

1

**TENTH SESSION OF THE P.T.A. AUTHORITY**

**STATEMENT**

**BY**

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**SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE O.A.U.**

**(JANUARY 30, 1992 LUSAKA ZAMBIA)**

**ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY**

**P.O.BOX 3243**

**ADDIS ABABA**

**ETHIOPIA.**

MR. CHAIRMAN,  
YOUR MAJESTY,  
EXCELLENCIES,  
HONOURABLE MINISTERS,  
MR. PRESIDENT OF THE ADB,  
MR. AG. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE ECA,  
MR. SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE P.T.A.,  
DISTINGUISHED DELEGATES,  
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE AND HONOUR FOR ME TO ADDRESS  
THIS TENTH SESSION OF THE P.T.A. AUTHORITY.

I WISH IN THIS CONNECTION TO EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE TO THE  
OUTGOING CHAIRMAN HIS MAJESTY KING MSWATI III AND THE  
SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE PTA DR. BINGU WA MUTHARIKA FOR THE  
KIND INVITATION THEY HAVE EXTENDED TO ME PERSONALLY AND TO  
THE OAU TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING. I AM PARTICULARLY HAPPY  
TO SEE IN THE CHAIR OF THIS MEETING H.E. MR. FREDERICK CHILUBA,  
THE SECOND PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA. I WOULD LIKE  
TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO CONGRATULATE HIM, ONCE AGAIN,  
FOR HIS ELECTORAL VICTORY, AND ALL THE ZAMBIANS FOR THE  
MATURITY AND SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY THEY DEMONSTRATED DURING  
THE RECENT ELECTIONS. I ALSO WISH, TO EXPRESS MY VERY SINCERE  
GRATITUDE TO THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF ZAMBIA FOR  
HOSTING THIS VERY IMPORTANT SUMMIT MEETING AND FOR THE  
EXCELLENT ARRANGEMENTS AND FACILITIES WHICH HAVE BEEN PUT  
IN PLACE IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF THESE MEETINGS.

I WOULD FURTHER LIKE TO PUT ON RECORD MY VERY SINCERE APPRECIATION TO THE OUTGOING CHAIRMAN OF THE P.T.A. AUTHORITY, HIS MAJESTY KING MSWATI III OF SWAZILAND WHOSE UNTIRING EFFORTS HAVE CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE ACHIEVEMENTS MADE BY THE P.T.A. DURING THE PAST YEAR.

MEETINGS OF THE P.T.A. SUMMITS, AS THE SUPREME LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY OF THIS REGIONAL ECONOMIC GROUPING, ARE INDEED UNIQUE OCCASIONS. FIRSTLY, THEY PROVIDE YOU WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW TOGETHER THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISIONS OF THE P.T.A. AUTHORITY. SECONDLY, AND PERHAPS MOST SIGNIFICANTLY, IT IS THE MOST TIMELY OPPORTUNITY TO ISSUE DIRECTIVES AND GUIDELINES REGARDING PRIORITIES WHICH SHOULD BE ADDRESSED AND TO MAKE COLLECTIVE DECISIONS AIMED AT ENHANCING THE ATTAINMENT OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THE TREATY ESTABLISHING THE PREFERENTIAL TRADE AREA FOR EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA.

IN THIS REGARD, MR. CHAIRMAN, THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF YOUR MINISTERS AS WELL AS THE VERY IMPORTANT ASPECTS COVERED IN THE STATEMENT OF THE P.T.A. SECRETARY GENERAL DO DESERVE SPECIAL ATTENTION. YOUR COLLECTIVE GUIDANCE IN THESE AND

OTHER RELATED MATTERS WILL SERVE TO STRENGTHEN THE P.T.A. AND ENABLE IT TO EMERGE AS A STRONG AND DYNAMIC REGIONAL COMMON MARKET DURING THE 1990'S AND BEYOND. THIS IS IN THE INTEREST AND BENEFIT OF THE PEOPLE OF THIS REGION AS WELL AS OF THE ENTIRE AFRICAN CONTINENT.

WE ARE ALL AWARE OF THE FACT THAT THE PAST TEN YEARS OF GRADUAL EXPANSION AND CONSOLIDATION OF P.T.A. ACHIEVEMENTS HAVE BEEN INSPIRED, AND CONTINUE TO BE GUIDED BY FIRM BELIEF OF THE LEADERS OF THIS REGION IN THE UNITY AND CLOSER ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AMONG THEIR COUNTRIES. AND THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT MOST OF THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES WHICH CONTINUE TO BESET OUR COUNTRIES CAN BE OVERCOME OR COULD BE SIGNIFICANTLY MITIGATED THROUGH CLOSER AND MORE MEANINGFUL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION WITHIN THE P.T.A.

THE P.T.A., WITH ITS BROADER MEMBERSHIP OF 18 COUNTRIES IN THE REGION AND ITS POPULATION OF 220 MILLION PEOPLE AND A COMBINED G.D.P. OF US\$70 BILLION, PROVIDES A UNIQUE INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK WITHIN WHICH THE MEMBER STATES CAN AND SHOULD FURTHER CONSOLIDATE ECONOMIC TIES AMONG THEMSELVES. WHETHER IT IS IN THE AREA OF CLOSER HARMONIZATION OF MONETARY AND



FISCAL POLICIES OR IN THE EXPANSION OF THE PRODUCTION OF GOODS AND SERVICES FOR THIS REGION WHICH, ALONE, ACCOUNTS FOR 38% OF AFRICA'S TOTAL POPULATION OR IN SUCH OTHER MUTUALLY SUPPORTIVE PRIORITY AREAS AS TRADE AND CUSTOMS COOPERATION, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT WE CONTINUE TO BUILD ON THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE P.T.A. AND TO EXPAND ITS AREAS OF ACTIVITIES. THERE IS NO OTHER WAY A REGION LIKE THE P.T.A., THE MEMBERSHIP OF WHICH IS BOUND BY STRONG HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL TIES, CAN MOBILIZE AND UTILIZE ITS TREMENDOUS NATURAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES IN AN EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT MANNER OTHER THAN THROUGH THE DEEPENING OF CLOSER ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF A BROADER REGIONAL COMMON MARKET.

WE, IN THE O.A.U., HAVE FOLLOWED AND PARTICIPATED VERY CLOSELY BOTH IN THE INITIAL PROCESSES WHICH LED TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE P.T.A. AND THE OTHER MAJOR REGIONAL ECONOMIC GROUPINGS IN AFRICA SUCH AS THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS), THE CENTRAL AFRICAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY (ECCAS) AND THE ARAB MAHGREB UNION (UMA) WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE LAGOS PLAN OF ACTION. MORE RECENTLY, WE HAVE BEEN FOCUSSED OUR ATTENTION ON THESE REGIONAL ECONOMIC GROUPINGS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE PAN AFRICAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY (PAEC). IT IS ALSO RELEVANT TO MENTION HERE

THAT THE ABUJA ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE O.A.U. WHICH CONVENED IN JUNE LAST YEAR DECIDED TO ESTABLISH AN INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK COMPRISING THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE O.A.U. AND THE CHIEF EXECUTIVES OF THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES IN ORDER TO FOLLOW-UP AND IMPLEMENT MATTERS RELATING TO THE STRENGTHENING OF THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES IN THE CONTEXT OF THE PAN AFRICAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY. THE ADB AND ECA WERE ALSO CALLED UPON TO ASSIST IN THIS CONNECTION.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO STATE IN THIS REGARD, THAT THE O.A.U. GENERAL SECRETARIAT, WHICH IS ALSO THE SECRETARIAT OF THE COMMUNITY, HAS JUST CONCLUDED A STUDY AND A DRAFT PROTOCOL ON THE ORGANIC AND FUNCTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE PAN AFRICAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY AND THE EXISTING REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES. THIS STUDY HAS BEEN CIRCULATED TO ALL O.A.U. MEMBER STATES AND TO THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES INCLUDING THE P.T.A. FOR COMMENTS. WHAT HAS CLEARLY COME OUT OF THIS STUDY IS THE URGENT NEED FOR THE RATIONALIZATION OF THE MANY INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN AFRICA IN ORDER TO ENHANCE THE EFFICIENCY OF THE MAJOR REGIONAL ECONOMIC GROUPINGS. THIS IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT BOTH IN TERMS OF RESOURCE ALLOCATION AND FOR PURPOSES OF DESIGNING REGIONAL MASTER PLANS IN EACH OF THESE REGIONAL ECONOMIC GROUPINGS WHICH ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE OVERALL OBJECTIVES

OF THE CONTINENTAL PAN AFRICAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY. THE TREATY WHICH WAS SIGNED IN JUNE LAST YEAR IN ABUJA (NIGERIA), SPECIFICALLY CALLS ON US TO STRENGTHEN THE EXISTING REGIONAL ECONOMIC GROUPINGS AND TO RATIONALIZE THEM BECAUSE THEY CONSTITUTE THE BUILDING BLOCKS ON WHICH THE PAN AFRICAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY SHALL STAND. IT IS FOR THIS REASON THEREFORE THAT STRENGTHENING THE P.T.A. AS ONE OF THE CONSTITUENT CORNERSTONES OF THE PAN AFRICAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY IS AN IMPERATIVE NECESSITY.

ALLOW ME TO EMPHASIZE AT THIS JUNCTURE THAT AFRICA'S HOPE AND FUTURE LIES IN OUR COMMON RESOLVE TO TACKLE THE CONTINENT'S DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS IN A COLLECTIVE MANNER. TO-DAY, THERE IS EVEN MORE NEED THAN EVER BEFORE TO FORGE UNITY AND TO CO-ORDINATE, HARMONIZE AND CONSULT ONE ANOTHER ON THOSE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL PROBLEMS THAT ARE COMMON TO ALL OF OUR COUNTRIES. IT IS THROUGH THE STRENGTH OF AFRICA'S UNITED STAND THAT WE SHALL BE ABLE TO TACKLE THE EXOGENOUS FACTORS WHICH CONTINUE TO HAVE AN ADVERSE IMPACT ON AFRICAN ECONOMIES. WE ARE ALL AWARE OF THE FACT THAT THESE DAYS AND BEFORE ANY DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE IS AGREED UPON, CREDITOR COUNTRIES FIRST MEET IN ORDER TO HARMONIZE AND SYNCHRONIZE THEIR APPROACH IN DEALING WITH ANY COUNTRY WHICH COMES TO KNOCK AT THEIR DOORS FOR ASSISTANCE. I DO NOT HAVE TO ENUMERATE SITUATIONS WHEREBY THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FIRST



HAVE TO AGREE ON COMMON PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES WHICH GOVERN THEIR ECONOMIC OR POLITICAL RELATIONS VIS A VIS DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. WE ARE ALL FAMILIAR WITH WHAT PERTAINS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE ORGANIZATION OF ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (OECD), THE REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE SEVEN HIGHLY INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES OR THE PARIS AND LONDON CLUBS OR THE WORLD BANK AND THE IMF IN MATTERS RELATING TO SUCH CRITICAL DEVELOPMENT BOTTLENECKS AS AFRICA'S EXCRUCIATING DEBT BURDEN.

CLOSER CONSULTATIONS IN THESE AND OTHER RELATED ECONOMIC MATTERS WITHIN THE P.T.A. AND WITH OTHER REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PAN AFRICAN COMMUNITY IS THEREFORE A MUST. IT IS BY FAR THE MOST IMPORTANT INSTRUMENT FOR ENHANCING AFRICA'S COLLECTIVE STRENGTH IN THE WORLD OF TODAY WHICH IS UNDERGOING SIGNIFICANT FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES. THIS IS WHY I WOULD LIKE TO EMPHASIZE THE URGENCY OF RATIFYING THE TREATY ESTABLISHING THE PAN AFRICAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY. IN THIS REGARD, I AM PLEASED THAT TWO COUNTRIES IN EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICAN REGION NAMELY SEYCHELLES AND ZIMBABWE HAVE ALREADY RATIFIED THE TREATY TWO OTHER COUNTRIES, GHANA AND NIGERIA, HAVE ALSO RATIFIED THE TREATY. I WOULD THEREFORE LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW MY APPEAL TO ALL THE OTHER MEMBER STATES OF THE OAU TO EXPEDITE THE PROCESS OF RATIFICATION IN ORDER TO ENABLE THE COMMUNITY TO TAKE OFF AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.



MR. CHAIRMAN,

OUR COLLECTIVE EFFORTS TOWARDS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WILL CONTINUE TO BE SERIOUSLY UNDERMINED AS LONG AS OUR CONTINENT IS BESET BY CONFLICTS WHICH CREATE A CLIMATE OF INSTABILITY AND INSECURITY AND DIVERT OUR MEAGRE RESOURCES AND ENERGIES FROM SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES. THE O.A.U. IS DEEPLY CONCERNED OVER THE DISTURBING INCREASE IN CONFLICTS OF AN INTERNAL NATURE WITHIN OUR MEMBER STATES. IT IS NOT MY INTENTION TO TALK ABOUT ALL THE CONFLICTS RAGING ON OUR CONTINENT AND WITH WHICH YOUR EXCELLENCIES ARE DEFINITELY FAMILIAR.

I WOULD LIKE, HOWEVER, TO REFER TO THE SITUATION IN SOMALIA AND PARTICULARLY TO THE FIGHTING WHICH HAD BEEN TAKING PLACE IN MOGADISHU AND WHICH HAS RESULTED IN INDISCRIMINATE KILLINGS AND DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY. IN OUR EFFORTS TO END THE FIGHTING AND PROMOTE A RESOLUTION TO THE CONFLICT, I HAVE HAD CONTACTS WITH THE VARIOUS SOMALI GROUPS AND THE LEADERS OF A NUMBER OF OUR MEMBER STATES TWO WEEKS AGO IN NEW YORK, I HELD CONSULTATIONS WITH THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL DR. BOUTROS BOUTROS GHALI ON THE NEED FOR PROMPT ACTION ON THE PART OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. IN THIS REGARD, THE RESOLUTION ADOPTED ON JANUARY 23 BY THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL IS AN IMPORTANT DECISION AND A WELCOME DEVELOPMENT. WE ARE ENCOURAGED BY THE REACTION THUS FAR OF BOTH THE INTERIM PRESIDENT MR. ALI MAHDI MOHAMED AND THAT

OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE UNITED SOMALIE CONGRESS GENERAL MOHAMED FARAH AIDID. BOTH, IN THEIR SEPARATE WAYS, HAVE REPORTEDLY SIGNIFIED ACCEPTANCE OF A CEASEFIRE. IT IS MY EARNEST HOPE THAT A CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT WILL BE REALIZED WITHOUT DELAY AND THAT THE CEASEFIRE WILL HOLD PERMANENTLY SO THAT THE MUCH NEEDED HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE CAN BEGIN TO FLOW AND CONDITIONS CREATED FOR A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT.

THE OAU HAS EXPRESSED ITS READINESS TO CO-OPERATE WITH THE UN IN THE SEARCH FOR A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE CONFLICT IN CONFORMITY WITH THE SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION. AND IN THIS CONTEXT I AM IN CONTACT WITH THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL. MEANWHILE I URGE THE AFRICAN LEADERS HERE PRESENT TO USE THEIR OWN INFLUENCE AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION EITHER INDIVIDUALLY OR IN A COORDINATED MANNER TO ASSIST IN BRINGING TO AN END THIS TRAGIC AND DISASTROUS CONFLICT.

MR. CHAIRMAN,

I HAVE REFERRED TO THE SPECIFIC CASE OF SOMALIA MAINLY BECAUSE OF THE MAGNITUDE OF THE TRAGEDY WHICH HAS BEFALLEN THE SOMALI PEOPLE. UNFORTUNATELY, THERE ARE MANY OTHER AREAS WHERE CONFLICTS ARE RAGING WITHIN THE CONTINENT. THIS DISTURBING TREND OF CONFLICT SITUATIONS IN AFRICA UNDERSCORES THE IMPORTANCE AND URGENCY OF BUILDING A CONTINENTAL CAPACITY AND MECHANISM FOR CONFLICT PREVENTION, CONFLICT

MANAGEMENT AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION. INDEED IT IS VITAL THAT SECURITY AND STABILITY BE GUARANTEED WITHIN THE CONTINENT SO THAT OUR EFFORTS WOULD BE FULLY DIRECTED AT THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE CONTINENT. THIS NEED IS ALL THE MORE IMPERATIVE NOW CONSIDERING THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION AND THE TREND TO MARGINALISE AFRICAN PROBLEMS AND ISSUES OF CONCERN AND INTEREST TO OUR CONTINENT.

MR. CHAIRMAN,  
YOUR MAJESTY,  
EXCELLENCIES HEADS OF STATE AND  
GOVERNMENT AND HEADS OF DELEGATION

I WOULD LIKE TO CONCLUDE BY REFERRING TO THE SITUATION IN SOUTH AFRICA. IN THE LONG AND HARD STRUGGLE AGAINST THE ANACHRONISTIC SYSTEM OF APARTHEID, THE COUNTRIES OF THIS REGION HAVE PLAYED A VANGUARD ROLE IN SUPPORT OF THAT STRUGGLE AND HAVE MADE UNTOLD SACRIFICES. THE HOST OF THIS MEETING, THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA, FOR EXAMPLE, HAS UNTIL VERY RECENTLY BEEN THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS. THIS COUNTRY AND MANY OTHERS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA HAVE PAID A HEAVY PRICE DUE TO SOUTH AFRICA'S POLICY OF AGGRESSION AND DESTABILISATION. IT IS THEREFORE CLEAR THAT WHILE AFRICA AS A WHOLE AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AT LARGE HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING VERY CLOSELY THE RECENT EVENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA, THE COUNTRIES OF THIS REGION. ALL MEMBERS OF THE PTA HAVE DONE SO WITH PARTICULAR VIGILANCE, ANXIETY AND EXPECTATION. THIS IS BOTH RIGHT AND LOGICAL BECAUSE THEY, AND



ESPECIALLY THE COUNTRIES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA STAND TO BE AFFECTED MOST BY WHAT HAPPENS IN THAT COUNTRY. THE EMERGENCE OF A NON-RACIAL, DEMOCRATIC AND UNITED SOUTH AFRICA WILL USHER IN A NEW ERA OF COOPERATION, DEVELOPMENT, STABILITY AND SECURITY IN THE REGION WHOSE DIVIDENDS ARE SELF EVIDENT. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE CONTINUATION OF MINORITY RULE WILL TRANSLATE INTO MORE SUFFERING FOR THE OPPRESSED PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA AND AT THE SAME TIME RESULT IN THE PERPETUATION OF THE AGONY OF UNCERTAINTY, INSTABILITY AND INSECURITY AND ITS ATTENDANT REPERCUSSIONS FOR THE PEOPLE AND COUNTRIES OF THE REGION.

I KNOW THAT AS YOU MEET HERE IN LUSAKA TO DELIBERATE ON HOW BEST TO PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR PEOPLES IN THIS REGION WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF SOLIDARITY AND COOPERATION YOUR ATTENTION IS ALSO VERY MUCH FOCUSED ON THE HAPPENINGS IN SOUTH AFRICA. I WISH TO ASSURE YOU THAT YOUR CONTINENTAL ORGANIZATION - THE OAU IS VERY MUCH WITH YOU ON THIS. AND IN THIS CONNECTION, THE RECENT CONVENTION FOR A DEMOCRATIC SOUTH AFRICA (CODESA) WHICH TOOK PLACE IN JOHANNESBURG ON 20-21 DECEMBER 1991, AND THE WORK OF THE FIVE COMMITTEES WHICH WERE SET UP FOLLOWING (CODESA) DECISIONS CONSTITUTE A SIGNIFICANT STAGE IN THE PROCESS TOWARDS THE ERADICATION OF APARTHEID AND THE ADVENT OF A UNITED, NON-RACIAL AND DEMOCRATIC SOUTH AFRICA. IT IS THEREFORE IMPORTANT THAT PRESSURE CONTINUES TO BE EXERTED ON THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT AND SUSTAINED SUPPORT EXTENDED TO THE LIBERATION

MOVEMENTS SO THAT THE PROCESS IS NOT DIVERTED OR HIJACKED BEFORE IT GETS TO ITS LOGICAL CONCLUSION. AT THE SAME TIME IT IS CRUCIAL THAT THE OPPRESSED PEOPLE OF SOUTH AFRICA AND ALL ANTI-APARTHEID FORCES IN THAT COUNTRY SHOULD WORK IN COHESION AND SOLIDARITY. I WISH IN PARTICULAR TO APPEAL TO THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS AND THE PAN-AFRICANIST CONGRESS TO DEMONSTRATE LEADERSHIP IN FORGING THE UNITY AND SOLIDARITY WHICH IS SO PIVOTAL IF THE FORCES OF RACISM AND STATUS QUO ARE TO BE DECISIVELY OVERCOME. WE BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT TO PURSUE THE ROAD OF GENUINE NEGOTIATIONS IN ORDER TO ATTAIN OUR COMMON OBJECTIVE. AND IN THIS, WHAT BETTER PLACE THAN HERE IN LUSAKA TO REMIND OUR BRETHREN IN SOUTH AFRICA OF THE STIPULATIONS OF THE LUSAKA MANIFESTO ON SOUTHERN AFRICA ADOPTED BY OUR HEADS OF STATE SOME TWENTY THREE YEARS AGO DECLARING AFRICA'S PREFERENCE FOR A NEGOTIATED RESOLUTION WHENEVER THE ROAD TO NEGOTIATION IS NOT BLOCKED.

I THANK YOU.