. Consideration of the audited management account for financial year 2023
3. Development of the draft agenda for the 46th Conference
4. Draft agenda of the 82st Session of the Executive Committee
5. Date and place of the 82st Session of the Executive Committee.

The Secretary General proposed adding the Auditors' Report which will follow the presentation of the Management Account for the 2023 financial year.

The Vice-President, opening the discussions on the draft agenda, gave the floor to the members of the Executive Committee.

Thus, certain delegations took the floor, such as Algeria, which informed the members of having submitted proposals for modification of the Statutes and the Rules of Procedure of the Union, and asked to constitute, for this purpose, a Committee of examination of the amendments. It also proposed that the Executive Committee, in accordance with its

responsibilities, could not meet without expressing its concern about the situation in Gaza and particularly in Rafah, as well as its condemnation of Israel's aggression against the Palestinian people. Also, the Executive Committee should adopt a statement to this effect.

The Secretary General, on the amendment proposals, informed the Executive Committee that the General Secretariat had received amendment proposals from Equatorial Guinea, Rwanda, Algeria and Cameroon.

Also, he recalled the provisions which govern this issue, namely that for the Statutes, the proposals of the National Groups must be transmitted to the General Secretariat six months before the Conference, and that for the Rules of Procedure, the proposals must be transmitted two months before the Executive Committee session. He therefore indicated that the proposals will be examined at the next session.

Other delegations made known that they will soon submit proposals for amendments.

Following discussions among members, the Executive Committee agreed that the General Secretariat, in accordance with the procedure in this matter, will work on compiling the proposals which will be examined by a Committee made up of countries having so far submitted in the deadlines the proposals, to examine them one or two days before the next session. This Committee will be joined by the two Auditors of the accounts for the 2023 financial year with regard to the texts mentioned in their report.

During the debate, before the adoption of the agenda, the Democratic Republic of Congo wanted this session of the Executive Committee to focus on the situation in the East of the country.

The members of the Executive Committee have, in principle, agreed to examine certain questions through a statement which would relate to the situation in the East of the Democratic Republic of Congo, in Sudan, in the Central African Republic and in Gaza.

The Vice President of the Executive Committee suggested considering this issue when adopting the report of the Executive Committee, and therefore proposed that a Statement be adopted.

The agenda is thus adopted.

III – CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ITEMS

A. Implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Conference

The Secretary-General presented the report on the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Conference. No observations have been made by the members of the Executive Committee who adopted the report.

B. Audited Management Account and Auditors' report for Financial Year 2023

1. Review of the Audited Management Account for Fiscal Year 2023

The audited Management Account for the 2023 financial year was submitted by the APU Secretary General, Mr. IDI GADO Boubacar.

At the end of this presentation, certain members of the Executive Committee took the floor to either make observations or to provide information relating to commitments to APU in terms of payment of financial contributions.

This is how the Executive Committee:

- noted that Angola has effectively settled its contribution arrears since May 17, 2024;
- invited the other members to pay their financial contributions;
- welcomed the efforts of both the members and the General Secretariat which allow APU to continue its activities through the organization of sessions and its involvement in international events and programs, such as with the Office of Parliamentary Engagement against terrorism of UNOCT (United Nations Office against Terrorism).

2. Presentation of the Auditors' Report for the 2023 financial year

The Executive Committee heard the Auditors' Report submitted by Senator Pierre Flambeau NGAYAP of Cameroon.

Following this presentation, members congratulated the Auditors of the 2023 financial year for their work as well as the Secretary General for his efforts to ensure the proper functioning of the Union, and his desire to properly manage the missions assigned to the General secretariat with the limited resources of the union.

The members of the Executive Committee agreed to give the Secretary General the necessary time, until the next session, to present in writing the justifications requested in the Auditors' report.

The Executive Committee took note of the observations which aim above all to ensure that the operation of APU is carried out in compliance with the provisions contained in the Union texts.

At the end of the various interventions by the delegates, the Executive Committee adopted the audited Management Account for the 2023 financial year as well as the Auditors' Report.

The Executive Committee finally discharged the Secretary General of the African Parliamentary Union for his management for the 2023 financial year, subject to presenting

to the Account Auditors for the 2023 financial year, on the occasion of the next session, additional information on the supporting documents mentioned in their report.

B. Draft agenda of the 46th Conference

The Secretary General read out the following draft agenda of the 46th Conference:

1. Report of the Chairperson of the Executive Committee.
2. Secretary-General's activity report.
3. Report of the Committee of Women Parliamentarians.
4. Address the challenges of peace and security, in particular by promoting the involvement and empowerment of youth in African countries. (Political Committee)
5. The economic development of African countries through the development of natural resources, the diversification of the economy and industrialization. (Economic and Sustainable Development Committee)
6. Consideration and adoption of proposals of amendments to the Statutes submitted by the Executive Committee
7. Date and venue of the 47thConference.
8. Other business

The Executive Committee adopted the draft agenda for the 46th Conference.

D. Draft agenda of the 82nd Session of the Executive Committee

The Secretary General read out the following draft agenda of the *82nd Session of the Executive Committee*:

1. Review of the implementation of the decisions and recommendation of the Conference.
2. Review and adoption of the annual work programme for 2025.
3. Consideration of the Draft Budget for the financial year 2025.
4. Preparation of the draft agenda of the 46thConference.
5. Draft agenda of the 83rd Session of the Executive Committee.
6. Date and venue of 83rd Session of the Executive Committee.

The Secretary General proposed adding a point on amendments to Union's texts. This proposal was accepted by the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee adopted the so amended draft agenda of the 82nd Session of the Executive Committee.

E. Date and venue of the 82nd Session of the Executive Committee

The National Transitional Council of Chad, through the voice of Honorable Mahamat Oumar MALLOUM, Rapporteur of the Executive Committee, reaffirmed the invitation formulated on the occasion of the last APU Conference in Abidjan, in December 2023, in Ndjamen, to host the 82nd Session of the Executive Committee and the 46th Conference, in November 2024, on a date which will be fixed by mutual agreement between the APU and the host country.

The Executive Committee, thanking Chad for this invitation, took note that its next session will be held in Ndjamen.

F. Statement on the security and humanitarian situation in certain African countries and Gaza

Following discussions between the members of the Executive Committee, a Statement on the security and humanitarian situation in certain African countries and in Gaza was adopted by the APU Executive Committee. (Statement attached)
