



Organization of African Unity

The Secretary General

CAB/SG/MISC/303.91

26th August 1991

Your Excellency,

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

REPORT OF THE OAU SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE ACTIVITIES
OF THE NEUTRAL MILITARY OBSERVER GROUP (NMOG)
IN RWANDA, NOV. 1990 - AUGUST 1991

On 1st October 1990, a group of Rwandese exiles later identified as members of the Rwandese Patriotic Front, launched an armed attack on Rwanda. Subsequently, diplomatic initiatives at regional and International levels were undertaken with a view to diffusing the conflict and working out modalities for a definitive end to it.

Your Excellency will recall that as part of these initiatives, the President of Zaire, H.E. Marshall Mobutu Sese Seko, convened in Gbadolite, a Summit Meeting which was attended by the Presidents of Burundi, Rwanda and Uganda.

That Summit which took place on 26th October 1990, inter alia agreed to establish a Team of Neutral Military Observers to observe the ceasefire, drawn from Burundi, Uganda and Zaire to be joined by representatives from the Government of Rwanda and the armed opposition. The Summit placed that Team under my supervision as Secretary-General of the Organisation of African Unity.

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Pursuant to that mandate, I appointed Brigadier Hashim Mbita, The Executive Secretary of the OAU Liberation Committee to be my personal representative and to Head the Team of Neutral Military Observers. From November last year until the present, Brigadier Mbita and his Team of Observers have been in Rwanda trying their best and against the many odds to discharge the responsibilities placed upon them by the Gbadolite Summit. I have the honour to submit to Your Excellency, a report on the activities of the Neutral Military Observer Group from November 1990 to the present. As Your Excellency will note and notwithstanding the limited results achieved so far, the work of the group remains central to the building of Mutual trust and confidence among the parties to the conflict-confidence which is indispensable in the conclusive resolution of the conflict and restoration of peace and promotion of national Unity in Rwanda.

I wish to draw the attention of Your Excellency, in particular to the observations, conclusions and recommendations contained in paragraphs 88 to 95 of the report. I strongly believe that a thorough consideration of and decision on the issues raised in these paragraphs is very necessary if the work of the Observer Group is to be expedited and the prospects for settling the conflict in Rwanda enhanced.

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I trust Your Excellency will spare no effort to ensure that the momentum for peace in Rwanda which was triggered by the Mwanza Summit and sustained through the various summits, is not allowed to dissipate, and that the cause of peace in that country is firmly kept on course.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration and deep esteem.

SALIM AHMED SALIM

H.E. Alhaji Ali Hassan Mwinyi
President of the United
Republic of Tanzania
