

**Security Council**

Distr.: General
11 July 2000

Original: English

Letter dated 7 July 2000 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that your report on Ethiopia and Eritrea, dated 30 June 2000 (S/2000/643), has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council, as have the official communications from the Governments of Eritrea (S/2000/612) and Ethiopia (S/2000/627) requesting United Nations assistance to implement the Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities, signed on 18 June 2000 in Algiers.

The members of the Security Council endorse your decision to dispatch reconnaissance and liaison teams to the region. They note that these teams will expedite planning and coordination activities to facilitate start-up of a possible peacekeeping mission as may be authorized in a future decision by the Council. The members of the Council request the Secretary-General to take the other administrative steps necessary to prepare for such a possible peacekeeping mission.

The members of the Security Council express their readiness to consider swiftly further steps to be taken by the Council pursuant to the recommendations contained in your report of 30 June 2000 and any subsequent reports based on the assessment of the reconnaissance teams.

The members of the Security Council would be grateful if you could inform the Council on further developments to assist its consideration of the situation between Eritrea and Ethiopia.

(Signed) Patricia **Durrant**
President of the Security Council