



ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE AFRICAINE

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**Eighty-Third Ordinary Session
of the Central Organ of the OAU
Mechanism for Conflict Prevention,
Management and Resolution at
Ambassadorial Level**

**3 June 2002
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

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COMMUNIQUE

**COMMUNIQUE OF THE EIGHTY-THIRD ORDINARY SESSION OF
THE CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE OAU MECHANISM FOR CONFLICT
PREVENTION, MANAGEMENT AND RESOLUTION HELD AT
AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL**

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 3 June 2002

The Central Organ of the OAU Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution held its 83rd Ordinary Session at Ambassadorial level, on Monday, 3 June 2002, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The session was chaired by Ambassador S. Akapelwa, Permanent Representative of Zambia to the OAU.

The Central Organ was briefed by the Secretary General on the situation in the Comoros and Madagascar.

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

A/ On the situation in the Comoros

The Central Organ:

1. **EXPRESSES ITS SATISFACTION** at the election of the President of the Union of the Comoros and the President of the Executive of autonomous islands of Anjouan, Grand Comoros and Moheli, and the climate of calm and serenity that prevailed throughout the electoral process;
2. **CONGRATULATES** the newly elected authorities, namely Colonel Azali Assoumani, President of the Union of the Comoros, and Colonel Mohamed Bacar, Mze Abdou Soule El Bak and Mr. Mohamed Fazul, Presidents of the autonomous islands of Anjouan, Grand Comoros and Moheli, respectively. The Central Organ **CALLS UPON** the new elected authorities of the Union of the Comoros, as well as all the other Comorian parties, to continue to demonstrate the spirit of compromise to enable them to deal, in unity, with the numerous challenges facing the Comoros;
3. **PAYS TRIBUTE** to the countries of the Region and the Secretary General for their sustained efforts aimed at maintaining the unity and territorial integrity of the Comoros and assisting in the setting up of a new constitutional order. The Central Organ **EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION** to OAU Partners, namely l'Organisation internationale de la Francophonie, the League of Arab States, the European Union and the United Nations, for their support to the OAU;
4. **WELCOMES** the assistance provided by the General Secretariat using a generous contribution by the Republic of South Africa, for humanitarian assistance and the development of the health sector in the Comoros, and

REQUESTS the Secretary General, working closely with the Government of Mauritius, to accelerate the preparations for the convening, in the shortest possible time, of the donors conference on the Comoros;

5. **ALSO WELCOMES** the conclusion, on 31 May 2002, of the OAU Military Observer Mission to the Comoros which was deployed to assist the Comorian authorities in ensuring the security of the archipelago during the electoral process, and **PAYS TRIBUTE** to the officers and non-commissioned officers who comprised the mission for their work, as well as Member States which contributed to the Mission for their assistance to OAU efforts in the Comoros;
6. **CALLS UPON** OAU Member States and the international community at large to provide the Comoros with financial assistance necessary for the improvement of the living conditions of the Comorian people and the socio-economic development of the country.

B/ Situation in Madagascar

The Central Organ:

1. **EXPRESSES ITS GRAVE CONCERN** at the continuing crisis in Madagascar and its socio-economic and humanitarian consequences, and the threats against national unity and cohesion, and the territorial integrity of Madagascar;
2. **REITERATES** its support to the Dakar Agreement, which constitutes an appropriate framework for the settlement of the crisis, and **URGES** all the parties to demonstrate maximum restraint and abstain from any action that could worsen the situation;
3. **PAYS TRIBUTE** to President Abdoulaye Wade of Senegal and the other Heads of States facilitators, namely Presidents Mathieu Kérékou of Benin, Laurent Gbagbo of Côte d'Ivoire and Joachim Chissano of Mozambique, as well as the OAU Secretary General and the Personal Representative of the UN Secretary General, for their sustained efforts aimed at finding a peaceful and negotiated solution to the crisis in Madagascar;
4. **ALSO PAYS TRIBUTE** to President Levy P. Mwanawasa of Zambia, Chairman of the OAU, for his efforts and **ENCOURAGES** him to pursue his consultations aimed at convening, as soon as possible, a Summit of the Central Organ to review the situation in Madagascar;
5. **CALLS UPON** the international community to provide its full support to the efforts of the OAU and its partners for a settlement of the crisis.