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**ECOWAS Standing Mediation Committee, Final Communiqué of the Third Summit Meeting of the Community Standing Mediation Committee, Lome, Togo, 13 February 1991**

The ECOWAS Standing Mediation Committee held its Third Summit Meeting at the Headquarters of the Togolese People's Rally in Lome on 12-13 February 1991 under the Chairmanship of His Excellency Alhaji Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara, President of the Republic of The Gambia. The Session was attended by the following Heads of State and Government and/or their accredited representatives.

His Excellency Captain Blaise COMPAORE,  
Chairman of the Popular Front, Head of State, Head of Government, Burkina Faso

His Excellency Alhaji Sir Dawda Kairaba JAWARA,  
President of the Republic of The Gambia

His Excellency General Moussa TRAORE,  
Secretary-General of the Democratic Union of the Malian People, President of the Republic of Mali

His Excellency General Gnassingbe EYADEMA,  
Founder-Chairman of the Togolese People's Rally, President of the Togolese Republic

Honourable Mr. D.F. ANNAN,

Vice-Chairman, Provisional National Defence Council, representing the Head of State of the Republic of Ghana

Honourable Admiral Augustus A. AIKHOMU,  
Vice-President, representing the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

Honourable Mr. Alassane OUATTARA,  
Prime Minister, representing the President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire

Honourable Commandant Jean TRAORE,  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
representing the President of the Republic of Guinea

Honourable Dr. Abdulai Osman CONTEH,  
Attorney-General and Minister of Justice, representing the President of the Republic of Sierra Leone

2. Present in Lome for consultations with Heads of State and Government were the following:

- For the Interim Government of National Unity elected by the National Conference of Liberians which met in Banjul in August/September 1990,  
Dr. Amos SAWYER
- For the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL),  
Lt-Gen. J. Hezekiah BOWEN
- For the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL),  
Mr. Charles Ghankay TAYLOR
- For the Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia (INPFL),  
Mr. Prince Yeduo JOHNSON

3. At the invitation of the Committee, the Session was also attended by a representative of the OAU in an observer capacity.

#### Review of the Liberian Situation

4. The Summit was preceded by a Ministerial Meeting of the Committee which took place in Lome on 11 February 1991. The Summit had, as a basis of discussion, the report of the Ministerial Meeting which was presented by its Chairman.

5. The Committee reviewed developments relating to the Liberian crisis since the first ECOWAS Extra-ordinary Summit at Bamako in November 1990. It recalled that at the Bamako Extra-ordinary Summit all the three warring factions had signed a Declaration in which they agreed to observe an immediate cease-fire to be monitored by the ECOWAS Cease-fire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG). They also agreed to work out the modalities for the implementation of the cease-fire and to resolve their differences with regard to an Interim Government for Liberia as envisaged in the ECOWAS Peace Plan.

6. The Committee was informed of the efforts that had been made since then to get the warring parties to agree on the practical modalities for the implementation of the cease-fire. In this regard, the Committee noted the Joint Statement signed by the three warring parties at Banjul on 21 December 1990 in which the factions, among other things, undertook to conclude an agreement on the modalities for the implementation of the cease-fire within thirty days. Similarly, the Committee expressed satisfaction at the commitment made by the warring factions in the Joint Statement to participate in a National Conference for the purpose of finding a political accommodation for the interim governance of Liberia.

7. The Committee welcomed the Statement issued on 22 January 1991 by the United Nations Security Council on the Liberian situation which had endorsed the ECOWAS Peace Plan, and called on the warring factions to respect their Cease-fire Declaration and to co-operate fully with ECOWAS to restore peace and normalcy in Liberia. The Statement had also expressed the support of the Security Council for the ECOWAS appeal to the international community for increased humanitarian assistance to the people of Liberia.

#### Reaffirmation of the ECOWAS Peace Plan

8. The Committee reaffirmed its belief in the principles and objectives set out in the ECOWAS Peace Plan. The Committee, in particular, recalled:

- that the commitment of the entire Community to a peaceful and lasting settlement of the Liberian crisis is irreversible;
- that no leader of a warring faction should head the future Interim Government; and
- that whoever heads the Interim Government should not be eligible to contest the ensuing presidential and general elections.

#### Signing of the Cease-fire Agreement

9. In view of the difficulties that the Technical Sub-committee had encountered during its second meeting at Monrovia from 18 to 22 January 1991 with regard to the negotiation of the modalities for implementing the cease-fire, the Heads of State and Government held consultations with the warring factions during the Summit. The Committee expressed its satisfaction with the spirit of compromise and accommodation which was shown and which led to the adoption and signature of a formal Cease-fire Agreement by all the three warring factions. The Committee appealed to all the parties concerned to manifest this spirit of reconciliation in the subsequent stages of the peace process.

10. By this Cease-fire Agreement, the parties have agreed to the confinement of their troops to positions to be determined by ECOMOG in consultation with them. With regard to the disarming of the troops, the parties have also agreed that upon the formation of the future Interim Government, that government would take appropriate measures, with the assistance of ECOWAS, to start the disarming of their troops.

11. The Committee directed the Executive Secretary to take all necessary steps to ensure that ECOMOG forces implement effectively and speedily the Cease-fire Agreement signed in Lome on 13 February 1991 throughout Liberia in accordance with its provisions in order to create appropriate conditions for the convening of a National Conference of Liberians.

#### Enlargement of ECOMOG Peace-keeping Capability

12. The Committee paid glowing tribute to the Member States which, notwithstanding their difficult economic situation, had contributed human and material resources to ECOMOG whose efforts have substantially enhanced the restoration of peace and normalcy in Liberia. The Committee warmly welcomed the decision of the Government of the Republic of Mali to contribute forces to ECOMOG operations in Liberia. It reiterated its belief in the need for other ECOWAS Member States to respond without further delay to the appeal made by the Extra-ordinary Session of the Authority in Bamako by contributing troops to strengthen the capacity of ECOMOG, so that it can more effectively discharge its peace-keeping functions and responsibilities in Liberia, and by contributing generously to the Special Emergency Fund for ECOWAS Operations in Liberia.

#### Formation of an Interim Government

13. The Committee recognised the necessity for the formation of an Interim Government acceptable to the people of Liberia. The Committee noted with pleasure the agreement of all the parties to

participate in the proposed National Conference. The Committee therefore directed the Executive Secretary to make all necessary arrangements to convene this Conference in Monrovia on 15 March 1991.

#### Implementation of ECOWAS Defence Protocols

14. The Committee noted with satisfaction the call of the Heads of State of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Senegal and Togolese Republic during their Tripartite Summit on 28 and 29 January 1991 at Lome, that ECOWAS should make the necessary arrangements that would ensure the speedy implementation of the provisions of the Protocol on Non-aggression of 1978 and the Protocol on Mutual Assistance in Defence Matters of 1981. The Committee expresses its complete agreement with the need to put into operation the Community security system as embodied in these protocols in order to guarantee in the sub-region the peace and security essential for the integration and development of ECOWAS Member States. The Committee, therefore, requested the Executive Secretary to make proposals for achieving the early implementation of these two Protocols, especially the setting up of the organs established under the Protocols.

#### Vote of Thanks

15. The Committee expressed its sincere gratitude to His Excellency General Gnassingbe Eyadema, Founder-Chairman of the Togolese People's Rally (RPT) and President of the Togolese Republic and the entire Togolese Government and People for the very warm and truly African welcome extended to all delegations and for the excellent facilities made available to ensure the success of its meeting.

Done in Lome this 13th day of February, 1991.  
The Committee

#### Text supplied by ECOWAS

**122. Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities and Peaceful Settlement of Conflict Between The Armed Forces of Liberia Represented by Lt-General J. Hezekiah Bowen, of the First Part, and The National Patriotic Front of Liberia Represented by Mr. Charles Ghankay Taylor, of the Second Part, and The Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia Represented by Mr. Prince Yeduo Johnson, of the Third Part, Lome, Togo,  
13 February 1991**

*Aware* of the armed conflict between the parties to the conflict;

*Recognising* the loss of human lives and massive destruction of properties and the displacement of persons occasioned by the said conflict;

*Considering* the damage in various forms being caused by the armed conflict to the peace and security of the entire Liberian nation;

*Determined* to arrive at a peaceful and lasting settlement to the dispute through negotiations and to put an end to the situation which is seriously disrupting the normal life of the peaceful people of Liberia; and

*Convinced* that the ECOWAS Standing Mediation Committee established by the Authority of Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States at its Thirteenth Session held from 28 to 30 May 1990 in Banjul, The Gambia, and the decisions of the First Extra-ordinary Session of the Authority held in Bamako, Mali, from 27 to 28 November 1990, provide an appropriate mechanism for conducting such peace negotiations.

Hereby agrees as follows:

*Article 1  
Cease-fire*

1. Each party hereby agrees to take immediately and as a contribution to the restoration and maintenance of peace and security throughout Liberia the following measures:

- (a) cease all hostilities of military and paramilitary nature, immediately upon the signature of this Agreement;
- (b) refrain from importing or acquiring or assisting or encouraging the importation and acquisition of weapons or war materials;
- (c) confine its troops to positions to be determined by the ECOWAS Cease-fire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) in consultation with the parties, and agree that ECOMOG and two representatives of each of the parties may jointly inspect all ships calling at any Liberian port and all vehicles and aircraft entering through the land borders, airfields and other entry points of Liberia to ensure that the provisions of this Cease-fire Agreement are being respected and observed;
- (d) assist ECOMOG in the drawing up of a buffer zone to separate the opposing forces and of standard operating procedures (SPOs) for check-point operations;
- (e) release all hostages, political prisoners and prisoners of war;
- (f) co-operate with all humanitarian agencies in their efforts to provide relief and assistance to the people of Liberia; and also agree to respect the Red Cross (Geneva) Conventions;
- (g) fully co-operate with the ECOWAS Standing Mediation Committee, the ECOWAS Executive Secretariat and the ECOWAS Cease-fire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) for the effective maintenance of the cease-fire and the restoration of peace;
- (h) upon that formation of the future Interim Government, the said government shall take appropriate measures, with the assistance of ECOWAS, to bring disarming [sic] the warring parties.

2. In order to arrive at a peaceful and lasting settlement of the dispute, the parties hereby accept the ECOWAS Cease-fire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) established under the authority of the Chairman of the Authority of Heads of State and Government of ECOWAS and under the command of an ECOWAS Member State.

3. ECOMOG shall be as presently constituted and may include military contingents from Member States of ECOWAS able and willing to contribute.

*Article 2  
Compliance with this Agreement*

The parties undertake to observe strictly the terms of this Agreement and to abstain from any action likely to impede the mediation process or the return of Liberia to peace and stability.

*Article 3  
Annex - Modalities for Monitoring the Implementation of the Cease-fire Agreement by ECOMOG*

The Annex to this Agreement shall form an integral part of this Agreement.

*Article 4  
Entry into Force*

This Agreement is done in four original copies in the English and French languages, each copy being equally authentic. It shall enter into force upon signature by the duly mandated representatives of the parties hereto.

Done in Lome, Togolese Republic, this 13th day of February, 1991

(Signed): [signatures illegible]

For and on behalf of:

The Armed Forces of Liberia

The National Patriotic Front of Liberia

The Independent National Patriotic Front of Liberia

Witnessed by:

His Excellency Alhaji Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara, President of the Republic of The Gambia and Chairman of the Standing Mediation Committee

#### *Annex*

#### Modalities for Monitoring the Implementation of the Cease-fire Agreement by the ECOMOG

1. *Prerequisite for Effective Cease-fire Monitoring.* The success of the implementation of the cease-fire and its monitoring will hinge on the co-operation of every party with ECOMOG. It is therefore essential that every soldier from all the parties involved in the Liberian crisis is thoroughly briefed and educated on the following points:

- (a) All aspects of the Cease-fire Agreement;
- (b) Modalities to be agreed upon for monitoring the cease-fire by ECOMOG;
- (c) The expected reaction to violation of any aspect of the Cease-fire Agreement by other parties;
- (d) Thorough knowledge of ECOMOG soldiers by the soldiers of the warring parties.

2. *Reporting Cease-fire Violation.* The violation of any aspects of the Cease-fire Agreement constitute a very serious breach and must be reported promptly to ECOMOG with the following details:

- (a) Time of violation;
- (b) Parties involved;
- (c) Locations of parties involved;
- (d) Detailed description of type of violation;
- (e) If weapon fired, state number of and type of ammunition fired;
- (f) Type of weapon used and effect;
- (g) Casualty and damage caused.

3. A logbook should be kept to record details of all incidences of cease-fire violation, and such reports will be investigated promptly by ECOMOG and resolved.

4. *Method and Channel of Communication.* The Cease-fire Agreement and its monitoring modality will enable ECOMOG troops to operate detachments in the areas held by the various warring parties. In this case communication shall be by:

- (a) Contact through liaison personnel;
- (b) Radio through agreed working channel.

5. *Disarmament Exercise.* In order to eliminate totally incidents of violations of the Cease-fire Agreement and to avoid indiscriminate spread of arms which can be used in crimes, all troops belonging to the parties in the Liberian conflict must be disarmed. While it is desirable to disarm all parties immediately, the exercise will be carried out in a flexible manner according to the security situation as determined by ECOMOG. However the following procedure is envisaged:

- a. *Concentration of Troops.* Designated areas that are easily accessible and within operating distances of troops shall be earmarked in the AO of the three parties in the

Liberian conflict to assemble their troops. Adequate information shall be mounted to educate troops about the locations of these assembly areas and time of exercise. Visible signposting to the assembly areas shall be provided. Assembly periods shall be restricted to the hours of daylight only. The following locations are envisaged for the concentration of troops:

- (1) AFL BTC - Monrovia  
Camp Scheifflin
- (2) INPFL Caldwell Base - Monrovia
- (3) NPFL Fire Stone (Bong way) Bong  
Naama - Bong County  
Salala (Bong County) Ganta - Nimba Gbarnga - Maj Mil Bong  
Ijenta Teedi  
Zwedru (4 Bn) Grand Gedeh  
Toedi-Mesurado

b. *Disarmament Programme.* A timetable for the disarmament programme is attached as Annex A. Timetable covers reasonable and realistic periods that will allow the assembly of troops and their total disarmament.

c. *Policy on Turning in of Weapons.* All weapons and ammunitions of all categories shall be brought to the assembly areas and handed over to ECOMOG personnel by individual troops. Adequate storage facility shall be provided to protect weapons before evacuation.

d. *Registration/Classification of Troops and Weapons.* ECOMOG reception centres shall be created near each assembly point to carry out documentation exercise. Reception centres should be equipped to provide some form of entertainment to troops and with adequate staff to carry out:

- (1) Registration of troops and surrendered weapons;
- (2) Classification of troops i.e. wounded, sick, etc.;
- (3) Transportation of troops to reception centres and weapons to holding centres.

6. *Reception Centres.* Reception centres shall be established at convenient places to receive troops. These centres will constitute the first stage of trying to rehabilitate the soldiers and would be largely approached in the following manner:

- (a) Initial sorting-out exercise to determine those to go back to school and those requiring vocational training;
- (b) Humanitarian organisations to provide relief materials, medical services and food;
- (c) Provision of adequate transportation to move personnel to their various places of residence.

7. *Maintenance of the Cease-fire.* The Cease-fire shall be supervised and maintained by ECOMOG forces through the following actions:

- (a) Immediate takeover of the Roberts International Airport and the Buchanan port, and progressively to other ports and airfields;
- (b) Establishment of road blocks and check points at selected strategic locations and border towns;

- (c) Extensive patrolling of the countryside to ensure free flow of traffic;
- (d) Provision of security escorts and transport by ECOMOG to move displaced persons into their places of abode;
- (e) Provision of security escorts by ECOMOG to humanitarian organisations in the distribution of relief materials;
- (f) Occasional air reconnaissance.

8. The provisions of Paragraph 7 above will be implemented as soon as the Interim Government is formed at the National Conference to be held on 15 March 1991.

9. Pending the setting up of the Interim Government, ECOMOG will be responsible for maintaining and monitoring the cease-fire in liaison with the Technical Committee. This monitoring will cover the whole territory including seaports, airports and all entry points into the country.

10. The Technical Committee is composed of the ECOMOG Field Commander or his representative and a representative of each of the three (3) warring parties.

#### *Annex A*

1. Event: Meeting of warring parties to work out modalities for cease-fire. Venue: Executive Pavilion. Remarks: To work out the modalities for cease-fire and agree on programme implementation.

2. Event: Confinement of troops. Venue: Units Concentration Areas. Remarks: Units and Formation Headquarters to enforce confinement.

3. Event: Takeover of security at Robertsfield Airport, Buchanan Port and opening Liberian borders with Sierra Leone, Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire. Venue: Various locations. Remarks: Facilitate repatriation of Liberians and humanitarian, economic and improve the return to normalcy.

4. Event: Move to reception centres in batches for disarmament, registration and encampment, recognition of ECOMOG soldiers by the soldiers of warring parties. Thorough education of troops on the cease-fire need and details. Provision of relief materials.

5. Event: Documentation of troops to plan recreation and entertainment and balanced feeding as well as detailed documentation of arms for safekeeping. Venue: Respective concentration areas. Remarks: Troops to be classified into fit, unfit, wounded, sick, etc. while weapons will be classified by calibres.

6. Event: Vigorous patrols by ECOMOG troops throughout Liberia including establishment of check points. Venue: All countries. Remarks: To allow for freedom of movement of goods, services and deter armed robbery.