RESOLUTION ON THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Fifty -fifth Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 24 to 28 February 1992,

<u>Having considered</u> the report of the OAU Secretary-General on the Situation in the Middle East as reflected in Document CM/1694 (LV),

<u>Guided</u> by the principles and objectives of the Charters of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations and by the common determination of the African and Arab peoples to continue the struggle for the preservation of their independence and their basic legitimate rights,

<u>Recalling that</u> the Palestinian Question constitutes the root causes of the conflict in the Middle East,

<u>Following with interest</u> the international efforts aimed at ensuring the success of the peace process that started with the convening of the Madrid Peace Conference so as to find a just, comprehensive and lasting solution to the Palestinian question,

<u>Having followed</u> with great interest, the steps pursued by Lebanon in establishing its authority over its territories as well as the steps it has taken to implement the Nation al Harmony Accord known as the Taif Agreement, thereby protecting its people, institutions and the independence as well as its sovereignty and territorial integrity:

- 1. REAFFIRMS all the relevant resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government and the OAU Council of Ministers and EXPRESSES ITS TOTAL SUPPORT for the Palestinian people and those of The other Arab countries that are victims of Israeli aggression;
- 2. FURTHER REAFFIRMS ITS SUPPORT for the common struggle being waged by the African and Arab peoples for self-determination and the urgent need to strengthen Afro-Arab solidarity;

- 3. EXPRESSES ITS SATISFACTION with the efforts being exerted by the United States of America and Russian Federation as well as the international Community towards achieving a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East by convening the Madrid Conference, the commencement of Negotiations between the parties concerned on the basis of international Legality and in accordance with Security Council Resolutions (242 and 338) And the principle of exchanging land for peace, which will guarantee the Complete withdrawal of Israel from all Palestinian and Arab lands occupied in 1967, including Jerusalem, the Golan Heights and Southern Lebanon. It ALSO WELCOMES the readiness of the Russian Federation to continue its Sponsorship of the Conference;
- 4. CONFIRMS that the Palestinian Question constitutes the root cause of the Middle East conflict and that a just and comprehensive peace in the area can Never be achieved unless the Palestinian people are able to exercise their Inalienable rights, including the right to return to their homeland and their Right to self-determination and the establishment of a Palestinian State on its National soil in Palestine with Jerusalem as its capital. CONFIRMS ALSO
- 5. FURTHER SUPPORTS the proposal made by H. E. Hosni Mubarak, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt to proclaim the Middle East as Zone free from weapons of mass destruction. CONDEMNS Israel's refusal To abandon nuclear weapons and its continued production, development and Acquisition of these weapons with their delivery systems. REQUESTS the United Nations Security Council to take all necessary measures to destroy These weapons;
- 6. EXPRESSES ITS DEEP CONVICTION that if the international community, through the UN Security Council, were to demonstrate the same political will and commitment to international norms as it did in the Gulf crisis, to the Palestinian question, the Arab/Israeli conflict would have readily been resolved.