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LETTER DATED 2 JUNE 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF UGANDA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions of my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a joint communiqué issued by the Government of Uganda and a delegation from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (see annex). This is a further demonstration of Uganda's commitment to a solution of the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. This joint communiqué further clarifies Uganda's position on the current situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Prof. SEMAKULA KIWANUKA
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Uganda
to the United Nations

Annex

Joint communiqué

1. At the invitation of the Government of the Republic of Uganda, a delegation from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, led by the Honourable Mwenze Kongolo, Minister of Justice, paid a working visit to Uganda from 28 May to 1 June 1999. The President of the Republic of Uganda, His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, granted audience to the Government delegation of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Democratic Republic of the Congo Government delegation held discussions with their Ugandan counterparts on the practical modalities for the implementation of the Sirte Peace Agreement signed in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya on 18 April 1999. The list of the two delegations appears in the annex.

2. As a result of the discussions, the following positions were adopted:

(a) It was noted that the Sirte Peace Agreement is a declaration of Commitment to the ongoing Lusaka regional peace process. In this respect, the two delegations reaffirmed their commitment to the strengthening of the Sirte spirit by implementing the broad principles stipulated in the Agreement;

To this effect, the two delegations committed themselves to setting up a Committee of Experts that will work out practical modalities for the implementation of the aforementioned Agreement. The two delegations agreed to promote in the shortest time possible, the Sirte spirit to all the parties involved in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(b) The two Governments would convince their respective allies to recognize the principles in the Sirte Agreement in order for all the parties involved in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to contribute to a comprehensive and durable Peace Agreement;

(c) The two delegations underscored the fact that the issue of the killers and mass murderers remains thorny in the implementation of the Sirte Agreement;

(d) The two delegations concurred that sustainable peace, security and stability can only be achieved through real democracy in all the countries of the region. This implies putting in place concrete steps towards the realization of good governance. The meeting therefore, welcomed the efforts being made by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to meet armed and unarmed opposition and its commitment to opening national dialogue. In a like manner, the two delegations encouraged Uganda to do the same;

Uganda will continue to encourage the armed and unarmed opposition to take part in the initiatives taken by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in its efforts to democratize the country;

(e) The two delegations further agreed that the anticipated peacekeeping should in the meantime, study the situation on the ground for the eventual deployment;

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(f) The two delegations will meet in Kinshasa after the discussions by the Experts. The date of the meeting will be set through the normal diplomatic channels.

3. The meeting took place in a frank and brotherly atmosphere.

4. At the end of the visit, the Congolese delegation thanked the Ugandan Government for its warm welcome and hospitality, and for the commitment to the search for a peaceful settlement of the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Signed at Kampala on 1 June 1999.

For the Democratic Republic
of the Congo

(Signed) Hon. Mwenze Kongolo
Minister of Justice

For the Republic of Uganda

(Signed) Hon. Amama Mbabazi
Minister of State for Foreign
Affairs (Regional Cooperation)

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Appendix I

Delegation of the Government of Uganda

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| 1. | Hon. Amama Mbabazi | Minister of State for Foreign
Affairs (Regional Cooperation) |
| 2. | Mr. Ralph Ochan | Permanent Secretary/Ministry of
Foreign Affairs |
| 3. | Col. Henry Tumukunde | Chief of Military Intelligence |
| 4. | Mr. Basho Ndinyenka | Deputy Director General of External
Security Organisation |
| 5. | H.E. Kamanda Bataringaya | Ambassador of Uganda to the
Democratic Republic of the Congo |
| 6. | Mr. Katende Mull | Head of East African Cooperation and
Ring States |
| 7. | Mr. Kagamba J. Singoma | Interpreter |

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Appendix IIDelegation of the Government of the Democratic Republic
of the Congo

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| 1. | Hon. Mwenze Kongolo | Minister of Justice |
| 2. | Hon. Bemba Saolona | Minister of Economy and Industry |
| 3. | Hon. Constantin Nono Lutula | Special Adviser to the President
on Security |
| 4. | Mrs. Isabelle Iboula | Chargé d'Affaires of the DRC Embassy
in Uganda |
| 5. | Mr. Nsenga Nkulu | Chief of Staff/Ministry of Justice |
| 6. | Mr. Mundadi Ntita | Interpreter |
| 7. | Mr. Katalay Manyeka | Personal Assistant to the Minister
of Economy and Industry |
| 8. | Mr. Ngwale Richard | Counsellor of the Embassy of DRC
in Uganda |
