the Comoros;
4. WELCOMES the efforts deployed by the Government of the Comoros towards overcoming the crisis in the country based on OAU principles and Decision AHG/141 (XXXV);
5. ALSO EXPRESSES its gratitude to the partners of the OAU, particularly the International Organization of the Francophonie, the League of Arab States, the European Union, the Indian Ocean Commission and the United Nations, for their tireless support to the OAU and REQUESTS them to continue to provide their assistance for the implementation of the Framework Agreement of 17 February 2001;
6. DECIDES, in view of the signing of the Framework Agreement and the progress made in the search for solution, to immediately suspend the measures taken by the OAU against the leaders of the Anjouanese Separatist Movement, it being understood that the measures will be lifted definitively upon the establishment of the National Union Transitional Government provided for in the Framework Agreement;
7. REQUESTS the Secretary General to take all the necessary steps to facilitate the speedy and scrupulous implementation of the Framework Agreement for Reconciliation in the Comoros, particularly measures relating to the Framework Agreement Follow-up Mechanism, the drafting and adoption of the Constitution, arms collection, the reintegration of the youth and the organization of a Donor’s Conference;
8. APPEALS to the international community, including the European Union and the specialised agencies of the United Nations system, as well as bilateral donors, to give all the necessary financial assistance for the speedy implementation of the Framework Agreement.

CM/Dec. 572 (LXXIII)

DECISION ON THE SITUATION IN THE MANO RIVER SUB-REGION

Council:
1. EXPRESS its grave concern over the deteriorating situation in the Mano River Basin;
2. CONDEMNS the actions of armed bands, more particularly acts of violence perpetrated against the civilian population and MAKES AN URGENT APPEAL for the respect of the provisions of the Geneva Conventions on International Humanitarian Law;
3. EXPRESSES SATISFACTION at the laudable efforts deployed by the ECOWAS leaders to find a lasting solution to the alarming situation prevailing in the sub-region;
4. APPEALS to all the concerned parties to support the ECOWAS initiatives aimed at promoting consultation and co-operation for peace and stability in the sub-region;
5. EXPRESSES its appreciation to the people and Government of Guinea for the generous hospitality they have always accorded the populations of the neighbouring countries in distress and HAILS its commitment to continue to give asylum to these populations, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the OAU Convention on Refugees;
6. REITERATES its support for the efforts exerted by ECOWAS countries and leaders and EXHORTS the Secretary General to continue to co-operate closely with them in the search for a peaceful and lasting solution to the crisis in the sub-region;
7. EXPRESSES its support for the efforts deployed by ECOWAS to find a definitive solution to the conflict in Sierra Leone, on the basis of the Lome Peace Agreement and the Abuja Ceasefire Agreement of 10 November 2000 signed between the Government of Sierra Leone and the United Revolutionary Front (RUF);
8. APPEALS to Member States to contribute troops to enable UNAMSIL to attain its full staff complement and EXPRESS ITS SUPPORT for the Committee of the Parties in Sierra
DECISION ON THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)

Council:
1. STRONGLY CONDEMNS the assassination of President Laurent Desire Kabila, which act was a flagrant violation of the principles of the OAU and CONVEYS its condolences to his family, the Government and people of the D.R.C;
2. COMMENDS the commitment by the President and the Government of the DRC to proceed with national dialogue under the facilitation of Sir Ketumile Masire, former President of Botswana;
3. FURTHER COMMENDS the commitment by the Government of Rwanda to redeploy its forces as indicated in its letter of 18 February 2001 to the President of the United Nations Security Council as well as the commitment by Uganda to immediately reduce by two battalions the strength its forces in the territory of the DRC;
4. WELCOMES the outcome of the Third Summit of the Signatories to the Ceasefire Agreement in the DRC held in Lusaka on 15 February 2001 during which the Parties reaffirmed their commitment to the Lusaka Cease-Fire Agreement, the Kampala Disengagement Plan and the Harare Disengagement and Redeployment sub-plans and committed themselves to the accelerated implementation of these important instruments;
5. ALSO WELCOMES the adoption by the Security Council of Resolution 1341 (2001) of 22 February 2001 following the joint meeting of the Security Council and members of the Political Committee in New York from 20 to 22 February 2001;
7. FURTHER WELCOMES the appointment by the OAU Secretary General, of Brigadier General Njuki Mwaniki of Kenya as Chairman of the Joint Military Commission (JMC) and URGES all the Parties to lend him the necessary support;
8. CALLS ON all Member States and on the International Community to provide political support and financial assistance towards the peace process in the DRC particularly to sustain the work of the Joint Military Commission and the Inter-Congolese National Dialogue;
9. REITERATES its support for the efforts of President Frederick Chiluba of Zambia, Chairman of the Regional Initiative and other Leaders and ENCOURAGES them to persevere in their efforts aimed at finding an early and lasting solution to the conflict.

CM/Dec. 574 (LXXIII)

DECISION ON REFUGEES

Council:
1. EXPRESSES its grave concern over the persistent and deteriorating refugee situation in Africa, a catastrophic situation for which Africans themselves should assume primary responsibility;
2. UNDERSCORES the imperative need to put an end to this situation by resolutely addressing its causes;
3. EXPRESSSES SATISFACTION at the fielding of OAU evaluation and solidarity missions