
CSSDCA Solemn Declaration (2000)

Electoral commissions	<p><u>Plan of Action</u>, 'Stability': a) 'Intensify efforts aimed at enhancing the process of democratization in Africa. In this regard, the strengthening of institutions that will sustain democracy on the continent including the holding of free and fair elections should be encouraged'.</p> <p>In the MoU on the CSSDCA agreed to at the Durban AU Summit in 2002, states commit to more concrete targets: III.B.(18) 'Independent National Electoral Commissions: Establish by 2003 where they do not exist, independent national electoral commissions and/or other appropriate mechanisms and institutions to ensure free, fair, and transparent elections in all African countries'.</p>
Voter registration system	<p><u>Plan of Action</u>, 'Stability': a) 'Intensify efforts aimed at enhancing the process of democratization in Africa. In this regard, the strengthening of institutions that will sustain democracy on the continent including the holding of free and fair elections should be encouraged'</p>
Overall fairness of election system	<p><u>Plan of Action</u>, 'Stability': a) 'Intensify efforts aimed at enhancing the process of democratization in Africa. In this regard, the strengthening of institutions that will sustain democracy on the continent including the holding of free and fair elections should be encouraged'</p> <p>In the MoU on the CSSDCA agreed to at the Durban AU Summit in 2002, states commit to more concrete targets: III.B.(20) 'Campaign Finance Reforms: Conclude by 2004 legal mechanisms for the institution of campaign finance reform including disclosure of campaign funding sources and for proportionate state funding of all political parties, to ensure transparency, equity and accountability in electoral contests'.</p>
Independence of judiciary	<p>11 (a) 'The Executive, legislative and judicial branches of government must respect their national constitutions and adhere to the provisions of the law and other legislative enactment promulgated by National Assemblies. No one should be exempted from accountability'</p> <p><u>Plan of Action</u>, 'Stability': f) 'Uphold and guarantee the rule of law, the protection and defence of the rights of citizenship as acquired at independence and as provided for in national constitutions'</p> <p>In the MoU on the CSSDCA from the Durban AU Summit in 2002 states agreed to: III.B (14) 'an independent judiciary'</p>
Term limits	<p><u>Plan of Action</u>, 'Stability': b) 'Adopt and implement a set of guidelines for dealing with unconstitutional and undemocratic changes in Africa in line with the Decisions that we took during the 35th Ordinary Session of our Assembly held in Algiers in 1999'</p> <p>In the MoU on the CSSDCA agreed to at the Durban AU Summit in 2002, states commit to more concrete targets: III.B.(16) 'Limitation to the Tenure of Political Office Holders: Adopt by 2005 a commonly derived Code of Conduct for Political Office Holders that stipulates among others, an inviolate constitutional limitation on the tenure of elected political office holders based on nationally stipulated periodic renewal of mandates and governments should scrupulously abide by it.'</p>
Exclusive or inclusive political system?	<p><u>Specific principles</u>, 'Stability': 11(b) 'The active and genuine participation of citizens of every country in the decisionmaking processes and in the conduct of public affairs must be fostered and facilitated'</p>
Political pluralism	<p><u>Specific principles</u>, 'Stability': 11(d) 'There shall be no hindrance to the promotion of political pluralism. All forms of extremism and intolerance foster instability'</p> <p><u>Plan of Action</u>, 'Stability': i) Protect and promote respect for Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, such as the freedom of expression and association, political and trade union pluralism and other forms of participatory democracy'</p>

	Durban Declaration in Tribute to the OAU (2002)	NEPAD (2001)
Electoral commissions	The Durban Declaration does not make explicit commitments to specific democracy goals, but restates the commitments made elsewhere such as in the AU Constitutive Act, NEPAD and the Lome Declaration. It also mentions democracy, good governance and human rights as important values for the OAU before and for the AU now	79. 'With the New partnership for Africa's Development, Africa undertakes to respect the global standards of democracy, which core components include (...) fair, open, free and democratic elections periodically organised to enable the populace [to] choose their leaders freely'
Voter registration system		183. 'The New Partnership for Africa's Development has, as one of its foundations, the expansion of democratic frontiers and the deepening of the culture of human rights'.
Overall fairness of elect. system		
Independence of judiciary		
Term limits		
Excl. or incl. political system?		
Political pluralism		79. [cont'd] 'political pluralism, allowing for the existence of several political parties and workers' unions (...)'

Lomé Declaration on unconstitutional changes of Government (2000)

Elect. Comm.s	i) 'adoption of a democratic Constitution: its preparation, content and method of revision should be in conformity with generally acceptable principles of democracy; vi) 'organization of free and regular elections, in conformity with existing texts; iii) 'separation of powers and independence of the judiciary; iv) 'promotion of political pluralism or any other form of participatory democracy and the role of the African civil society, including enhancing and ensuring gender balance in the political process; iv) 'promotion of political pluralism or any other form of participatory democracy and the role of the African civil society, including enhancing and ensuring gender balance in the political process; v) 'the principle of democratic change and recognition of a role for the opposition' vii) 'guarantee of freedom of expression and freedom of the press, including guaranteeing access to the media for all political stakeholders'; iv) 'the refusal by an incumbent government to relinquish power to the winning party after free, fair and regular elections'.
Voter reg. Syst.	
Overall fairness of elect. system	
Independence of judiciary	
Term limits	
Excl. or incl. political system?	
Political pluralism	

AU Constitutive Act (2000)

Ougadougou Declaration (1998)

Yaounde Declaration

			(1996)
Electoral commissions	Preamble: 'DETERMINED to promote and protect human and peoples' rights, consolidate democratic institutions and culture, and to ensure good governance and the rule of law;'	1. 'work towards the establishment and consolidation of effective democratic systems, taking into account the socio-cultural realities of our States (...)'	The Yaounde Declaration does not make specific commitments in the field of democracy and good political governance, although it mentions both as positive things. However, more time is spent in the declaration on how to protect unique African cultural values.
Voter registration system	Article 3 'Objectives': '(g) Promote democratic principles and institutions, popular participation and good governance;'	1. '(...) work towards the establishment and consolidation of a credible and independent justice accessible to all;'	
Overall fairness of election system	Article 4 'Principles': '(m) Respect for democratic principles, human rights, the rule of law and good governance;'	1. '(...) abolish exclusion and, in this regard, involve all and sundry without discrimination in the management of public affairs;'	
Independence of judiciary	'(p) Condemnation and rejection of unconstitutional changes of governments.'		
Term limits			
Exclusive or inclusive political system?			
Pol. pluralism			

Cairo Agenda for Action (1995)		Declaration on Fundamental Changes (1990)
Electoral Commissions		10. '(...) We accordingly recommit ourselves to the further democratization of our societies and to the consolidation of democratic institutions on our countries.'
Voter registration system		
Overall fairness of elect. system	II.10.a: 'launch programmes to promote (...) free and fair elections'	
Independence of judiciary	II.10.b 'ensure the speedy promotion of good governance, characterized by accountability, probity, transparency, equal application of the rule of law, and a clear separation of powers (...)'	10. '(...) A permitting political environment which guarantees human rights and the observance of the rule of law (...)' [This is not directly on the independence of the judiciary, but the rule of law is precarious without such independence]
Term limits		
Excl. or incl. political system?		
Political pluralism	II.10.a: 'launch programmes to promote (...) respect of the freedom of the press, speech, association and conscience'	