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 form 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 17th 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.