

ACHPR/Res.27(XXIV)98: RESOLUTION ON THE RATIFICATION OF THE TREATY ON THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, meeting at its Twenty-Fourth Ordinary Session from 22 to 31 October 1998 in Banjul, The Gambia,

Considering that the 67th Ordinary Session of the OAU Council of Ministers, meeting in Addis Ababa in February 1998, adopted the Dakar Declaration on an International Criminal Court;

Considering that the 34th Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU, meeting in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, 8 -10 June 1998, also adopted the Dakar Declaration on an International Criminal Court;

Considering that around 43 Member States of the OAU participated in the Diplomatic Conference on the International Criminal Court (ICC) in Rome, Italy, 15 June to 17 July 1998, and that African countries supported the creation of a permanent, independent, impartial and effective ICC;

Considering that the statute of the ICC was adopted in Rome, Italy on 16 July 1998 by 120 States, of which more than 40 were African Countries;

Considering that 19 African States have signed the statute, demonstrating the will of African countries to create an effective ICC;

Considering the serious and troubling situation of human rights in Africa, especially in zones of armed conflict, and taking note of the universal consensus to end impunity for crimes which shock the conscience of humanity;

CALLS ON all States Parties to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights to carry out all the appropriate constitutional procedures to sign and ratify the Rome Treaty on the International Criminal Court; and

INVITES THEM to take all necessary legislative and administrative steps to bring national laws and policies in conformity with the Statute.