



AFRICAN PARLIAMENTARY UNION A P U

37th Conference
(Rabat, 1 – 2 November 2014)

DECLARATION ON THE EBOLA EPIDEMIC

The African Parliamentary Union, meeting at its 37th Conference of Speakers of National Parliaments, in Rabat (Kingdom of Morocco) on 1st and 2nd November 2014,

Seriously concerned about the Ebola epidemic which has claimed many human lives including those of health professionals, particularly in countries in West Africa and which is spreading to other parts of the World;

Equally concerned, on the hand, about the negative impact and the serious threat of this epidemic to health delivery systems, national and regional economies, national, regional and international security and on the political situation in affected countries in Africa, and on the other hand, by the United Nations warning that the Ebola epidemic in West Africa could become the humanitarian disaster with untold consequences,

Recalling that the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared the Ebola epidemic an international public health emergency and described by the United Nations Security Council as a threat to international peace and security;

- **Honours** the memory of those who have lost their lives to the Ebola virus, particularly health professionals most of whom were volunteers, and **assure** their families of its deepest sympathy;
- **Expresses** its solidarity and support to the populations and governments in countries most affected by the Ebola epidemic;
- **Pays** homage to the medical personnel, as well as national and international emergency workers for their commitment;
- **Salutes** the efforts of the international community which, under the leadership of the United Nations, has organized an Ebola response and commends the creation of the United Nations Mission for Ebola Emergency Response (UNMEER) with a mandate to curb the epidemic, treat affected persons, provide essential services, ensure stability and prevent the onward spread of the epidemic;
- **Also salutes** the African Union Peace and Security Council's decision to authorize the immediate deployment of the African Union Support to Ebola in West Africa (ASEOWA);
- **Commends** the general awareness created about the seriousness of the threat and the growing number of pledges of financial, material and human support made by various Heads of State, as well as the private sector to support the global fight against Ebola and **urge them** to fulfil such pledges;
- **Commits** to act so that African governments take necessary steps to protect their populations and curb the spread of the Ebola virus.