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Addis Ababa

**ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE AND  
GOVERNMENT  
FIFTEENTH ORDINARY SESSION  
Khartoum, Sudan  
18 - 22 July 1978**

**AHG/Res. 86 -95**

**RESOLUTIONS OF THE ASSEMBLY OF HEADS  
OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT ADOPTED AT  
ITS FIFTEENTH ORDINARY SESSION**

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**RESOLUTION ON NAMIBIA**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU, meeting in its Fifteenth Ordinary Session in Khartoum, Democratic Republic of the Sudan, from 18 to 22 July 1978,

**Reaffirming** its unreserved support of the struggle of the people of Namibia for self-determination and genuine national independence,

**Mindful** of the special responsibility of the United Nations over Namibia,

**Recalling** all relevant United Nations resolutions on Namibia, in particular Security Council resolution 385 (1976),

**Having heard** the statement of the President of SWAPO on the development of the struggle and recent negotiations to bring about a settlement of the question of Namibia in accordance with the provisions of Security Council resolution 385 (1976),

**Having also been informed** of an accord reached in Luanda on July 12, 1978 between SWAPO and the representatives of the 5 Western members of the Security Council on the proposal to effect a negotiated settlement of the Namibian question on the basis of Resolution 385 (1976):

1. **WELCOMES** the agreement in Luanda reached between SWAPO and the representatives of the five Western Countries;
2. **RECOGNIZES** that this agreement is the result of the victorious struggle of the Namibian people led by SWAPO and effectively supported by Free Africa;
3. **EXPRESSES** its appreciation to SWAPO, which has over the years stood firm and unrelenting in their gallant and courageous struggle to bring freedom and independence to Namibia; and commends SWAPO for its steadfastness and statesmanship in bringing about the Luanda agreement;

- 4. REQUESTS the United Nations Security Council and the UN Secretary-General to proceed expeditiously towards giving effect to Resolution 385 (1976) as a follow up to the Luanda agreements;**
- 5. DECLARES that the United Nations must have effective powers and authority to exercise supervision and control regarding the transitional administration, the security measures and the conduct of the election process;**
- 6. RE-AFFIRMS its support of the United Nations Council for Namibia as the sole legal authority for the territory until its independence;**
- 7. REQUESTS the United Nations Secretary-General to maintain consultations with and keep the United Nations Council for Namibia duly informed on the various stages of the process to give effect to resolution 385 (1976);**
- 8. RE-ITERATES its unequivocal support for SWAPO in the struggle for the total liberation of Namibia;**
- 9. REQUESTS the Current Chairman and Members of the Bureau of the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government to maintain contact with the Secretary General of the United Nations in an effort to ensure that all the necessary steps are taken towards the achievement of the independence of the people of Namibia.**

**RESOLUTION TO OBSERVE THE DAY OF MARTYRS OF  
SOUTH AFRICA**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU, meeting in its Fifteenth Ordinary Session in Khartoum, Democratic Republic of the Sudan, from 18 to 22 July 1978.

**Taking note** with dismay and deep regret of the increasing atrocities perpetrated by the apartheid regime of South Africa resulting in the callous, continuous and systematic elimination of South African nationalist leaders, the massacre of innocent youths and the torture and murder of nationalist detainees under the obnoxious racist laws,

**Determined** that the lives of these valiant champions of African freedom and dignity are not lost in vain,

**Conscious** of their obligations to pursue the fight for elimination of apartheid and the establishment of a free and just society in South Africa,

**Recognising** the vital and decisive role with the international community can play in this combat:

1. **RENEWS** its deepest sympathy and condolences to the courageous and struggling people of South Africa;
2. **RESOLVES** to expand and intensify the fight against the ungodly apartheid system of the racist and oppressive regime on all fronts;
3. **DECIDES** to designate the 12<sup>th</sup> of September as “SOUTH AFRICAN MARTYRS DAY”;
4. **CALLS** on all Member States and the international community to observe the 12<sup>th</sup> September as “South African Martyrs Day” on an annual basis by instituting measures and actions aimed at the rapid disintegration of the apartheid system.

**RESOLUTION ON RECONCILIATION BETWEEN GUINEA,**

**IVORY COAST AND SENEGAL**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU, meeting in its Fifteenth Ordinary Session in Khartoum, Democratic Republic of the Sudan, from 18 to 22 July 1978.

**Having heard** the report of the Secretary-General on the highly positive outcome of the Monrovia meeting held on Liberia on 18 and 19 March 1978, on the disputes between the sister States of Guinea and Ivory Coast on the one hand, and Guinea and Senegal on the other hand,

**Considering** the sincere, sustained and fruitful efforts by Their Excellencies William Tolbert Jr., President of the Republic of Togo, Alhaji Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara, President of the Republic of the Gambia, which made this historic meeting possible,

**Noting with satisfaction** the appropriate measures taken by H.E. William Tolbert Jr., to ensure the excellent conduct of this historic meeting:

1. **EXPRESS SATISFACTION** with the outcome of the Monrovia Conference which has sealed the reconciliation between the sister States of Guinea, Ivory Coast and Senegal thus contributing to the strengthening of the solidarity and hence the unity of African States;
2. **PAYS GLOWING TRIBUTE** to Their Excellencies Ahmed Sekou Toure, Felix Houphouet Boigny and Leopold Senghor, Heads of State of Guinea, Ivory Coast and Senegal respectively whose great wisdom and devotion to the African cause facilitated and contributed to the happy outcome of this meeting which has done honor to our continent and our organization;
3. **EXPRESSES** its warm and sincere appreciation and thanks to Their Excellencies William Tolbert Jr., President of the Republic of Liberia, Gnassingbe Eyadema, President of the Republic of Togo and Alhaji Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara, President of the Republic of the Gambia, for their very successful initiative;

4. **EXPRESSES ITS VERY SINCERE GRATITUDE** to President William Tolbert Jr., the Government and people of Liberia for their warm welcome and fraternal hospitality which undoubtedly contributed to the complete success of this historic meeting;
  
5. **APPEALS** to all African States to draw inspiration, as and when the need is felt, from the spirit of Monrovia in the settlement of all differences which might arise among them.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION ON SANCTIONS AGAINST THE  
SMITH REGIME**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU, meeting in its Fifteenth Ordinary Session in Khartoum, Democratic Republic of the Sudan, from 18 to 22 July 1978.

**Reaffirming** its unequivocal commitment to support the struggle of the people of Zimbabwe until complete and genuine freedom and independence of the territory is achieved,

**Recalling** UN Security Council Resolution which rejected the so-called internal settlement in Zimbabwe,

**Affirming** its convictions that the so-called internal settlement constitutes yet another manoeuvre of the illegal racist minority regime to maintain its domination and oppression of the African people of Zimbabwe,

**Conscious** of the imperative need to maintain and intensify the isolation of the Smith racist minority regime,

**Conscious also** of the fact that mandatory sanctions against the Rhodesian regime constitutes an important element in the isolation of that regime and in support of the Zimbabwe Liberation struggle,

**Having been informed** of the current moves in the United States of America to lift sanctions against the Smith regime in violation of international law,

**Bearing in mind** the responsibility of all States to scrupulously apply sanctions in accordance with the decisions of the Security Council:

1. **REAFFIRMS** its prior support for the armed struggle waged by the people of Zimbabwe under the leadership of the Patriotic Front;



- 2. CONDEMNS all manoeuvres of the racist minority regime including the so-called internal settlement calculated to perpetuate colonial and racist domination of Zimbabwe;**
- 3. CALLS UPON all States to continue to support the struggle of the people of Zimbabwe and in particular to strictly adhere to the existing mandatory sanctions against the racist minority regime;**
- 4. DECLARES that it is particularly incumbent upon all those States which are permanent members of the Security Council to comply with the decisions of the Council by strictly enforcing sanctions;**
- 5. DECLARES ALSO that any breach of sanctions by any of these States constitutes a particular affront to the dignity and aspirations of the African peoples;**
- 6. CONSIDERS that such an action constitutes an unfriendly act to Africa and a serious impediment to any genuine effort towards a negotiated settlement;**
- 7. REQUESTS the Security Council to adopt further measures to strengthen and expand existing sanctions against the racist minority regime to include all the measures provided for under Article 41 of the United Nations Charter.**

**RESOLUTION ON THE SOMALIA/ETHIOPIA CONFLICT**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU, meeting in its Fifteenth Ordinary Session in Khartoum, Democratic Republic of the Sudan, from 18 to 22 July 1978,

**Considering the seriousness of the situation in the Horn of Africa,**

**Considering OAU's responsibility with regard to conflicts between Member States which jeopardize not only peace and security of peoples but also the economic development of our nations,**

**Considering the fact that the whole world has its eyes turned to our deliberations on account of the overriding importance of the present session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government:**

- 1. ORDERS an immediate cessation of all hostilities and any warlike act by the two parties concerned: Ethiopia and Somalia;**
- 2. DEMANDS the immediate withdrawal of the troops of both the parties from the borders;**
- 3. REQUESTS the Chairman of the Mediation Committee to take and enforce all measures that will enable it to ensure on the spot, the correct and full implementation of the present measures;**
- 4. ENDORSES the following proposals of the Ministerial meeting of the OAU Good Offices Commission on the Ethiopia/Somalia dispute held in Khartoum on 17<sup>th</sup> July, 1978:**
  - a) To restate that an indispensable condition for the settlement of disputes between African States can best be met by the reaffirmation of the principles of respect for sovereignty of existing frontiers between OAU Member States, non-interference in the internal affairs of Member States as well as the settlement of all disputes among them by peaceful means;**

- b) to appeal to both Ethiopia and Somalia to exercise maximum restraint, to work earnestly to end all military and hostile activities against each other and to refrain from the use of force in the settlement of dispute between them;**
  - c) to request the OAU to render practical assistance to the refugees and to assist in effecting the exchange of prisoners of war; and**
  - d) to continue mediation efforts with a view to finding a just and lasting solution to the dispute;**
- 5. APPEALS to the two sister States, Ethiopia and Somalia to desist from using the mass media and public forums to fan feelings of hostility towards each other.**

**RESOLUTION OF THE CREATION OF THE FIFTH POST**  
**OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE**  
**ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU, meeting in its Fifteenth Ordinary Session in Khartoum, Democratic Republic of the Sudan, from 18 to 22 July 1978.

**Recalling** its decision of the 13<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government held in Mauritius to create the Fifth OAU Region of the Southern part of the African Continent,

**Mindful** of Article XVII of the charter of the OAU which states that there shall be one or more Assistant Secretaries-General of the Organization who shall be appointed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government,

**Considering** the urgent need of establishing a fair geographical representation of the highest political posts at the General Secretariat of the OAU,

**Bearing in mind** that the establishment of a fifth post of the Assistant Secretary-General of the OAU will not call for the amendment of the Charter:

1. **DECIDES** to establish the fifth post of Assistant Secretary-General of the OAU for the Southern Region with immediate effect;
2. **DECIDES** to appoint the fifth Assistant Secretary-General for the Southern Region together with other elective posts of the Organization at this Session;
3. **REQUESTS** the Administrative Secretary-General to take all measures in consultation with the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters to provide necessary financial provisions for the establishment of this post;
4. **REQUESTS FURTHER** the Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU to make necessary administrative reallocation of Departments at the General Secretariat in order to cater for the fifth post of Assistant Secretary-General.

**RESOLUTION OF THE QUESTION OF WESTERN SAHARA**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU, meeting in its Fifteenth Ordinary Session in Khartoum, Democratic Republic of the Sudan, from 18 to 22 July 1978.

**Having heard** the statement of the Outgoing Chairman on the Question of Western Sahara;

**Having discussed** the Question of Western Sahara;

**Keenly concerned** about the serious situation prevailing in Western Sahara and the tension in the region;

**Guided** by the principles and objectives of the Charter of the Organization of African Unity, in particular those relating to the total decolonization of the continent;

**Recalling** Resolution 1514 (XV) of the United Nations General Assembly of 14 December 1960 on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and, taking into consideration the conclusions of the report of the United Nations Fact Finding Mission of 11 November 1975;

**Recalling** the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, the OAU and the Non-Aligned Movement on the Question of Western Sahara:

**Considering** the advisory opinion given by the International Court of Justice on 16 October 1975 with respect of the principle of the right of the people of Western Sahara to self-determination:

1. REAFFIRMS the responsibility of the OAU with regard to the search of a fair and peaceful solution in conformity with the principles of the Charters of the OAU and the United Nations Organization;
2. REAFFIRMS the decision to hold an Extraordinary Summit Meeting devoted to the Question of Western Sahara;

3. **DECIDES** to set up, for this purpose, an ad hoc Committee composed of at least five Heads of State of the OAU, including the Current Chairman of the Organization and entrust it with the consideration of all the data on the Question of Western Sahara, among which, the exercise of the right of the people of this territory to self determination;
4. **DIRECTS** the Current Chairman to hold, as soon as possible, consultations with a view to setting up the said ad hoc Committee and organizing its meeting;
5. **CALLS** upon all the States of the region to refrain from taking all actions likely to hamper the search of a fair and peaceful solution to this problem;
6. **CALLS** upon the Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU to report to the 32<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Session of the council of Ministers on the evolution of the Question;
7. **INVITES** the Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU to bring the present resolution to the knowledge of the United Nations Secretary-General to whom was already submitted the decolonization problem of the Western Sahara.

**RESOLUTION ON THE ETHIOPIA/SUDAN DESPUTE**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU, meeting in its Fifteenth Ordinary Session in Khartoum, Democratic Republic of the Sudan, from 18 to 22 July 1978,

**Recalling** resolution AHG/DEC/107(XIV) of Libreville establishing the OAU **Ad Hoc** Mediation Committee which met in Freetown from 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> December, 1977,

**Considering** further the recommendations of the follow-up meeting of the **Ad Hoc** Committee which met in Dar-es-Salaam on 20<sup>th</sup> June, 1978,

**Having heard** the statements by H.E. Gaafar Mohammed Nimeri, President of the Republic of Sudan and Dr. Feleke Gedle-Giorgis, Foreign Minister of Socialist Ethiopia:

1. **NOTES** with satisfaction the reports of the **Ad Hoc** Committee and approves the recommendations contained therein;
2. **EXPRESSES** its appreciation to H.E. El Hadj, Omar BONGO, President of Gabon, H.E. Dr. Siaka Stevens, President of Sierra Leone and H.E. Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, President of the United Republic of Tanzania;
3. **EXPRESSES** its deep appreciation to the Heads of State of the two sister countries, Ethiopia and the Sudan, for the steps taken towards the implementation of the recommendation of the **Ad Hoc** Committee in the spirit of cooperation and reconciliation;
4. **REQUESTS** the Committee to continue its work bearing in mind the root causes of the dispute, and the urgent need for peace and stability in the region.

**RESOLUTION ON THE LIBYA/CHAD DISPUTE**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU, meeting in its Fifteenth Ordinary Session in Khartoum, Democratic Republic of the Sudan, from 18 to 22 July 1978.

**Recalling** resolution AHG/DEC. 108 (XIV) of Libreville establishing the OAU **Ad Hoc** Mediation Committee on Libya/Chad dispute,

**Reaffirming** the principles of the Charter, particularly respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of each State, non-interference in the internal affairs of states as well as peaceful settlement of disputes among African states.

1. **TAKES** note of the report of the **Ad Hoc** Committee;
2. **EXPRESSES** its appreciation to H.E. El Hadji Omar Bongo, President of Gabon, H.E. Gaafar Mohammed Nimeri, President of the democratic Republic of the Sudan, H.E. Lt. Col. Seyni Kountche, President of Niger, and H.E. General Olusegun Obasanjo, Head of the Federal Government, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Nigeria;
3. **MANDATES** the Current Chairman of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government to contact the Heads of State and Government of the neighbouring countries, Cameroon, Niger, Nigeria and Sudan, with a view to assisting the two sister states, Libya and Chad, to resolve their dispute;
4. **APPEALS** to the Presidents of Libya and Chad to co-operate fully with their aforementioned brothers Heads of State and Government so as to achieve peace and stability in the region.



**COMMENDATION**

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU, meeting in its Fifteenth Ordinary Session in Khartoum, Democratic Republic of the Sudan, from 18 to 22 July 1978.

**Commending** the positive results achieved through the concerted action of Member States, in the context of the liberation of the continent and of the promotion of intra-African co-operation for the period 1974 – 1978,

**Considering** the particularly constructive and effective role played by Mr. William ETEKI MBOUMOUA at the service of the Organization of African Unity during his tenure of office,

**Considering** the courage and dedication with which he directed the Administrative General Secretariat of the Organization at a time Africa was going through the most crucial phase of its history,

**Having in mind** the exceptional intellectual and moral qualities of Mr. William ETEKI MBOUMOUA, qualities which made him an excellent diplomat and a convinced militant of the African cause, more particularly, of its unity, dignity and development:

1. **EXPRESSES** its deep appreciation for the work done by Mr. William ETEKI MBOUMOUA in his capacity as the Administrative Secretary-General of the OAU for the period 1974-1978.