PRESS RELEASE NO. 34/2005

THE 2ND MEETING OF THE AU FOLLOW-UP MECHANISM ON THE REFORM OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The 2nd Meeting of the Follow-up Mechanism of the African Union on the Reform of the United Nations comprising the Core Group of 3 and the Committee of 10 (two from each of the five regions), which was open ended, met in Abuja, Nigeria on 9 June 2005 to consider the “Draft Outcome Document” of the President of the United Nations General Assembly that was released on 3 June 2005.

The Follow-up Mechanism also made substantive contribution to the Report of the President of the United Nations General Assembly in line with the Common African position to guide Africa during the consideration of the UN Reform at the General Assembly.

The Follow-up Mechanism resolved to advise other interested parties such as the Group of 4 and the Uniting for Consensus group to delay submission of resolutions on Reform of the United Nations to the UN General Assembly until after the forthcoming AU Summit in Sirte, Libya, in July 2005.

The Follow-up Committee agreed on a programme of action in which the African Union would actively engage other regions and stakeholders, including the five permanent members of the UN Security Council to win support for the Common African Position.

Finally, the Mechanism agreed to hold its next meeting on the eve of the meeting of the next session of the AU Executive Council in Sirte, to further deliberate on the way forward.

Addis Ababa, 17 June 2005