

## **CHAPTER II**

### **THE AFRICAN UNION ESTABLISHMENT AND CONTRIBUTION**

In chapter II will describe about the explanation of the objectives and contribution of The African Union (AU) for Africa. It started from the history of African Union establishment, the prospect, the purpose of African Union itself, and replacement from the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) until The African Union (AU) on 2002.

#### **A. The History of The African Union Establishment**

White settlers started to touch base in the 1880s in a kingdom of southern Africa that is currently known as Zimbabwe. The tenants rename the place by Rhodesia indicated to the English character named Cecil Rhodes who dreamed of joining the whole world under British rule and to make Britain rich of natural products that are diamond, gold and bronze. Rhodes paved the way for the British invaders and the company must occupy Africa at that time. The things he did, among others, used mining zones opened by the indigenous peoples of Africa (Panford, 2006).

Likewise, Panford expressed that post-colonization by foreign nations in Africa, on May 25<sup>th</sup>, 1963, the OAU (Organisation of African Unity) was founded by 32 leaders of independent African countries. The command of the OAU is to advancing a new African unity. The objective is to help complete the decolonization of the continent, but its formation depends on the success of the principle of the independence of Africa. The founders were some of the leading figures in Africa, including Dr.

Kwame Nkrumah from Ghana, Leopold Sedar Senghor from Senegal, Haile Selassie from Ethiopia (Panford, 2006).

In the 1940s and early 1950s, a new political party in the country of African countries demanding political freedom and also called for the end of colonial domination. Italy and the United Kingdom, followed by France and Belgium, finally responded to the demand for the liberation of the colonies. Libya gained independence from Italy in 1951, Egypt received formal independence in 1922, but British troops remained there until 1954. Great Britain also ruled Ghana (formerly the Gold Coast) which in 1957 was Southern Sahara as the first country that became a state. Kwame Nkrumah, who led the independence movement, began talking about cooperation among independent African countries (Panford, 2006).

When Nkrumah introduced the concept of African unity on the continent, the newly independent African countries were divided into two groups. Some countries and their leaders, including Nkrumah, Sekou Toure of Guinea, Modibo Keita of Mali and seek to unite, even from the military sector, also try to form unified African military groups. Moreover, in Egypt, the transitional government of Algeria and Morocco joined the Union of Ghana-Guinea-Mali to form the Casablanca Group. The next group is the group of Monrovia, comprising 24 countries including Nigeria, Liberia, Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon, and Togo. The countries of Monrovia Group believe in a more gradual approach to African unity, combining the cross-border economy as a first

step. Many think that the break between the two groups (Casablanca and Monrovia) will be permanent and the hope of a united Africa will encounter many obstacles.

The OAU considered cannot making Africa unite, also the OAU thus renamed the African Union (AU) in 2002. Representing 53 countries in Africa, the AU is the successor of the OAU created in 1963, in order to acquire and strengthen their independence vis-à-vis European countries, which have governed them with violence for decades. The OAU is opposed to colonialism, skin color differences, and dependency on foreign countries, while the AU emphasizes democracy, human rights and monetary development (Union, African Union Constitutive Act, 2000). 53 Member States hope that the organization will enable African countries to be heard in global negotiations.

According to article 3 on *Constitutive Act of the African Union* (Union, Constitutive Act of The African Union, 2000), the Objectives of the AU are:

1. Achieve greater unity and solidarity between the African countries and Africans.
2. Defend the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence of its member states.
3. Accelerate the political and social-economic integration aspect among the continent.
4. Promote and defend African common positions on issues of interest of the continent and its people.

5. Encourage international cooperation, taking due account of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
6. Promote welfare, security, and stability on the continent.
7. Promote democratic principles and institutions, popular participation and good governance.
8. Promote and protect human rights accordance with the African Charter.
9. Establish the important conditions which enable the continent to play its rightful role in the global economy and in international negotiations.
10. Promote sustainable development at the economic, social and cultural levels as well as the integration of African economies.
11. Promote co-operation in all fields of human activity to raise the living standards of African peoples.
12. Coordinate and harmonize the policies between the existing and future Regional Economic Communities for the gradual attainment of the objectives of the Union.
13. Advance the development of the continent by promoting research in all fields, in particular in science and technology.
14. Work with suitable international partners of preventable diseases and the promotion of good health on the continent.

## **B. The Emergence of Regionalism in Africa**

Africa is a fairly broad area. But Africa is a continent that has the poverty rate which is quite high. We can see parts of sub-Saharan Africa, where 37 of the 48 states that it is a country with low income levels. In Africa itself, its form of regionalization tends to micro-regionalism, where cooperation is increasingly niche between the countries of the African continent. Regionalism is considered a different process. According to Timothy M. Shaw on his book entitled *New Regionalisms in Africa in the New Millennium: Comparative Perspectives on Renaissance, Realisms and/or Regressions* (2002), regionalization on newly formed Africa upon the new millennium. African regionalism began enlightenment in the early 20th century, when the Second World War was underway, issues raised either Afrocentric and focus on their disagreement with all forms of colonialism and the domination of white people (Shaw, 2002).

Beside that, the new regionalism in Africa could evolve as well as many African countries to free themselves from colonialism. The conflicts inherited from the era of colonialism, then left a series of problems, especially related to regional sovereignty. Coupled with extreme poverty that drives much of the action of human rights violations and various crisis such as civil wars. The problems of blurring borders are clearly to triggered a civil war also causes a variety of international organized crime such as the network of drug trafficking, money laundering, and terrorism (Bach, 2005).

The emergence of regionalism in Africa is not separated from the role of the resistance movement of the African Front Line States (FLS) and the Pan-African. FLS itself against the white domination of the Africa region. This domination is also the result of the existence of colonialism in Africa. In the other side, the Pan-African is a movement that was formed in the United States and the West Indies in the 20th century. At the end of Second World War, a Pan-African was more focused on the denunciation of colonialism and white domination. Pan-African has greatly contributed to the formation of the OAU, which has become the starting point for the establishment of regionalism in Africa. In 1963, the Addis Ababa Charter founded an organization based on the formation of unity in Africa, the Organisation of African Unity (OAU). The OAU had a first objective to liberate the countries of Africa that most of the lots are still chained in the shadow of colonialism and their racial problems (Bach, 2005).

Fundamentally, regionalism in Africa was at first based more on their desire to escape colonialism. Over time, with the emergence of the OAU as levers of the African nation. Several organizations are also emerging on the basis of regional cooperation in Africa. Examples include the African Economic Community (AEC) in the early 1980s, which includes 53 countries. This organization should encourage African countries and increase the economic output of African communities. In this organization expected that the free movement of goods and factors of production, the establishment of a single internal market and the central bank (Bach, 2005).

### **C. The Prospect of African Union**

As a regional organization, the African Union has objectives to achieve the integration of Africa as a whole. The existence of the regional organization of the African Union is generally directed to improving the quality of life in Africa only. Improved quality of life, particularly in the areas of health, education, prosperity and democracy in African countries. Of course, they also seek their cooperation and integration in all African countries (Badejo, 2008). In addition to the above objective, Badejo added that the presence of the African Union has also acted as the negotiating power of African countries in international relations. According to Mkwezalamba and Chinyama (2007), the main objective of the organization eventually struck the barriers that appear as above. Nevertheless, in his article, they were mentions that the organization of the African Union has also led a series of barrier-related improvements (Mkwezalamba & Chinyama, 2007).

In order for a conflict prevention and reach the goal of peace, the prospects for the African Union can be achieved through improvements in the field of political economy. The improvement of the political economy is mainly linked to the policy of macroeconomic reform in African countries (Mkwezalamba & Chinyama, 2007). They stated that the economic improvements aim to improve their own economic development, increase investment and reduce poverty. Repairing the political economy aspect has become an important point in the pursuit the development of Africa as the biggest opportunity in the search for integration in the economic field. It seems that the

greatest prospects for the African Union are the creation of a regional organization that could take into account the interests of African countries. The perspectives of the African Union must of course be supported by improving and improving the quality of life of African countries, as mentioned above. This is because all existing perspectives and potentials, such as the success of the African Union, will not appear if there are obstacles.

Therefore, the African Union should overcome the obstacles encountered first. Apart from the above, one thing that becoming the African Union's prospects for success in the future is the abundance of natural resources. But, return to the above discussion that the natural resources is still being addressed by conflicts of interest, then the prospects for the African Union as a regional organization that seeks full integration of countries in Africa. Once again, it is mentioned that the African Union should first minimize the obstacles so that the potential and prospects for success of the African Union as a regional organization can be achieved within maximum work.

#### **D. The Purposes and Principles of African Union**

Formulating the establishment of the African Union, many of African leaders formulate all purposes contained in the OAU Charter with several purpose in order to provide greater ability for the Organization to be able on play actively in order to achieve the goals of African people as stated in article 3 of African Union Charter (Union, Constitutive Act of The African Union, 2000).

In contrast to the OAU which has the principle does not interfere with domestic affairs of its member states, the African Union is just the opposite. The new organization have the right to interfere with the internal affairs of its member states in case of events that can threaten the stability (peace) as well as the security of the region as a whole. However, these interventions remain regulated through procedures and mechanisms that exist within the organization. One concrete form for threat to the stability of the security of the region is the emergence of internal conflicts or ethnic nuanced with struggle for power that led into civil war in a country. The principles of African Union are completely contained in article 4 of African Union charter (Union, Constitutive Act of The African Union, 2000):

1. Sovereign correspondence and relationship among Member States of the Union.
2. Admiration of borders existing on accomplishment of autonomy.
3. Effort of the African peoples to join in the activities of the Union.
4. Develop of a basic defense policy for the African mainland.
5. Serene determination about conflicts among Member States of the Union through such proper intends as may be decided upon by the Assembly.
6. Prohibition of the utilization of compel alternately risk to utilize power among Member States of the Union.
7. Non-interference by any Member States in the internal affairs of another.

8. The right of the Union to intervene in a Member State based to a decision of the Assembly in venerate of grave circumstances and crimes against humankind.
9. Harmonious mutualism of Member States and their right to live in welfare condition.
10. The right of Member States to demand mediation from the Union in order to restore welfare condition.
11. Advancement for claiming independence inside the skeleton of the Union.
12. Promotion of gender equality.
13. Appreciation for democratic principles, human rights, the rule of law, and furthermore the great governance.
14. Advancement of social equality to ensure balanced economic development.
15. Deference to the sanctity of human life, condemnation and dismissal for exemption. Also political assassination, demonstrations of the claim of terrorism as subversive exercises.
16. Condemnation and rejection of unconstitutional changes of governments.

When compared to the OAU which have only five agencies, the African Union had more agency with the tasks and functions that are more specific. It reflects the seriousness in African leaders to build the African region towards the better, especially in terms of monetary construction and the stability of the region. One of the reasons underlying African leaders for transforming the OAU into the African Union is to have

a body charged with maintaining peace and security and stability throughout the African region. The African leaders consider that the African region is the region that has a huge potential for conflict, both inter-state conflicts and territory conflicts of a member states (Powell & Tiekou, 2005).