



EALA/004/2003

EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY SEEKING TO ESTABLISH A COMMITTEE WITH THE MANDATE TO NEGOTIATE FOR AN END TO THE VIOLENCE IN NORTHERN UGANDA

By: Hon. Dan Wandera Ogalo (MLA) and adopted by the Assembly on Wednesday, May 21, 2003.

THAT, THIS ASSEMBLY:

NOTING that Article 5 of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community provides that one of the objectives of the Community is the promotion of peace, security and stability within the Partner States;

NOTING FURTHER that under Article 124 of the Treaty the Partner States agreed to foster and maintain an atmosphere that is conducive to peace and security through co-operation and consultations on issues pertaining to peace and security of the Partner States with a view of preventing disputes and conflicts between them;

AND FURTHER NOTING that Article 123 (4) (d) of the Treaty provides that the Partner States shall pursue the objective of a common security policy by *inter alia*, peaceful resolution of disputes and conflicts between and within the Partner States;

AND NOTING that Article 6 of the Treaty provides that peaceful settlement of disputes is one of the fundamental principles, which shall govern the achievements of the objectives of the community;

AND AWARE that the conflict has been going on in Northern Uganda for more than seventeen years with the Government of Uganda trying to resolve the conflict in two different ways; through peaceful settlement and through force;

AND FURTHER AWARE that the Government of Uganda enacted the Amnesty Act 2001 with the hope that it would bring an end to the conflict;

AND FURTHER AWARE that various initiatives have been taken in an attempt to end the conflict by various actors including the Government, political leaders (national and local), religious and traditional leaders, and civil society organisations;

AND recognizing with appreciation the personal efforts H.E. President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda has committed to finding a lasting solution to this problem;

THIS ASSEMBLY having visited the district of Gulu in the month of March 2003 and having met with H.E. the President of Uganda, local leaders and other stakeholders, who expressed willingness to work with the East African Legislative Assembly and other organs of the East African Community in seeking a resolution to the conflict; and having been assured by H.E. President Museveni that a Summit of Heads of State of East Africa shall be convened within the district of Gulu to discuss the conflict;

AND FURTHER having witnessed the terrible conditions under which the people affected by the conflict are living;

AND FURTHER AWARE of its devastating impact on the peoples and economies of the sub-region, and consequently on the development of Uganda and East Africa as a whole; and

AWARE of the complexities of factors outside the Partner States impacting on the conflict;

NOW THEREFORE DO RESOLVE that the Council of Ministers recommends to the Summit the following measures aimed at bringing an end to the conflict, that:

- (a) Each Partner State appoints eminent persons to form the "East African Community Peace Committee for Uganda;"
- (b) The Speaker nominates three Members of the East African Legislative Assembly to be part of the said Committee; and
- (c) The Summit appoints a Technical Team to assist the Peace Committee.

FURTHER THAT:

- (d) The Council of Ministers draws up Terms of Reference for the Peace Committee for approval by the Summit;
- (e) The Council of Ministers do report to the Assembly on the progress within one month from the date of passing of this Resolution;

- (f) The Council of Ministers do give priority to this Resolution; and
- (g) The Council appoints with approval of the Summit a permanent Peace Commission for the East African Community.

CERTIFIED BY:

Team
..... **DATE:** *21 / May / 2003*

Kenneth Madete
AG. CLERK