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SECRETARIAT EXECUTIF DE L'ORGANISATION EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT OF THE ORGANIZATION  
DE L'UNITE AFRICAINE AUX NATIONS UNIES OF AFRICAN UNITY TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
346 EAST 50TH STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022  
TELEPHONE (212) 319-5490 TELEX 425084 ORGA UI  
TELEFAX (212) 319-7135

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The Secretary General of the Organization of African Unity, Dr. Salim ahmed Salim, has warmly welcomed the signing in Arusha, Tanzania on January 9, 1993, of the Protocol on Power-Sharing within a broad-based transitional government, between the Government of Rwanda and the Rwandese Patriotic Front.

The Secretary General noted that an interim protocol on power-sharing between the two parties had been signed in Arusha on October 30, 1992 covering such transitional institutions as the Presidency and the Cabinet. The Protocol on Power-Sharing now completes the Power-Sharing agreement with respect to the transitional and the Transitional National Assembly.

Dr. Salim pointed out that the Protocol on Power-Sharing is the culmination of complex and protracted negotiations between the two parties, with the active participation of the Republic of Tanzania as facilitator and the OAU as coordinator of the talks. He noted also that there were observers from the United States, France, Belgium, Germany, and the United Nations.

The Secretary General described the signing of the protocol as a major step in on-going efforts to restore peace and stability to war-torn Rwanda. He appealed to both parties to the conflict, to respect and implement the provisions of all the agreements that have been signed in Arusha, to consolidate the peace that was restored to Rwanda with the signing of the cease-fire agreement CH1 July' 12, 1992.

Dr. Salim stressed in conclusion that the agreements may not be perfect instruments for lasting peace, but that it was up to the parties involved to make a success of them, by respecting and implementing them faithfully, in letter and spirit. He urged the two parties to the conflict to use the protocols as a basis for reaching further agreements on the outstanding issues on their agenda, namely, the issue of the repatriation and resettlement of the refugees, as well as the creation of a new national army. He assured the two parties to the negotiations of the OAU's continued interest and assistance, as the negotiations proceed to their final phase;?

New York, January 11, 1993