

RESOLUTION ON THE ASSESSMENT OF THE GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION
AND PREVALENCE OF ENDEMIC GOITER IN AFRICA

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Thirty-sixth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 23 February to 1 March, 1981,

Having considered the report of the Panel of African Experts Meeting on Endemic Goiter in Africa, meeting held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 13 to 17 October 1980, Doc. CM/1096 (XXXVI),

Noting that there are several loopholes in the present assessment of the geographical distribution and prevalence of endemic goiter in Africa,

RECOMMENDS that Member States of the Organization of African Unity should:

1. collate the various existing published and unpublished reports;
2. request the various national public Health Institutions to launch a campaign to track the endemic areas,
 - (a) during periodic controls of school hygiene;
 - (b) during medical tours to conduct military censuses;
 - (c) from reports on the activities of various public health establishments, namely: hospitals, health centres, maternity homes, and laboratories,

- (d) from reports on the activities of private establishments (dispensaries manned by firms, municipalities, religious institutions, rural communities, etc.).
3. undertake regular investigations on the prevalence of endemic goiter and its complications (endemic cretinism in particular).