

February, 1978. The Hague, Netherlands

Delegation: Ethiopia (SHAPE American School, Mons, Belgium)

Opening Address to the 10th Session of the Model United Nations

Greetings: Chairman, Secretary General, distinguished guests, and fellow delegates. This year, as we open the 10th session of these United Nations, we, the nations of the world, are faced with many serious problems. There is unrest in the Middle East, oppression in South Africa, and an serious aggression in the Horn of Africa.

We ourselves have borne the worst of this unwarranted aggression. The Somalis have attacked our country savagely and without reason. They used our people, as an excuse to take our land by force. We have held the Somalis back, with the help of some of our generous and wise fellow nations. The leaders of the Soviet Union and a Cuba plainly see Somalia for what she is: an unethical, land hungry aggressor. They stopped their support of her violence. Ethiopia calls upon the nations assembled here to realize the truth of Somalia's aggression, and to withhold all aid.

The Ethiopian nation has been badly scarred as a result of the Somalis war. Our border towns have been bombed and mortared; much of our land is in ruins. We are spending our resources defending ourselves, yet we must have funds to rebuild. We will need UN aid to rebuild our shattered cities and make our farmlands usable again. Ethiopia must have UN funds to re-house her people to rebuild her factories and to repair her precious agriculture.

And to do all this we need peace. Our fellow nations should see this necessity for this. We appeal to all the nations assembled here to acknowledge Somalia as the clear and unjustified aggressor. Economic sanctions should be imposed against her. We strongly urge the United Nations to install a peacekeeping force along our border to keep our country safe from the Somalis believed sure it's.. Our nation cannot and will not suffer this violence, Somalia is the aggressor: and we demand that she be branded as such. The League of Nations failed to us once. The question is: is history now going to repeat itself?