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CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

Letter dated 18 September 1990 from the Permanent Representative of
Italy to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit the text, in English and French, of the statement on Ethiopia, issued by the Twelve States members of the European Community, on 14 September 1990 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under item 30 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Vieri TRAXLER
Ambassador

* A/45/150 and Corr.1.

ANNEX

Statement on Ethiopia, issued by the Twelve States members
of the European Community

The Community and its member States are following with deep concern developments in Ethiopia and are alarmed at the continuation of the civil war and the intolerable drain of men and resources which condemns the country to a pattern of destruction and permanent misery.

They strongly regret the interruption of the negotiations and the pursuit of a military solution to problems that are political in essence and that therefore call for negotiated solutions.

The Community and its member States earnestly urge all parties to the conflict to work urgently towards a resumption of the negotiations aimed at peaceful settlement between the Ethiopian Government and the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) and the Tigre People's Liberation Front (TPLF).

They welcome the meeting of the six countries of the Intergovernmental Authority for Drought and Development (IGADD) and their efforts to improve mutual relations. They note with interest the proposal for an international conference on the Horn of Africa, which they consider could be useful for a global settlement of the problems of the region.

The Community and its member States note with deep concern the deadlock in the talks concerning the utilization of the Port of Massawa, which is vital for the effective provision of aid to the population in the north of the country. The Community and its member States hope that all the parties concerned in this humanitarian effort will agree on an operational plan for the distribution of food relief through Massawa. They reiterate their conviction that the settlement of this matter is crucial and most urgent for the relief of the victims of war and famine.
