



**AFRICAN PARLIAMENTARY UNION
APU**

R.125/31/08

**Resolution on
“The respect of international law with a view to safeguarding the
sovereignty of African States”**

The African Parliamentary Union, meeting at its 31st Conference in Kampala, Uganda, on 29 and 30 November 2008,

Considering that in accordance with the principles of international law, a country may start proceedings at an international criminal court to which it is a member against people suspected of having committed war crimes, torture, crimes against humanity or genocide outside the country's borders,

Noting the indictments made against Rwandan and Sudanese officials, and especially the recent arrest of Madam Rose Kabuye from Rwanda,

Recalling the arrest warrants issued against Senegalese officials regarding the sinking of the “*Joola*”,

Considering the denigration to which some African heads of State are subjected to,

Underlying the danger and threat of the abuse and misinterpretation of the principles of international law, as well as the actions that depart from the abuse of the principles of universal jurisdictions on the one hand, from diplomatic immunity provided by the Vienna Convention on the other,

1. Affirms that by virtue of the principle of equal sovereignty of all the Members of the United Nations Organisation, abuse of the principle of international law constitutes not only a violation of the sovereignty of African countries, but also a violation of the principle by which a country cannot exercise its power over the territory of another.
2. Calls on the International Community to respect the principles of international law with a view to preserving the sovereignty of countries.
3. Requests the African Union to take up the issue by virtue of its prerogatives and to adopt appropriate mechanisms aimed at preserving the sovereignty of its member States against abuse, violation or misinterpretation of the principles of international law.

4. Requests the cancellation of the illegal indictments and arrest warrants issued against Rwandan, Senegalese and Sudanese officials, and calls for the immediate release of Rose Kabuye, from Rwanda, and other African citizens who are in the same situation.
5. Calls on the international community to apply the Rome Statute of the ICC on member countries only and not to use political motivations to indict citizens and leaders from African countries especially those who are not part to the agreement as in the case of Sudan and the President of Sudan.
6. Requests all countries to respect the Vienna Agreement which obliges member countries to only adhere to agreements ratified by those countries.
7. Calls on African and third world countries to be aware of double standards in applying international laws and applying them only against African countries whereas other countries are immune from prosecution.