

## **RESOLUTION ON ZIMBABWE**

The African Union Assembly, meeting in its 11<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session held from 30 June to 1 July 2008 in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt;

**Deeply concerned** with the prevailing situation in Zimbabwe,

**Deeply concerned** the negative reports of SADC, the African Union and the Pan-African Parliament observers on the Zimbabwean President run-off election held on 27 June 2008;

**Deeply Concerned** about the violence and loss of life that have occurred in Zimbabwe,

**Considering** the urgent need to prevent further worsening of the situation and in order to avoid the spread of conflict with the consequential negative impact on the country and the sub-region,

**Further considering** the need to create an environment conducive to democracy, as well as the development of the people of Zimbabwe;

**Expressing** its appreciation to SADC, and its Organ on Politics Defence and Security Cooperation, as well as to the Facilitator of the intra-Zimbabwe dialogue, His Excellency Thabo Mbeki, President of the Republic of South Africa, and His Excellency Jean Ping, Chairperson of the African Union Commission for the ongoing work aimed at reconciling the political parties,

**Recognizing** the complexity of the situation in Zimbabwe;

**Noting** the willingness of the political leaders of Zimbabwe to enter into negotiations to establish a Government of National Unity;

**Noting Further** that preparatory discussions on this matter has already started, under SADC facilitation;

**Hereby decide:**

1. **TO ENCOURAGE** President Robert Mugabe and the leader of the MDC Party Mr. Morgan Tsvangirai to honour their commitments to initiate dialogue with a view to promoting peace, stability, democracy and reconciliation of the Zimbabwean people;
2. **TO SUPPORT** the call for the creation of a Government of National Unity;

3. **TO SUPPORT** the SADC Facilitation, and **RECOMMEND** that SADC mediation efforts should be continued in order to assist the people and leadership of Zimbabwe to resolve the problems they are facing. In this regard SADC should establish a mechanism on the ground in order to seize the momentum for a negotiated solution;
4. **TO APPEAL** to States and parties concerned to refrain from any action that may negatively impact on the climate of dialogue;
5. In the spirit of all SADC initiatives, the AU remains convinced that the people of Zimbabwe will be able to resolve their differences and work together once again as one Nation, provided they receive undivided support from SADC, the AU and the world at large.