

To the Italian Minister
for Foreign Affairs,
ROME.

PARIS, March 27th, 1936.

(Translation)

Your Excellency,

At its meeting on March 23rd, the Committee of Thirteen took note of your Government's communication dated March 8th, in accordance with which "the Italian Government, in response to the appeal which has been addressed to it, agrees in principle to the opening of negotiations concerning the settlement of the Italo-Ethiopian conflict".

After likewise taking cognisance of the reply from the Ethiopian Government, the Committee adopted a resolution which was communicated to you by telegram by the Secretary-General. In accordance with this resolution, the Committee requested "its Chairman, assisted by the Secretary-General, to get into touch with the two Parties and to take such steps as may be called for in order that the Committee may be able, as soon as possible, to bring the two Parties together and, within the framework of the League of Nations and in the spirit of the Covenant, to bring about the prompt cessation of hostilities and the final restoration of peace."

As I am very anxious to carry out as soon as possible the task entrusted by the Committee to its Chairman, assisted by the Secretary-General, I should be grateful if you would let me know when I could meet at Geneva the delegate appointed by your Government.

I should be very glad to be informed of Your Excellency's decision at the earliest possible moment. Your reply to the appeal of the Committee of Thirteen has encouraged the hope that an early peace may be possible, and I feel certain that the Italian Government will do its utmost to facilitate the realisation of this hope.

I have the honour, etc.

(Signed) S. de MADARIAGA,

Chairman of the Committee of Thirteen.