

Resolution on Compliance and Immediate Implementation of the Arusha Peace Agreement for Burundi

The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights meeting at its 28th Ordinary Session in Cotonou, Benin, from 23rd October to 6th November 2000:

Considering the massacres of innocent people committed in Burundi since 21st October 1993;

Considering the effects of the protracted civil war on the economy and well-being of the people of Burundi;

Considering with concern that the on-going armed conflict between the rebels and the Government army has caused serious violations of human rights and freedoms of the people of Burundi;

Expresses its support for the Arusha Peace Agreement for Burundi and urges the conflicting parties to conclude a cease-fire and immediately and unconditionally implement the Arusha Accord signed in Arusha on 28th August 2000;

Congratulates former President Nelson Mandela for the progress achieved through his mediation and exhorts him to continue with his efforts towards achieving lasting peace in Burundi;

Calls upon the rebel groups who have not yet signed the peace agreement concluded under the auspices of former President Nelson Mandela to do so urgently;

Makes an urgent appeal to the Great Lakes countries to give their full support to the peace process and put pressure on all the belligerents to renounce violence;

Calls upon the OAU and UN to take all appropriate measures to put a stop to the hostilities in Burundi and bring the belligerents to give greater importance to negotiation for the resolution of their dispute;

Urges the International Community to support the peace process and settlement of the conflict that has rocked Burundi.

Done in Cotonou, Benin, 6th November 2000.