United Nations S/PRST/2000/33



Distr.: General 16 November 2000

Original: English

Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 4224th meeting of the Security Council, held on 16 November 2000, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Letter dated 10 November 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Solomon Islands to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council strongly supports the Townsville Peace Agreement, concluded on 15 October 2000 (S/2000/1088), for the cessation of hostilities between the Malaita Eagle Force and the Isatabu Freedom Movement and for the restoration of peace and ethnic harmony in Solomon Islands.

"The Security Council encourages all parties to cooperate in promoting reconciliation, so that the objectives of the Townsville Peace Agreement can be met, and urges all parties to continue to cooperate in accordance with the Townsville Peace Agreement, namely, to restore and maintain peace and ethnic harmony, to renounce the use of armed force and violence, to settle their differences through consultation and peaceful negotiation and to confirm their respect for human rights and the rule of law.

"The Security Council commends those countries in the region who have supported the resolution of the conflict, and welcomes the establishment, as outlined in the Townsville Peace Agreement, of the International Peace Monitoring Team composed of unarmed military personnel and civilian police from Australia and New Zealand, the mandate of which is based on Annex II of the said Agreement and agreed by the parties. It also encourages other nations, in particular those in the region, to participate and assist in the implementation of this peace agreement."

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