

SECRETARIAT EXECUTIF DE L'ORGANISATION
DE L'UNITE AFRICAINE AUX NATIONS UNIES



EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT OF THE ORGANIZATION
OF AFRICAN UNITY TO THE UNITED NATIONS

346 EAST 50TH STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022
TELEPHONE (212) 319-5490 TELEX 425084 ORGA U1
TELEFAX (212) 319-7135

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MEETING OF THE CENTRAL ORGAN, AT AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL
OF THE OAU MECHANISM FOR CONFLICT PREVENTION, MANAGEMENT
AND RESOLUTION, ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA
28 APRIL 1994

COMMUNIQUE

1. The Central Organ of the OAU Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution met today, 28 April 1994, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, at Ambassadorial level, and heard a report from the OAU Secretary General on the Arusha consultations in particular, of 23 to 26 April 1994 on Rwanda, and on the efforts in general, made by the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, in his capacity as Facilitator, in order to bring about an immediate ceasefire between the Rwandese armed forces and those of the Rwandese Patriotic Front and implementation of the Arusha Peace Agreement.
2. The Central Organ notes, with grave concern, outrage and indignation, that the massacres and wanton killings have continued unabated, in a systematic manner, in Rwanda and have led to further human suffering and the displacement of thousands of others outside the country.
3. The Central Organ further notes, with regret, that the Peace Conference convened by H. E. President Ali Hassan MWINYI in Arusha, Tanzania, could not take place on 23 April because of the absence of the delegations of the Rwanda government and of the Rwandese Patriotic Front.
4. The Central Organ, however, notes with satisfaction the results of the consultations, at various times and at different levels, in Arusha, involving the OAU Secretary-General, the Prime Minister and First Vice President of the United Republic of Tanzania, the Secretary General of the Rwandese Patriotic Front, the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General as well as representatives of the Observer countries and the Representative of the OAU Current Chairman to the Arusha Peace talks.

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5. The Central Organ also learnt with appreciation of the initiative taken by H.E. President Mobutu Sese Seko, in his capacity as Mediator, to convene a meeting at Gbadolite, Zaire, on Sunday 24 April 1994.
6. The Central Organ notes, with deep concern, that the unilateral ceasefire announced at different times by the Rwandese Patriotic Front and by the Rwanda government was not observed and that the hostilities have continued.
7. The Central Organ demands the immediate end to the massacres of thousands of civilians including women, children, the aged and the sick which continue to be systematically perpetrated. In this context, the Central Organ calls upon the Rwandese Armed Forces and those of the Rwandese Patriotic Front to put an immediate end, to the armed hostilities. It urges the two parties to commence immediately, negotiations, in order to agree on the modalities of the ceasefire and its consolidation.
9. The Central Organ expresses its dismay at the decision of the United Nations Security Council to reduce drastically UNAMIR Forces in Rwanda at the very time when the situation has deteriorated. The Central Organ calls for continued and effective United Nations involvement in the Rwanda Peace Process.
10. The Central Organ further calls on the two parties to commence without delay, within the framework of the Arusha Peace process, discussions on the immediate implementation of the Arusha Peace Agreement.
11. The Central Organ appeals to the neighbouring countries to continue to deploy concerted efforts in order to assist in ending the current tragedy in Rwanda.
12. The Central Organ pays tribute to the aid agencies and other humanitarian non-governmental organizations which have, under very difficult conditions, been providing humanitarian assistance to the people of Rwanda. The Central Organ calls upon the parties to the Conflict to ensure the safety and security of the NGO personnel and to create conditions which will facilitate the provision of humanitarian assistance to the population.
13. The Central Organ requests the Secretary General to continue to monitor developments in Rwanda and to examine how best the OAU could, within its means, contribute to ending the hostilities and the resolution of the conflict in the context of the Arusha Peace Agreement.

ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA
28 April, 1994