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MESSAGE OF H.E. DR. SALIM AHMED SALIM,
SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY
TO THE SIXTH ALL-AFRICA TRADE FAIR
2 - 10 SEPTEMBER, 1992
BULAWAYO - ZIMBABWE

The organization of the Sixth All-Africa Trade Fair in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, marks yet another milestone in the process of intra-African economic cooperation and integration which the OAU has been promoting over the years. The Sixth Fair has thus rightly chosen as its central objective, "Trading for African Economic Integration".

Since 1972, when the first All-Africa Trade Fair took place in Nairobi - Kenya, the All-Africa Trade Fair, as a major tool for the promotion of intra-African trade has been successively organized under the banner of the Organization of African Unity in Algiers - Algeria in 1976; in Khartoum - Sudan in 1980; in Lomé - Togo in 1985 and in Kinshasa - Zaire in 1988.



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The Sixth All-Africa Trade Fair is particularly significant because it is taking place just over a year after the signing in Abuja - Nigeria on 3rd June, 1991 of the Treaty Establishing the African Economic Community by the Heads of State and Government of the OAU.

It is also significant because it is being organized for the first time, in the Southern region of Africa - a region full of dynamism and vast economic opportunities that this Fair will bring to the door step of the entire African business community.

In a world which is becoming increasingly characterized by the creation of trading blocs, it is indeed significant that African countries have renewed their commitment to intensify their efforts at closer economic cooperation and integration and in particular, to trade more among themselves. It is my conviction that the Bulawayo Fair will, in no small measure contribute to the realization

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of these objectives. The government and people of Zimbabwe deserve Africa's special appreciation and support in this effort.

Long Live African Unity

Long live intra-African cooperation and integration.

Salim Ahmed Salim