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Kigali, Rwanda, Africa
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STATEMENT

On the Adoption of the “Correct the Map” Resolution by the UN General Assembly

The INAfrica Youth Initiative, warmly welcomes the historic adoption, on September 4, 2026, of the “**Correct the Map**” resolution by the United Nations General Assembly. The resolution, introduced by the Republic of Togo on behalf of the African Group of 54-member states and backed by the African Union, was passed by an overwhelming vote of 164 to 1, with six abstentions.

For centuries, the Mercator projection has shrunk Africa in the global imagination, rendering our continent, in the popular map, no larger than Greenland, when in reality it is roughly fourteen times its size. This distortion was never a neutral cartographic choice. It has shaped classrooms, newsrooms, boardrooms, and policy tables, quietly minimizing Africa’s true scale, weight, and influence in the eyes of the world.

We extend our deepest gratitude:

- **The African Union** and its Commission, for lending institutional weight to a campaign born from African civil society.
- **Togo**, for the diplomatic leadership shown in bringing this resolution before the world’s nations on behalf of the continent.
- **The organizers of the correct the map campaign** including Africa No Filter and Speak Up Africa, whose sustained advocacy translated a matter of “**just a map**” into a matter of global consciousness.
- **Every African** citizen, journalist, teacher, and young person who shared, argued, and insisted that the truth of our continent’s size be seen and respected.

This victory arrives at a moment that has also, painfully, reminded us why it matters: recent errors by foreign officials misrepresenting the borders and locations of African nations on public maps underscore how easily our continent is still mislabeled, misunderstood, and miscast on the world stage. Correcting the map is not a symbolic gesture alone, it is a demand for accuracy, dignity, and respect.

A task for young Africans:

As INAfrica, we believe that transformation begins within the reach of one's own two hands. This resolution is not the end of the work, it is the beginning of implementation. We therefore call on young Africans across all 54 nations to:

1. **Educate**, ensure your schools, universities, and community libraries adopt and teach with accurate map projections. Question every atlas, textbook, and app that still distorts Africa's true size.
2. **Advocate**, push local and national media houses, publishers, and education ministries to adopt the corrected map in official materials and public communication.
3. **Digitize**, Encourage African tech developers and digital platforms to update mapping tools, apps, and GIS systems used across the continent to reflect accurate geography.
4. **Document**, Record and report instances of African misrepresentation in maps, media, or official communication, and hold institutions accountable, in the spirit of an informed and vigilant citizenry.
5. **Own the narrative**, use this moment to champion a broader truth: that how Africa is seen shapes how Africa is treated, in trade, diplomacy, investment, and respect. Correcting the map is one step in restoring Africa's rightful standing in the world.

We reaffirm INAfrica's commitment to Education, Health, Technology, and Industry as the pillars through which young Africans convert recognition into real, measurable transformation. Let this correction on paper become a correction in practice, in our classrooms, our institutions, and our collective self-understanding as Africans.

“Change the space within your reach. Together, we transform Africa.”

END!