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provisional agenda\*

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Note verbale dated 28 July 1987 from the Permanent Mission  
of Mozambique to the United Nations addressed to the  
Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of Mozambique to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to submit herewith the communiqué issued by the Government of Mozambique on 22 July 1987 (see annex). This Mission requests that this document be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 33, 73, 131, 133 and 140 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

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\* A/42/150.

ANNEX

Communiqué issued by the Government of Mozambique on 22 July 1987

At 5:45 a.m., on 18 July 1987, a large group of bandits attacked a village in the Homoine district, situated around 60 kilometres from the Inhambane provincial capital.

During the attack, the bandits massacred all the people that could not flee. The death toll reached 380. The total number of victims could not be ascertained as yet, in view of the fact that, while escaping, the bandits kidnapped many persons that were later assassinated along the way. Among the victims were children, women and the elderly.

After storming the local hospital, the bandits murdered the patients in cold blood with bayonets. All the patients in the hospital, seriously ill and unable to leave their beds were killed on the spot.

During the brief period that they stayed in the village, the assailants looted shops and private residences, took all the goods they could carry and destroyed those that they could not take with them.

Confronted by the military forces stationed in the region, the bandits escaped early in the afternoon of the same day, leaving behind 16 bodies and large quantities of weapons.

This horrible massacre took place at a time when the bandits, having been harassed by the Mozambican army in the central region of the country, are intensifying their operations in the south.

In the past few months, terrorist activities have been on the rise, mainly in Gaza and Inhambane provinces to the north of Maputo, the capital of the country.

These are but acts of terrorism perpetrated against defenceless populations, as is now the case in Homoine. The bandits indiscriminately murder civilians, children and women alike, and destroy everything they can.

The recurrence of the criminal activities of the armed bandits in the south is taking place after a massive infiltration of armed bandits coming direct from South Africa into Mozambique through the Gaza province. It was preceded by a re-supply of operations by air from South Africa. Recently, several parachutes used for dropping military equipment for the armed bandits operating in Inhambane were recovered.

It is evident that the massacre perpetrated on 18 July in Homoine falls under South Africa's destabilization strategy against the countries of the region and follows other terrorist acts carried out by South Africa, either directly through its armed forces, or through the armed bandits which are just one operational arm of these same forces.

The apartheid régime that continues to supply weapons and ammunitions to the armed bandits, in spite of the peace and good neighbourliness Accord signed with the People's Republic of Mozambique, is truly responsible for the massacre and for all other crimes against humankind of which our people and other peoples of the region are systematically victimized.

In using massive destruction and pure terror, South Africa's strategy is aimed at impeding the development of the countries of the region in order to maintain their dependence on South Africa. It becomes increasingly evident that there can be neither peace nor development in southern Africa as long as the apartheid régime exists.

The Government of Mozambique draws the attention of the international community to this serious situation and the threats that such a situation poses to international peace and security. Only increased pressure by the international community, together with the struggle of the South African people, might persuade the racist régime of Pretoria to desist from its policy of aggression and destabilization and might bring to an end the shameful and anachronistic régime of apartheid.

The Government of Mozambique appeals to the international community to increase support to Mozambique in order to help it face the consequences of the undeclared war of aggression launched by South Africa.

The Government of Mozambique seizes this opportunity to express its gratitude to the international community for the consistent support provided by many countries and peoples to the People's Republic of Mozambique. This support has been crucial in the strengthening of our defence capacity and in minimizing the catastrophic effects of hunger and war.

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