

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: High-Level Segment: The Role of the United Nations System in Supporting the Efforts of African Countries to Achieve Sustainable Development

SUBMITTED TO: The Economic and Social Council

SUBMITTED BY: Brazil, Australia, Nigeria, Ethiopia, and Cameroon

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

1 *Recognizing* the goals set forth in Agenda 21, 20/20 Initiative, specifically the Millennium
2 Declaration, which noted that education is one of the most important factors for successful
3 sustainable development,

4 *Taking note* of the African Growth and Opportunities Act with respect to the diversification of
5 Africa's economy, and investing in its infrastructure and education, as noted in the General
6 Assembly Resolution 56/187, 2002/17 and 2001/13 of the Economic and Social Council,

7 *Recognizing* the importance of focusing on education and infrastructure as recommended in the
8 New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD),

9 *Recalling* the UN Resolution 13/86, which guarantees children of both genders equal access to
10 education,

11 *Reaffirming* the right of self-determination to the selection of a language for instruction in
12 primary education,

13 *Expecting* member states to work together as a strong international community to accomplish the
14 goals necessary to assist African countries in their journey to become developed nations,

15 *Realizing* the importance of developed and developing countries to work together on equal terms
16 in order to achieve a sustained development,

17 1. *Recommends* the establishment of the African Primary Education Initiative (APEI) whose
18 goals are the following:

- 19 a. Establishment of physical facilities for primary education in Africa initiated by
20 United Nations bodies such as UNDP in cooperation with the governments of
21 member nations and support from NEPAD, focusing initially on the least

22 developed areas of Africa and ultimately progressing to all African countries,

23 b. Establishment of regional education and training with the promotion of regional
24 teaching academies for the education of teachers. The regional bodies will be
25 established by initiating teacher exchange programs that would facilitate the
26 increase of Africa's microeconomic state. Additionally, teachers from indigenous
27 areas will be encouraged to participate in APEI,

28 c. Establishment of appropriate humanitarian and financial aid for families enrolled
29 in the program APEI by NGO's, IGO's, donor countries, and the private sector, in
30 order to alleviate the financial burden on families whose children would
31 otherwise be involved in the early labor force,

32 d. The APEI in consideration of its operational budget, shall decide where the funds
33 will be allocated, through appropriate forms of decision making by the bodies of
34 APEI, UNICEF and regional African Representatives;

35 2. *Welcomes* assistance from the international community in accomplishing the goals of
36 promoting innovative ways to assist the development of developing nations in the area of
37 education as noted in Resolution A55/344;

38 3. *Stresses* the need for gender and ethnic equality in educational systems to be in
39 accordance with the Bonn Agreement to allow for a more democratic education system,
40 and increased economic sustainability;

41 4. *Encourages* the regional administration of the schools to select the language of
42 instruction to reflect local culture and prevalent verbal and written language,
43 supplemented by instruction in a secondary language to promote global interactions;

44 5. *Respectfully requests* financial assistance from the United Nations organizations such as
45 UNDP, UNESCO, UNICEF, as well as non-governmental organizations such as CARE,
46 IGO's, the private sector, and donor countries;

47 6. *Designates* that UNICEF submit an annual report on the progress of APEI's success and
48 use of funds:

49 a. Declares accordingly that in conjunction with data procured by UNICEF, that
50 African States also work towards self-reporting on the progress of the educational
51 system;

52 7. *Bearing in mind* the importance of upholding the cultural and ethnic diversity in
53 sovereign African countries, by incorporating their rich heritage into APEI.

Final Vote: 30 in favor / 4 opposed / 10 abstentions