

RESOLUTION ON THE ACTIVITIES OF MERCENARIES
IN THE GREAT LAKES AREA AND ESPECIALLY IN ZAIRE

The Council of Minister of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Thirty-Second Ordinary Session in Nairobi, Republic of Kenya, from 23 February to 4 March, 1979,

Seriously concerned with the continuous threat to the security of the African Continent and of certain African countries in particular posed by the presence and activities of mercenaries in the continent with a view to sowing the seeds of discord and undermining the territory integrity and sovereignty of the African States,

Considering the harmful effects of the numerous interventions and activities of mercenaries against the sovereignty, security, territorial integrity and the orderly development of African States,

Recalling the provisions of the OAU Convention on the Elimination of Mercenaries in Africa,

Considering the binding obligation assumed by the International Community to respect the provisions of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Additional Protocols thereto regarding the basic guarantees of humanity and prohibiting their nationals from going to other regions of the world, including Africa, as mercenaries and thereby ensuring that their territories are no longer used for the recruitment, training and equipment of mercenaries:

1. **ONCE AGAIN DENOUNCES** in strong terms the activities of mercenaries aimed at destabilizing OAU Member States resulting in loss of human lives and desolation;
2. **CONDEMNS STRONGLY** the recent attempt of mercenaries in the Great Lakes area particularly to create diabolical acts of hostility against the Eastern Region of the Republic of Zaire with a view to destabilizing its institutions and paralysing its economy;

3. **CONGRATULATES** the Republic of Rwanda, on its fraternal co-operation which made it possible to frustrate the diabolical aims of those mercenaries, and also on its decision to take legal proceedings against those international criminals, in conformity with the relevant resolutions of the OAU and the OAU Convention on the Elimination of Mercenarism in Africa;
4. **CONDEMNS** all countries which continue to tolerate the recruitment, training and arming of mercenaries in their territories and calls upon them to take measures with a view to prescribing such acts in their territories;
5. **APPEALS** to all member states of the OAU to maintain close co-operation for the effective implementation of the provisions of the OAU Convention on the Elimination of Mercenarism in Africa;
6. **REAFFIRMS** its complete solidarity with the people of Zaire and assures them of its full support in the struggle to put an end to all mercenary activities in its territory.