

AFRICAN UNION

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UNION AFRICAINE

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**NINETY-SIXTH ORDINARY SESSION AT
AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL OF THE CENTRAL
ORGAN OF THE MECHANISM FOR CONFLICT
PREVENTION, MANAGEMENT AND RESOLUTION**

**21 OCTOBER 2003
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

Central Organ / MEC / AMB / COMM. (XCVI)

COMMUNIQUÉ

COMMUNIQUE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH ORDINARY SESSION
AT AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL OF THE CENTRAL ORGAN OF
THE MECHANISM FOR CONFLICT PREVENTION,
MANAGEMENT AND RESOLUTION

21 OCTOBER 2003, ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

The Central Organ of the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution held its 96th ordinary session at Ambassadorial level in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 21 October 2003. The session was chaired by Ambassador Ana Nemba Uaiene, Permanent Representative of Mozambique to the African Union (AU).

The Session was briefed by the Chairperson of the Commission, Mr. Alpha Oumar Konaré, on the enhancement of the role of the African Union in the promotion of peace and security on the continent.

At the end of its deliberations, the Central Organ decided as follows:

The Central Organ:

WELCOMES the initiative of the Chairperson of the Commission on the strengthening of the role of the AU in the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts and **ENCOURAGES** him to undertake appropriate consultations, particularly with the Chairperson of the AU, on the establishment of the suggested High Level Committees of Heads of State and Government to contribute to the consolidation of ongoing peace efforts on the continent, taking into account the role of the Central Organ in the promotion of peace and security, the need for close coordination and harmonization with regional and international efforts, the need to avoid duplication of efforts and to adjust the initiative to the realities of each conflict. The Central Organ **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Chairperson of the Commission to keep it regularly informed on developments related to this initiative, including the composition and terms of reference of the various Committees that are envisaged.

The difficulties encountered in the peace process between Ethiopia and Eritrea were also raised during the meeting. The Chairperson of the Commission briefed the Central Organ on the efforts being made, in liaison with other members of the international community, to facilitate the peace process.