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LETTER DATED 12 NOVEMBER 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF BURKINA FASO TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE
PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith for the information of the Security Council the press release (see annex) and the document entitled "Proposals for a framework agreement for a peaceful settlement of the dispute between Eritrea and Ethiopia", resulting from the meeting in Ouagadougou on 7 and 8 November 1998 on the conflict between Eritrea and Ethiopia.

The press release only may be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Michel KAFANDO
Ambassador

Annex

Press release issued by the Organization of African Unity

The High-level Delegation of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) on the dispute between Eritrea and Ethiopia met in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, on 7 and 8 November 1998, under the chairmanship of Mr. Blaise Compaoré, President of Burkina Faso and current Chairman of OAU. Mr. Hassan Gouled Aptidon, President of the Republic of Djibouti, and Mr. Robert Gabriel Mugabe, President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, also took part in the meeting. Mr. Salim Ahmed Salim, Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity also took part in the meeting.

The Secretary-General of the United Nations was represented by Ambassador Mohamed Sahnoun as observer.

The High-level Delegation of OAU considered and adopted a set of proposals constituting the elements of a framework agreement for a peaceful settlement of the dispute between Eritrea and Ethiopia. The proposals were communicated to Mr. Isaias Afewerki, President of the State of Eritrea, and Mr. Meles Zenawi, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia by the current Chairman of OAU on behalf of the High-level Delegation.

The two leaders were received separately by the High-level Delegation, which heard their preliminary comments and provided clarification on some aspects of the proposals, as requested by the parties.

The High-level Delegation reaffirmed to the two parties its total commitment to continue its endeavours, and urged them to convey to it in due course their definitive response to the proposals submitted to them.

In the meantime, the delegation renews its appeal to the two parties to continue to exercise maximum restraint.

The High-level Delegation of OAU is most appreciative of the confidence placed in the Organization by the two parties.

The Delegation will submit a report on its endeavours to the Central Organ of the OAU Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution at its next summit session.
