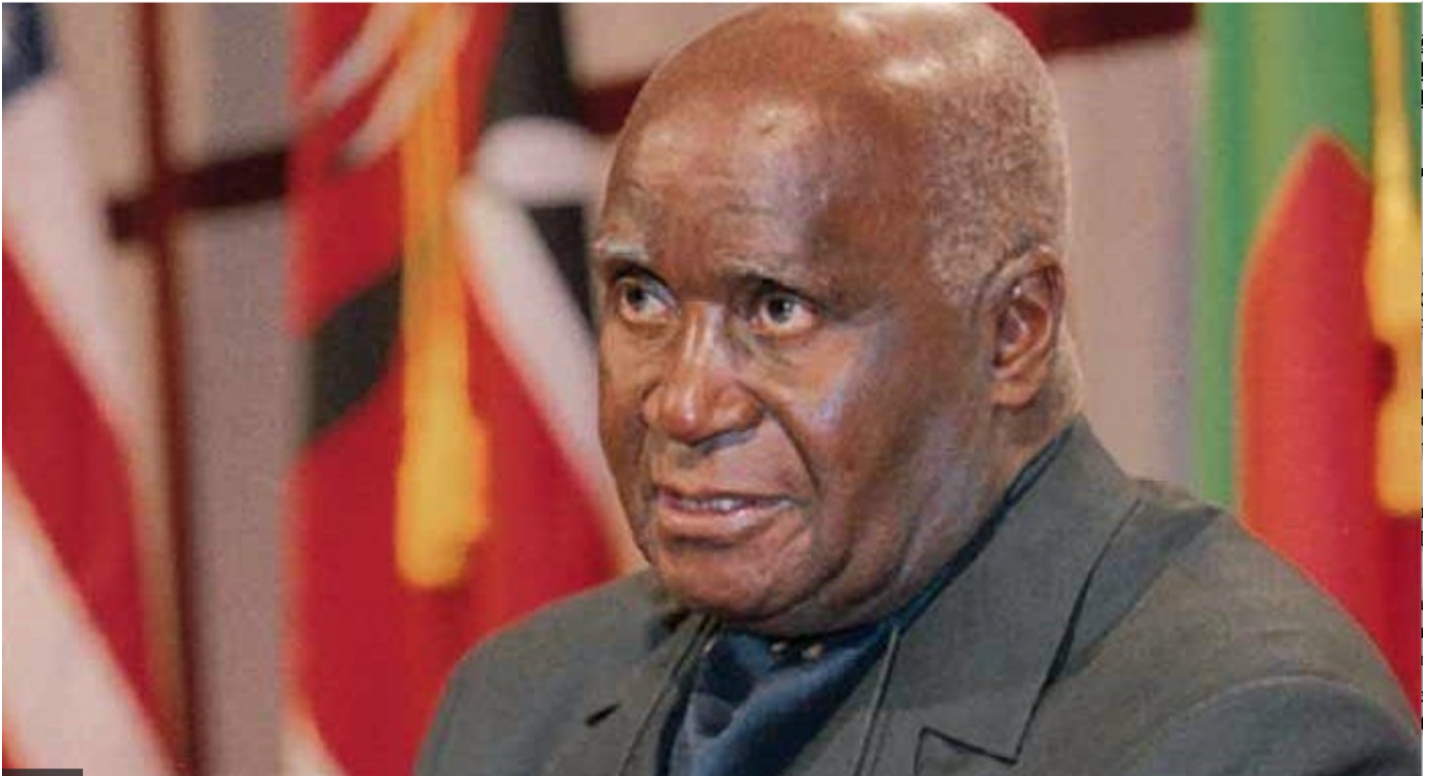


Statement by the Secretary-General of the OACPS on the passing of the former President of the Republic of Zambia, H.E. Dr Kenneth Kaunda

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Brussels, 19 June 2021/OACPS: It is with deep sadness that the Secretary-General of the Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS), H.E. Mr Georges Rebelo Pinto Chikoti, learned of the death of H.E. Dr Kenneth Kaunda, former President of the Republic of Zambia on 17 July 2021.

The Secretary-General pays tribute to a true Pan-Africanist who will be remembered as an architect of democracy in the African Continent. The late President Kaunda dedicated tireless efforts to bring down the strong walls of apartheid through his support for liberation movements around the Southern Africa Region.

H.E. Chikoti recalls with profound appreciation the late President's dedication to service and humanity, as he championed efforts towards the fight against the HIV and AIDS pandemic as well as his support to refugees fleeing conflict.

The Secretary-General, in honouring President Kaunda's legacy on the African continent and across the globe, reaffirms the OACPS' commitment to effectively continue his legacy to advance the ideals of justice, unity, equity, inclusion and peace, within its membership.

On this sad occasion, the Secretary-General, on behalf of the OACPS, extends his sincere condolences to the family of Dr. Kenneth Kaunda, and to the Government and people of Zambia. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

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