

**A Research paper on African Union**

**By**

**Group One members**

**Submitted to**

**Ustadhz Mudi'ullah**

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Group Members

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## **AFRICAN UNION**

The African Union (AU) is continental union consist of 55 member states located on the continent of Africa. It was announced in the sirte declaration in sirte Libya on 9 September 1999, calling for the establishment of the African union. The Bloc was founded on 26 may 2001 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and launched on 9 July 2002 in Durban, South Africa. Launched by Muammar Gaddafi.

### ***Objectives of the African union***

- i. To achieve greater unity, cohesion and solidarity between the African countries and African nations.
- ii. To defend the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of its member states
- iii. To accelerate the political and social economic integration of the continents
- iv. To promote and defend African common position on issues of interest to the continent and its people
- v. To promote peace, security and stability on the continents
- vi. To encourage international cooperation, taking due account of the charter of the United Nations and the universal declaration of human rights
- vii. To promote democratic principles and institutions, popular participation and good governance
- viii. To promote and protect human and people's rights in accordance with African charter on human and people's rights and other relevant human right instrument
- ix. To establish the necessary condition which enable the continent to play its rightful role in the global economy and international negotiations

- x. To promote sustainable development at the economic, social and cultural level as well as the integration of African economics
- xi. To promote cooperation in all fields of human activity to raise the living standard of African people
- xii. To coordinate harmonies between the existing and future regional economic community for the gradual attainment of the objectives of the union
- xiii. To advance the development of the continent by promoting research in all fields in the particular science and technology
- xiv. To work with relevant international partners in the eradication of preventable diseases and the promotion of good health on the continent

### ***Languages***

The official languages of African union are Arabic, English, French, Portuguese, Spanish, Kiswahili and any other African languages. The primary working languages of the African union are: English and French. To a lesser extent, Portuguese and Arabic are used.

The constitutive act, for example is written in English, French and Arabic, while the protocol amending the constitutive act is written in English, French and Portuguese. As of 2020, the AU website is available in its entirety in English, partially in French and minimally in Arabic.

### ***Motto or slogan***

The African union have their motto which said to be “**A UNITED AND STRONG AFRICA**”

### ***Anthem***

The anthem of the African union is:

***Let Us All Unite and Celebrate Together***

### ***Population***

The total population of the African union as of 2017 is estimated at more than 1.25 billion with a growth rate of more than 2.5%.

African union is made up of both political and administrative bodies. The highest decision making organ is the assembly of the African union. Made up of all the head of states or government of member states of the AU. The assembly is chaired by Cyril Ramaphosa, president of South African. The AU also has a representative body. The pan African parliament, which consist of 265 members elected by national legislatures of the AU member states. Its president is Roger Nkodo Dang.

Other political institutions of the AU include:

The executive council, made up of foreign ministers, which prepares decision for the assembly;

The permanent representatives commute, made up of the ambassador to Addis Ababa of AU member state; and

The economic, social and cultural council (ECOSOCC), a civil society consultative body.

The AU commission the secretariat to the political structures is chaired by Nkosa Zana Dlamini-zuma of South Africa. On 15 July 2012 Dlamini-zuma won a tightly contested vote to become the first female head of African Union Commission, replacing Jean Ping of Gabon.

### ***Membership***

All UN member states based in Africa and on African waters and members of the AU, as is the disputed Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR). Morocco, which claims sovereignty over the SADR's territory, withdrew from the Organization of African Unity, the AU's predecessor in 1984 due to the admission of the SADR as a member. However on 30 January 2017, the AU admitted Morocco as a member state. The fifty-five (55) member states of the AU located on the continent of Africa were:

1. Algeria
2. Angola
3. Benin
4. Botswana
5. Burkina Faso
6. Burundi
7. Cape Verde
8. Cameroon
9. Central African Republic
10. Chad

11. Comoros
12. Congo (Democratic republic)
13. Congo (Republic)
14. Cote d'voire
15. Djibouti
16. Egypt
17. Equatorial Guinea
18. Eritrea
19. Eswatini
20. Ethiopia
21. Gabon
22. Gambia
23. Ghana
24. Guinea
25. Guinea Bissau
26. Kenya
27. Lesotho
28. Liberia
29. Libya
30. Madagascar
31. Malawi
32. Mali
33. Mauritania

34. Mauritius
35. Morocco
36. Mozambique
37. Namibia
38. Niger
39. Nigeria
40. Rwanda
41. Saotome & principal
42. Senegal
43. Seychelles
44. Sierra Leone
45. Somalia
46. South Africa
47. South Sudan
48. Sudan
49. Tanzania
50. Togo
51. Tunisia
52. Uganda
53. Western Sahara
54. Zambia
55. Zimbabwe

