

DECISION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AFRICAN UNION COVID-19 RESPONSE FUND

The Executive Council,

1. **RECOGNIZING** that COVID-19 virus is a pandemic and public health emergency, which creates an additional burden to Africa's public health systems and negatively impacts the economic, social and humanitarian efforts.
2. **WELCOMING** the African Union's Communique of 26 March 2020 regarding the teleconference meeting of the Bureau of the Assembly of the Heads of States and Government to tackle the COVID-19 virus outbreak and find a lasting solution to the economic impacts through the establishment of an the African Union COVID-19 Response Fund.
3. **ALSO WELCOMING** with appreciation the seed funding of USD 12.5 million by the Members of the Bureau of the African Union towards the Fund.
4. **FURTHER NOTING** Member States, Partners and non-governmental bodies, enterprises, multilateral organizations interest to provide assistance, including financial commitments, technical support and in-kind donation in scaling up emergency efforts.
5. **ALSO NOTING** the role of Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), within its existing mandate, to a timely and effective health emergency preparedness and responses;
6. **DECIDES** to request the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, in conformity with Articles 26 and 29 of the African Union Financial Rules and Regulations to establish the African Union COVID-19 Response Fund, with the objective to fight the socio, economic and humanitarian aspects arising from COVID-19 and to further boost the capacity of Africa CDC.
7. **REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to undertake all necessary measures to operationalize the African Union COVID Response Fund, and to submit through the Permanent Representatives' Committee a detailed report to the Executive Council.
8. **DECIDES** to remain seized of the matter.