

## **COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE PEACE TALKS ON LIBERIA HELD AT GENEVA 10TH TO 17TH JULY, 1993**

### **Begins**

At the invitation of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, on behalf of H.E. President Nicephore Soglo, current Chairman of ECOWAS, and Dr. Salim A. Salim, Secretary-General of OAU, the parties to the Liberian conflict met in Geneva, Switzerland from 10th to 17th July, 1993 to take part and fully participate in Liberia Peace Talks aimed at ending three (3) and a half years of civil war.

These talks were held under the co-chairmanship of Mr. Trevor Gordon-Somers, Special Representative of UN Secretary-General on Liberia, President Canaan Banana, Eminent Person, OAU and Dr. Abbas Bundu, Executive Secretary of ECOWAS.

This historical meeting provided a unique opportunity for the three parties to engage in a friendly and conciliatory dialogue among themselves with a view to advancing the search for a peaceful and lasting settlement of the Liberian crisis in accordance with ECOWAS Peace Plan and Yamoussoukro Accords.

The Parties adopted an Agreement containing decisions with respect to political, military, humanitarian and refugee repatriation issues. This Agreement will be signed by the leaders of the Parties during the ECOWAS Summit in Cotonou, Benin, on 24th July, 1993.

### **Political**

The Agreement on political issues reaffirmed that the Yamoussoukro Accords provide the best framework for peace. It was agreed that Liberia would be unified under a civil Transitional Government to run for a period of seven months. Various proposals were made with respect to the Executive, Judiciary and Legislative branches of government, with decisions in some cases deferred for consultation among the leaders of the parties.

### **Military**

The Agreement on military issues contained conditions for a cease-fire, the establishment of a supervisory and monitoring authority, bringing together representatives of the three parties, ECOMOG, and UN Observer Mission. Attention was given to monitoring of cease-fire violations and the process of disarmament, encampment and demobilization consistent with the terms and conditions of the ECOWAS Peace Plan and the Yamoussoukro Accords.

### **Humanitarian Assistance**

The Parties agreed that every effort should be made to deliver humanitarian assistance to all Liberians particularly children, who are malnourished and suffering from related diseases. Convoys of humanitarian assistance should travel to all areas of Liberia through the most direct routes.

## **Repatriation of Refugees**

UNHCR presented to the Parties a summary of their plans for refugees repatriation and re-integration in the country. UNHCR called specific attention to the need for security and protection of United Nations staff working in the country. The Parties called upon the United Nations, particularly UNHCR, to carry out the necessary planning and resource mobilisation to facilitate a speedy return of refugees to Liberia.

**Signed:**

**G. Baccus Matthews**

**Momolu Sirleaf**

**Alhaji Kromah**