to Zambia, Sierra Leone, Congo and Guinea in January/February 2001;
4. EXPRESSES deserved appreciation for the financial assistance extended to the countries visited.
CM/Dec. 575 (LXXIII)

**DECISION ON THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY, DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION IN AFRICA (CSSDCA)**

Council:
1. TAKES NOTE with appreciation of the measures taken by the General Secretariat to implement the Declaration adopted by the Heads of State and Government at their July 2000 Summit on CSSDCA in Lome and URGES the Secretariat to redouble its efforts in that regard;
2. WELCOMES the offer made by South Africa to host the meeting of Experts on the development and cooperation calabashes;
3. EMPHASIZES the urgent need to convene the scheduled meetings on the calabashes of the CSSDCA on development and cooperation and CALLS on Member States to offer to do so;
4. WELCOMES the pledge by the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to contribute the sum of US$500,000 towards the takeoff of the CSSDCA within the Work Programme of the OAU, and CALLS ON other Member States to contribute towards this process;
5. EXPRESSES the hope that other Member States will offer to host the scheduled meetings on security and stability.
CM/Dec. 576 (LXXIII)

**DECISION ON NATURAL DISASTERS IN AFRICA**

Council
1. TAKES NOTE of the declarations made by the delegations of Malawi, Zambia and Mozambique on the natural calamities (torrential rains followed by floodings) which recently affected these countries, destroying infrastructure and resulting in mass movement of the people within and outside these countries;
2. EXPRESSES its solidarity with these countries and APPEALS to Member States and the International Community to respond favourably to the appeal for urgent assistance made by the affected countries;
3. REGRETS the periodic devastation caused to some OAU Member States by natural calamities and URGES the OAU Secretary General, in cooperation with relevant UN and other agencies, to consider the establishment of an appropriate mechanism to address the phenomenon.
CM/Dec. 577 (LXXIII)

**DECISION ON AFRO-ARAB CO-OPERATION**

Council:
1. COMMENDS the efforts deployed by all Member States particularly by Egypt, Libya, The Sudan and Algeria to revitalise the Afro-Arab Cooperation;
2. WELCOMES the information provided by the Foreign Minister of the Sudan regarding the intention of Egypt, Libya and The Sudan to submit to the next Council of Arab Ministers, in March 2001 in Cairo, specific proposals aimed at revitalising Afro-Arab Cooperation;