

PRESS RELEASE

The SADC Ministerial Delegation led by the Foreign Minister of the Republic of South Africa, Mr. Alfred N20, and comprising Mr. Jakaya Kikwete, Foreign Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania, Dr. Leonardo Santos Simao, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Mozambique, Mr. Keli S. Walubita, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Zambia and Mr. Joe Modise, Minister of Defence of the Republic of South Africa, held extensive consultations in Addis Ababa, with the Secretary General of the OAU, Dr. Salim Ahmed Salim, On the situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The Ministers and the Secretary General expressed concern at the gravity of the unfolding situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo. They stressed the importance of finding a speedy political solution to the current conflict in the Congo emphasizing that such a solution is in the best interest of the Congolese people, the region and the continent as a whole. In this respect, both the Ministerial delegation and the Secretary General underscored the urgent need of securing an end to the hostilities through the establishment of a ceasefire, a troop stand-still and the initiation of a peaceful process of political dialogue as provided for in the Pretoria Communique of the SADC Summit held on 23 August 1998.

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August 1998 left today.

Addis Ababa, 27 August 1998

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