



ORGANISATION OF
AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN
AND **PACIFIC** STATES (OACPS)

REPORT

OF THE PRESIDENT-IN-OFFICE OF THE OACPS

DECEMBER 2022 - MARCH 2026



By His Excellency
Mr. João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço
President of the **Republic of Angola**
President-in-office of OACPS.



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of the OACPS from March 2020
until early 2025



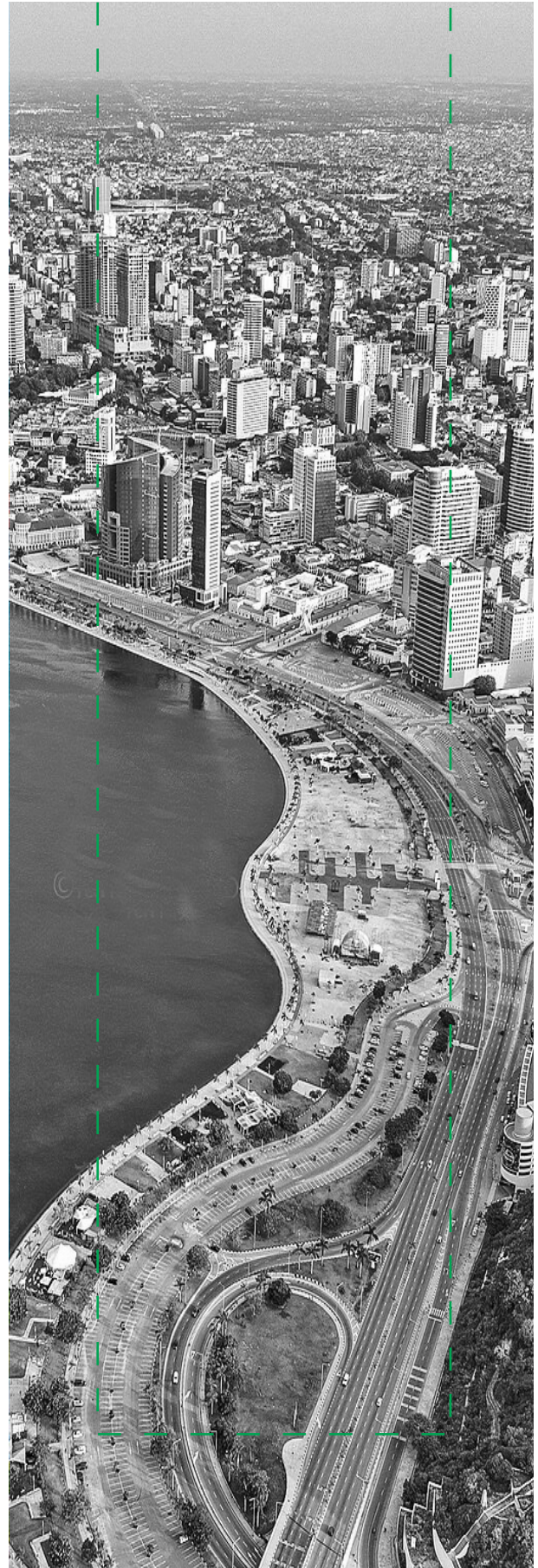
H.E. Mr. João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço
and Secretary General
H.E. Mr. Moussa Saleh Batraki

INTRODUCTION

The Angola Presidency was undertaken within the political, normative, and strategic framework established by **the 10th Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS)**, held in **Luanda, Republic of Angola**, on 9 December 2022, under the theme **“3 Continents, 3 Oceans, 1 Common Destiny: Building a Resilient and Sustainable OACPS.”**

That Summit reaffirmed the foundational objectives of the OACPS as enshrined in the Revised Georgetown Agreement (2019), notably the fight against poverty, the promotion of sustainable development, and the equitable integration of Member States into the global economy. It further underscored the centrality of unity, solidarity, multilateralism, and cultural diversity as the Organisation’s principal sources of strength, while recognising the growing complexity of the global environment in which the OACPS must operate.

The mandate of the Angolan Presidency unfolded against a confluence of profound global and regional challenges. These included persistent geopolitical tensions, the lingering socio-economic



effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the accelerating impacts of climate change, food insecurity, and the consequences of the war in Ukraine. At the same time, the Presidency was guided by a clear determination to revitalise multilateralism, strengthen South-South and triangular cooperation, deepen strategic partnerships—particularly with the European Union through the Samoa Agreement—and enhance the visibility and influence of the OACPS on the international stage.

Against this backdrop, President Lourenço’s stewardship sought to translate the political vision and commitments articulated in the Luanda Summit into concrete institutional action. The Presidency of His Excellency Mr. João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço was guided by a clearly articulated priorities framework adopted for the period 2023–2025, rooted in the Revised Georgetown Agreement and informed by the acquis of previous OACPS Summits.

In assuming the Presidency of the 10th Summit following the Luanda Summit, Angola was entrusted with a heightened responsibility to provide political leadership, strategic direction, and timely res-

ponses to urgent institutional, financial, and geopolitical dynamics confronting the Organisation. Exercising the mandate conferred under the Revised Georgetown Agreement (2019), President Lourenço effectively deployed his good offices to safeguard the interests of the OACPS and reinforce its unity and relevance on the global stage.

The Presidency coincided with one of the most consequential periods in the history of the Organisation. Priority was accorded to safeguarding the financial and institutional viability of the Organisation, advancing reform to make the OACPS fit-for-purpose, reinforcing collective political leadership through the activation of the Troika mechanism, and strengthening solidarity among Member States in responding to crises affecting peace, security, and development.

This report sets out the principal achievements of the Angolan Presidency, demonstrating a strong degree of alignment between strategic intent and political delivery, reinforcing the credibility and effectiveness of the OACPS as a global organisation. ■



The report covers the following:



**Institutionalisation of the Troika
and Strengthening of Governance**

**Financial Sustainability
of the Organisation**

**Institutional
Reforms**

**Partnerships, Multilateralism
and Relations with the EU**

**Solidarity among
OACPS Members**



50 YEARS 79 NATIONS ONE VOICE



ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE ANGOLA PRESIDENCY

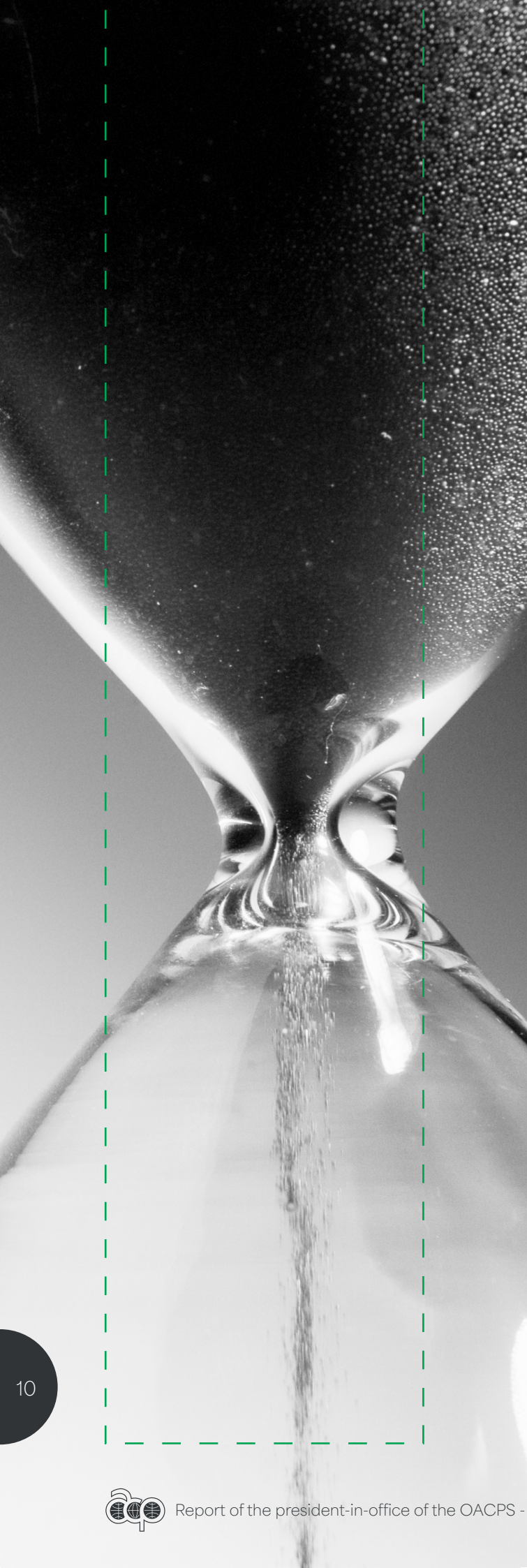


Institutionalisation of the Troika and Strengthening Governance

In advancing Angola's stated priority of strengthening collective political leadership, the Presidency undertook deliberate steps to revitalise and consolidate the Troika mechanism of the OACPS Summit. This effort sought to transform the Troika into a predictable and structured platform for high-level political coordination. In this regard, Leaders agreed to institutionalise annual Troika meetings on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly or other major international gatherings, thereby embedding Summit-level political oversight within the governance architecture of the Organisation.

On 20 September 2023, President João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço convened the first meeting of the Troika of the Summit in New York, on the margins of the 78th Session of the United Nations General Assembly. This meeting represented a decisive milestone in strengthening Summit-level political leadership within the OACPS. It marked the first operationalisation of the Troika mechanism under the Revised Georgetown Agreement and established the practice of regular Troika consultations, thereby reinforcing continuity, policy coherence, and strategic oversight at the highest political level.





The inaugural meeting delivered several important outcomes including:

- **Reinforcing governance, institutional reform, and financial discipline** through renewed political commitment to strengthening decision-making processes, enhancing Member State participation, and reiterating the importance of timely fulfilment of assessed contributions.
- **Advancing strategic partnerships and resource mobilisation** by encouraging diversification of development partners, endorsing the development of an OACPS resource mobilisation strategy, and supporting progress towards the signing and effective implementation of the Samoa Agreement with the European Union.
- **Strengthening the collective global voice of the OACPS** by promoting coordinated positions on climate change, trade and economic pressures, multilateral cooperation, and people-centred development, while reaffirming unity and solidarity across the Organisation's regions.

Building on these achievements, President Lourenço convened the Joint Summit of the Troika and Heads of State and Government of the Members of the OACPS Bureau on 23 September 2024. This high-level political engagement further consolidated the Troika as a robust platform for strategic political guidance. The extraordinary political engagement was convened in response to an urgent appeal by the Secretary-General concerning the Organisation's deteriorating financial and institutional situation. ■



Financial Sustainability of the OACPS

Financial sustainability emerged as one of the most critical and defining challenges addressed during the Presidency of Angola. The Organisation was confronted with an unprecedented financial and institutional situation that threatened its operational continuity and credibility. Recognising the seriousness of these developments, the Angolan Presidency elevated the issue to the highest political level of the OACPS. The matter was treated not merely as an administrative concern, but as a fundamental challenge requiring collective political responsibility, structural reform, and long-term strategic solutions.

In response, Angola presidency facilitated the adoption of two decisive Summit-level mandates aimed at addressing the Organisation's financial crisis and laying the foundation for long-term financial sustainability. These mandates focused on immediate corrective measures to address liquidity pressures facing the Secretariat with structural solutions designed to diversify and strengthen the Organisation's funding base, including the appointment of a Champion for Resource Mobilisation.

In advancing the financial measures required to address the crisis, the following outcomes were achieved:

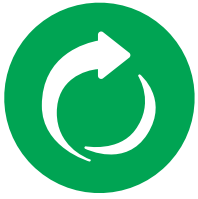
- **Secured high-level political consensus** on the urgency of timely and full payment of assessed contributions, reinforcing collective responsibility for the financial stability of the Organisation;
- **Anchored financial governance and accountability reforms** within Summit-level decisions, strengthening overs financial

management, and internal control frameworks of the Secretariat;

- **Secured political endorsement of institutional restructuring**, enabling the Secretariat to realign its leadership and operational capacity with financial realities, including the reduction of Assistant Secretaries-General from five to two;
- **Advanced a strategic shift towards sustainable financing**, by catalysing political recognition that over-reliance on Member State contributions is not viable in the long term and opening space for innovative and diversified financing solutions, subject to further study; and
- **Established binding mandates and follow-up mechanisms**, empowering the Council of Ministers to exercise enhanced oversight and ensuring that Summit decisions translated into concrete institutional action.

Resource Mobilisation Efforts

Complementing these measures, a landmark achievement of the Angolan Presidency was the elevation of resource mobilisation to the highest political level of the Organisation. In recognition of the need to diversify funding sources and reduce structural financial vulnerability, the Summit designated H.E. Mr. Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi, President of the Republic of Botswana, as Champion for OACPS Resource Mobilisation. This decision reflected a strategic shift towards shared leadership in mobilising resources, strengthening partnerships, and advancing sustainable financing solutions to support the long-term objectives of the OACPS.



Institutional Reforms

In line with the commitments reaffirmed by Heads of State and Government at the 10th OACPS Summit in Luanda, particularly the collective resolve to modernise the Organisation, strengthen governance, and adapt the Secretariat to the evolving and increasingly complex needs of Member States, the Angolan Presidency placed institutional reform at the centre of its agenda.

Conscious that the credibility, effectiveness, and sustainability of the OACPS depend on strong institutions, transparent leadership, and fit-for-purpose infrastructure, President João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço pursued reforms grounded in the principles of accountability, efficiency, and institutional resilience.

In pursuing this agenda, the Presidency delivered two major defining institutional outcomes: the appointment of a new

Secretary-General through a competitive and rules-based process, and the consolidation of the Organisation's institutional presence through the successful transition to a new OACPS Headquarters.

Appointment of the Secretary-General

President João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço demonstrated decisive leadership in safeguarding the integrity of the Secretary-General selection process at a time of heightened institutional sensitivity. In the face of divergent regional positions and the absence of consensus, the Presidency elevated the matter to the Summit level and facilitated inclusive and principled deliberations anchored in the provisions of the Revised Georgetown Agreement. Through the introduction of a clear and time-bound roadmap, encompassing renewed nominations, the convening of a Special Session of the Council of Ministers,

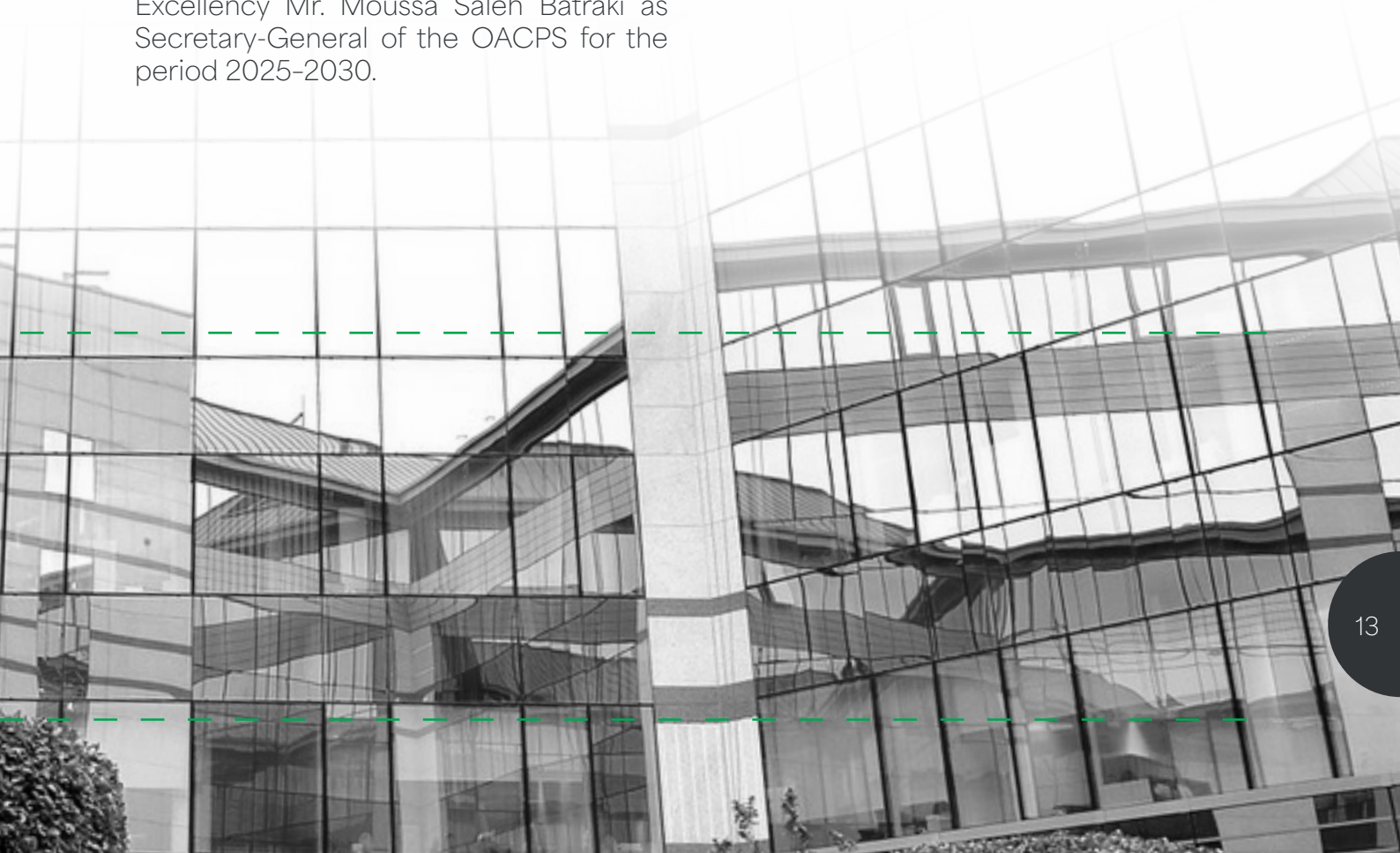
and final endorsement by the Troika Summit—the Angolan Presidency ensured that the process remained transparent, rules-based, and unity-preserving.

Within this framework, a defining institutional achievement of the Angolan Presidency was the successful appointment of a new Secretary-General through a competitive, transparent, and merit-based process. While the process was politically sensitive and, at times, divisive, it was conducted in full respect of established rules and governance principles. By prioritising institutional credibility and procedural integrity, President Lourenço reinforced confidence in the Organisation’s legal and governance frameworks and supported institutional stability. This process culminated in the appointment of His Excellency Mr. Moussa Saleh Batraki as Secretary-General of the OACPS for the period 2025-2030.

Acquisition of a New OACPS Headquarters

Another major milestone achieved during the Angolan Presidency was the successful transition to a new OACPS Headquarters, following the sale of the former ACP House. This achievement responded directly to Angola’s objective of strengthening institutional infrastructure while rationalizing financial and operational resources.

The new Headquarters has enhanced operational efficiency, improved working conditions, and strengthened the institutional visibility of the Organisation. It stands as a symbol of renewal, stability, and long-term commitment to strengthening the institutional foundations of the OACPS. ■





Partnerships Multilateralism and Relations with the European Union

Strengthening partnerships and reaffirming the commitment of the OACPS to effective multilateralism constituted a central pillar of the Angolan Presidency. In a rapidly evolving global environment marked by complex transnational challenges, the Presidency sought to provide the political leadership necessary to position the OACPS as a united, credible, and forward-looking partner, capable of advancing the collective interests of its Member States within a rules-based international system.

A historic achievement during this period was the signing of the Samoa Agreement on 15 November 2023, marking a new chapter in relations between the OACPS and the European Union. The Agreement established a renewed and comprehensive partnership framework to address shared challenges, including climate change, ocean governance, migration,

health, peace and security, while reaffirming fundamental values such as human rights, democracy, good governance, gender equality, and the rule of law. Under the Angolan Presidency, the political momentum required to conclude this landmark agreement was consolidated, underscoring the Organisation's commitment to collective action and effective multilateral engagement.

Beyond the signature of the Agreement, priority was accorded to its early operationalisation. A defining achievement in this regard was the successful launch of the OACPS-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly and the Regional Parliamentary Assemblies, making them the first joint institutions to be constituted under the Samoa Agreement. This historic milestone was achieved through the first Constitutive Meetings of the OACPS-EU Regional and Joint Parliamentary Assemblies, held in



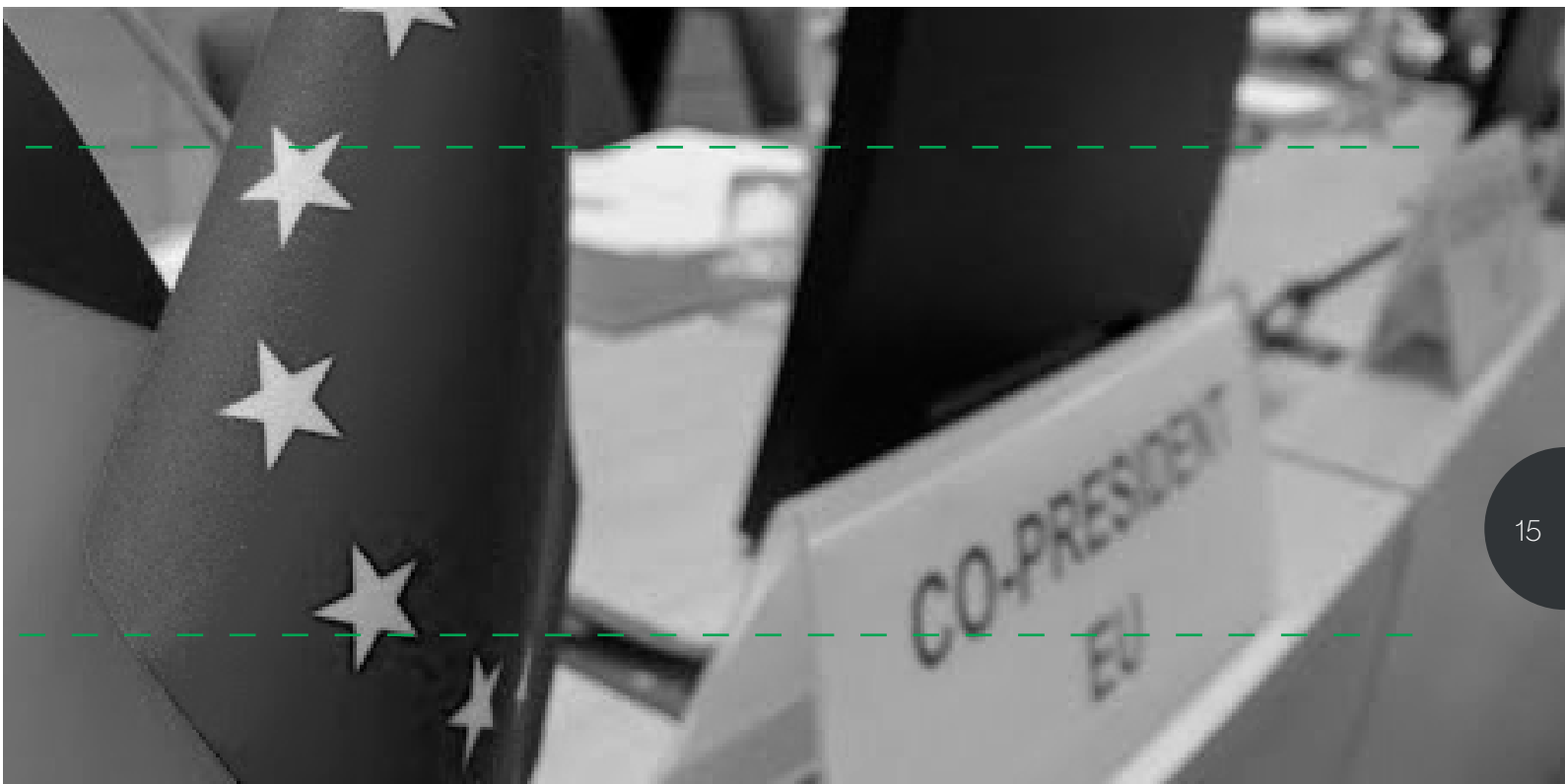
Luanda, Angola, from 19 to 21 February 2024, and culminated in the adoption of their respective Rules of Procedure.

These constitutive meetings were preceded by the 64th Session of the OACPS Parliamentary Assembly, during which OACPS members were duly appointed and endorsed to serve on the Bureau of the three Regional Parliamentary Assemblies and the Joint Parliamentary Assembly. The successful sequencing of these processes ensured institutional coherence, democratic legitimacy, and operational readiness for the parliamentary dimension of the partnership.

The Angolan Presidency also supported efforts to diversify and expand strategic partnerships beyond traditional cooperation frameworks, consistent with the Organisation's commitment to strengthening South-South and triangular coopera-

tion. Outreach and engagement with non-traditional partners across Asia, the Middle East, and other regions progressed during this period, opening new avenues for cooperation in areas such as digital transformation, capacity-building, and development support, with several engagements advancing towards concrete cooperation arrangements.

Collectively, these achievements demonstrate the contribution of the Angolan Presidency's to strengthening multilateral engagement, consolidating the OACPS-EU partnership, and supporting the effective and timely operationalisation of the Samoa Agreement, thereby reinforcing the OACPS' standing as a credible, inclusive, and proactive actor on the international stage. ■





Solidarity and Leadership on the Political and Security Situation in Haiti

The political, security, humanitarian, and institutional crisis in Haiti constituted one of the most pressing challenges addressed under the Angolan Presidency of the OACPS. Recognising the gravity and multidimensional nature of the crisis, and its implications for regional stability and international peace and security, the Presidency ensured that the situation in Haiti received sustained attention at the highest political level of the Organisation.

Guided by the principles of solidarity and collective responsibility that underpin the OACPS, the Angolan Presidency elevated the issue to the Troika Summit of Heads of State and Government, thereby mobilising a unified political response and reaffirming the Organisation's commitment to supporting international efforts aimed at helping Haiti overcome its crisis. At the Joint Summit of the Troika and Heads of State and Government of the Members of the OACPS Bureau, Leaders accorded priority consideration to the situation in Haiti and adopted a dedicated Declaration on the Political and Security Situation in Haiti, formally articulating the Organisation's collective position and commitment.

Through this Declaration, Leaders expressed solidarity with the people of Haiti, commended Member States providing tangible support—particularly the Republic of Kenya for its leadership of the Multinational Security Support Mission—and urged the international community to support the extension of the mission's mandate through the United Nations Security Council. The Declaration further reaffirmed support for international efforts to

resolve the crisis and called for enhanced consultations among OACPS Members and partners to ensure that responses are inclusive, coordinated, and sustainable.

In parallel, the Angolan Presidency underscored the urgent need for coordinated humanitarian assistance, the restoration of public order and state institutions, and the organisation of free, transparent, and credible elections in accordance with international standards. Member States were encouraged to support Haiti through multilateral engagement, particularly within the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council, as well as through bilateral and regional initiatives. Additional calls were also made for practical support, including security assistance and capacity-building for Haitian law enforcement institutions, reflecting a concrete and action-oriented expression of OACPS solidarity.

Through these actions and outcomes, the Angolan Presidency demonstrated principled and decisive leadership in mobilising collective political will, reinforcing the OACPS' role as a credible and responsible actor in promoting peace, stability, and upholding the organisations longstanding tradition of solidarity in response to the crisis affecting its Member States. ■

CONCLUSION

The Presidency of Angola took place during a particularly demanding period for the Organisation. Throughout this mandate, Angola sought to respond to these challenges through strengthened political engagement, the revitalisation of collective leadership mechanisms, and decisive action to address financial and institutional vulnerabilities. These efforts were undertaken with the objective of laying durable foundations for a transformed and renewed OACPS, while reinforcing solidarity among Member States in responding to regional and global crises

The progress achieved during this period reflects the collective resolve of Member States to ensure that the Organisation remains credible, resilient, and responsive to the evolving needs of its membership. By advancing institutional reform, reinforcing financial governance, and promoting inclusive and consultative leadership, the Presidency sought to contribute to strengthening the strategic direction and operational effectiveness of the OACPS at a critical stage in its development.

Looking ahead, this Presidency also sets the stage for a renewed agenda that calls for deeper engagement with traditional and emerging partners, a reimagining of the Secretariat as a modern, responsive, and results-oriented institution, and a reconnection among Member States grounded in strong intra OACPS coopera-

tion Agenda with a determination to deepen cooperation among Member States, and advancing collective economic growth and resilience.

Ultimately, the legacy of the Angolan Presidency lies not only in the decisions adopted or reforms initiated, but in the renewed confidence it inspires for the future. It reaffirms the OACPS as a rules-based, credible, and forward-looking organisation—capable of adapting to global dynamics, strengthening partnerships, and advancing the collective interests and aspirations of its Member States and peoples in the years ahead. ■



Promote unity, sustainable development, and global cooperation among member countries.



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