

DECISION ON THE SITUATION IN BURUNDI

Council:

1. TAKES NOTE of the Report;
2. EXPRESSES ITS GRAVE CONCERN about the stalemate in the implementation process of the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement in Burundi and the continued deterioration of the security and humanitarian situation in the country;
3. STRONGLY CONDEMNS the pursuit of hostilities and other acts of violence of which the civilian populations are the main victims, and DEMANDS that the belligerents embark without delay on negotiations for cessation of hostilities and conclusion of a Ceasefire Agreement;
4. CONDEMNS in no uncertain terms the armed groups which up to now have refused to end hostilities and join in the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Process;
5. CALLS ON the Parties to the conflict to overcome their differences in order to reach, as quickly as possible, a consensus on the presidency and transition modalities in accordance with the relevant recommendations of the 14th Summit of the Regional Initiative for Peace in Burundi;
6. ALSO CALLS on the countries of the region, and all the parties to the conflict, in close consultation with OAU, to seize the opportunity offered by the next Summit scheduled to take place in Arusha on 24 July 2001, to take appropriate measures to facilitate the implementation of the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement, particularly the cessation of hostilities;

7. URGES the neighbouring countries of Burundi to co-operate with the International Community with a view to preventing Burundian armed groups from pursuing their acts of aggression aimed at destabilizing Burundi;
8. EXPRESSES ITS SUPPORT to the Facilitator of the Arusha Peace Process, Former President Nelson Mandela, for the untiring efforts he continues to deploy in expediting the implementation of the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement, including those deployed by President El Hadj Omar Bongo, President Joseph Kabila and Deputy President Jacob Zuma, within the context of the Arusha Peace Accord on Burundi regarding the cessation of hostilities;
9. REITERATES that the responsibility for the search for a peaceful and lasting solution to the conflict in Burundi lies primarily with the Burundian parties themselves, and therefore URGES them to co-operate fully and in good faith with the Facilitator and the countries of the Regional Initiative;
10. REQUESTS the Secretary General to contact the UNHCR and the UN Security Council to look into the possibility of repatriating the Burundi refugees in Tanzania to Burundi and establish modalities to ensure the safety and security of the returning refugees;
11. APPEALS to the belligerents to scrupulously adhere to the international humanitarian law.