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DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON PROGRESS IN THE OPERATIONALIZATION OF THE AFRICA CENTRES FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (AFRICA CDC) – Doc.EX.CL/1359(XLI)

The Executive Council,

- 1. TAKES NOTE of the Commission's report on Phase I and Phase II operationalization of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) and its recommendations;
- 2. RECALLS Decisions EX.CL/Dec.1106(XXXVII) and EX.CL/Dec.1110(XXXVIII) which requested and instructed the Commission to "prepare a report, including a road map and Framework of Operations, outlining the financial, legal and structural implications to fully operationalize the Africa CDC in line with its Statute, for submission to the Council through the AU Policy Organs";
- 3. ALSO RECALLS Decision EX.CL/Dec.1146(XL), which directed the Commission to "put in place all necessary measures to expedite the full operationalization of Africa CDC, in line with the relevant decisions of the Policy Organs, including the completion of the implementation of the Phase I Taskforce recommendations provided there are no legal, structural and financial implications and report to the 41st Ordinary Session of the Executive Council in June/July 2022";
- 4. FURTHER RECALLS Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.835(XXXV), through which the Assembly decided to "delegate its authority to the Executive Council to consider, during its July 2022 Session, the endorsement of amendments to the Africa CDC Statute in line with the following directives: a) The Africa CDC shall be an autonomous body of the Union charged with the responsibility of prevention and control of diseases in Africa; b) A new governance structure that allows for strategic leadership and ownership by the Member States at the highest level of Heads of State and Government; c) The Africa CDC Secretariat to be headed by a Director General at a proper grade; and d) The Commission to put in place modalities for full implementation of the updated Africa CDC Statute";
- **5. NOTES WITH CONCERN** the slow progress on implementation of the Phase I operationalization of Africa CDC;
- **REAFFIRMS** its resolve to strengthen Africa CDC, at both the Secretariat and Regional Coordinating Centre levels, for effective preparedness and response to disease threats and public health emergencies;
- **7. DIRECTS** the Commission to expedite the full implementation of the recommendations of the Phase I operationalization of Africa CDC;
- **8. REQUESTS** the Commission to submit the revised Africa CDC organizational structure and a detailed report on the operations of the Africa Epidemics Fund,

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including financial, legal and structural implications, to the Executive Council in February 2023;

- **9. DIRECTS** the Commission to submit the framework of operations through the relevant process for consideration by the Executive Council in February 2023;
- **10. DECIDES** to remain seized of the matter.