

**CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT REPORT AND
DRAFT RESOLUTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS AND DRAFT
RESOLUTIONS**

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY THE RAPPORTEUR

**28 March 2010
Lilongwe, Malawi**

Thank you Mr. Chairman,

Your Excellency, Mr. Maxwell Mkwezalamba, Commissioner for Economic Affairs of the African Union Commission,

Your Excellency, Mr. Abdoulie Janneh, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa,

Distinguished Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

- It is an honour and a privilege to welcome you this evening to this session and to submit to you, for your consideration and adoption, the report of the Committee of Experts of the 3rd Joint Annual Meetings of the AU Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and ECA Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development. The report carries the dual symbols, **E/ECA/COE/29/L and AU/CAMEF/EXP/Draft/Rpt.(5)** dated 28th March 2010.
- This report contains the outcome of our deliberations from 25 to 26 March 2010.
- Allow me, Dear Colleagues, to thank the secretariat for the hard work in finalizing the report under very tight deadlines.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen, the report, which is before you has the following structure:

Section A deals with Attendance.

Section B reflects the agenda and programme of work, including the composition of the new Bureau.

Section C, the most important part of the report contains the account of proceedings of our meeting. It reflects the outcomes of our deliberations and discussions.

This section includes:

- A summary of the opening addresses; and
- A summary of our discussion as per the adopted agenda of our meeting and ensuing recommendations, including the outcomes of our discussion on the theme of the Conference. This is reflected in **paragraphs 18 to 106.**

- **The last Section** of the report is an annex that contains ten draft resolutions for your commendation to the Conference of Ministers for their consideration and adoption. The ten draft resolutions are on the following important issues considered by the Committee:
 - **Draft Resolution - L1** – Regional Integration
 - **Draft Resolution - L2** – Millenium Development Goals
 - **Draft Resolution - L3** – Brussels Programme of Action
 - **Draft Resolution - L4** – Climate Change and Development
 - **Draft Resolution - L5** – Implementation of the African Charter on Statistics
 - **Draft Resolution - L6** – Promoting High-level Sustainable Growth to Reduce Unemployment in Africa
 - **Draft Resolution - L7** – ECA proposed Strategic Framework/Biennial Programme Plan for the Biennium 2012-2013 and ECA Business Plan 2010-2012
 - **Draft Resolution – L8** – Strengthening the Subregional Offices (SROs) of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa

- **Draft Resolution – L9** – African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP)
- **Draft Resolution – L10** Establishment of African Financial Institutions

Mr. Chairman, in considering the draft report, I would like to recommend, with your permission, that we adopt the report by focusing mainly on issues dealing with the substantive agenda items. Under each agenda item, we may wish to proceed, for its adoption, paragraph by paragraph.

In this connection, I would like to kindly recommend that any contribution - grammatical errors, typos or approved substantive amendments - be forwarded in writing to the secretariat for finalization.

With these preliminary remarks, I am pleased to submit the draft report, together with the ten draft resolutions annexed to the report , for your consideration and adoption.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I thank you for your attention.