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LETTER DATED 22 AUGUST 1997 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED  
TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a press communiqué on the Lockerbie issue that was issued by the heads of State of Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali and the Niger following the five-Power summit Conference held in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya at the invitation of Colonel Muammar Qaddafi, Leader of the Great Revolution of 1 September, from 15 to 17 August 1997.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abuzed Omar DORDA  
Permanent Representative

Annex

Press communiqué concerning the Lockerbie issue, issued in  
Tripoli on 17 August 1997 by the heads of State of Burkina  
Faso, Chad, Mali and the Niger

In conjunction with the five-Power summit conference of heads of State and Leaders held in Tripoli from 15 to 17 August 1997, President Blaise Compaoré of Burkina Faso, President Idriss Déby of the Republic of Chad, President Alpha Oumar Konaré of the Republic of Mali and President Ibrahim Barré Maïnassara of the Republic of the Niger considered the dispute between the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on the one hand, and the United States and the United Kingdom on the other. They did so in the light of the relevant resolutions adopted by the Organization of African Unity meeting in Harare in June 1997, in particular, and of those of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the League of Arab States and the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, while recalling the efforts made by those organizations with a view to reaching a just and constructive solution through dialogue and by mutual accord.

The Presidents again express their concern at the maintenance of the sanctions, which have adverse consequences for the economies of their countries. They express their concern, in particular, at the human suffering and material damage being sustained by the Libyan people owing to the sanctions. The Presidents of Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali and the Niger applaud the positive positions adopted by the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the initiatives it has taken, and they address an urgent appeal to the international community to support all possible measures for a just and definitive solution to this dispute. They call, in particular, on United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan to send a special fact-finding mission to Libya to acquaint itself with the suffering being endured by the people of the Great Jamahiriya owing to the embargo imposed upon it by the Security Council.

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