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REPORT BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO  
PARAGRAPH 7 OF SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 435 (1978)  
CONCERNING THE SITUATION IN NAMIBIA

1. At its 2087th and 2088th meetings held on 29 and 30 September 1978, the Security Council considered my report submitted pursuant to paragraph 2 of resolution 431 (1978) concerning the situation in Namibia (S/12827). The Council also had before it the text of an explanatory statement (S/12869) which I made at the 2087th meeting.
2. At its 2087th meeting, the Security Council adopted resolution 435 (1978), the text of which reads as follows:

"The Security Council,

Recalling its resolutions 385 (1976) and 431 (1978), and 432 (1978),

Having considered the report submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 2 of resolution 431 (1978) (S/12827) and his explanatory statement made in the Security Council on 29 September 1978 (S/12869),

Taking note of the relevant communications from the Government of South Africa addressed to the Secretary-General,

Taking note also of the letter dated 8 September 1978 from the President of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) addressed to the Secretary-General (S/12841),

Reaffirming the legal responsibility of the United Nations over Namibia,

1. Approves the report of the Secretary-General (S/12827) for the implementation of the proposal for a settlement of the Namibian situation (S/12636) and his explanatory statement (S/12869);

2. Reiterates that its objective is the withdrawal of South Africa's illegal administration of Namibia and the transfer of power to the people of Namibia with the assistance of the United Nations in accordance with resolution 385 (1976);

3. Decides to establish under its authority a United Nations Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG) in accordance with the above-mentioned report of the Secretary-General for a period of up to 12 months in order to assist his Special Representative to carry out the mandate conferred upon him by paragraph 1 of Security Council resolution 431 (1978), namely, to ensure the early independence of Namibia through free and fair elections under the supervision and control of the United Nations;

4. Welcomes SWAPO's preparedness to co-operate in the implementation of the Secretary-General's report, including its expressed readiness to sign and observe the cease-fire provisions as manifested in the letter from the President of SWAPO dated 8 September 1978 (S/12841);

5. Calls on South Africa forthwith to co-operate with the Secretary-General in the implementation of this resolution;

6. Declares that all unilateral measures taken by the illegal administration in Namibia in relation to the electoral process, including unilateral registration of voters, or transfer of power, in contravention of Security Council resolutions 385 (1976), 431 (1978) and this resolution are null and void;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Security Council no later than 23 October 1978 on the implementation of this resolution."

3. The present report is submitted to the Security Council pursuant to paragraph 7 of the above resolution.

Establishment of a United Nations Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG)

4. In accordance with the Security Council's decision contained in paragraph 3 of its resolution 435 (1978), and with the assistance of my Special Representative, I have initiated action in respect of a review of the necessary administrative and other arrangements regarding UNTAG as a whole, including the military component, within the context of my explanatory statement.

5. Following the Council's decision, a small nucleus of Secretariat staff was detailed to assist the Special Representative in the performance of his duties at Headquarters, pending further developments in relation to the full implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978). The residual administrative and technical staff which remained in Windhoek after the return of the survey mission has continued with the preparatory tasks assigned to it in regard to local administrative arrangements for UNTAG. Throughout this period, I and my Special Representative have been making preliminary contacts with Member States and with the specialized agencies and institutions associated with the United Nations, particularly in regard to the availability of skilled personnel. In this regard, I wish to place on record my appreciation of the co-operative attitude of all concerned.

6. In addition, exploratory consultations with a number of Governments indicate that national contingents of experienced civilian police, selected in accordance

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with the principle of equitable geographical representation, could be made available for service in Namibia as necessary.

7. Further, as indicated in my explanatory statement, I instructed my Special Representative to explore with the Governments of the African States neighbouring Namibia practical ways to facilitate his task. In consultations with the Governments of Angola, Botswana and Zambia, I and my Special Representative have received reiterated assurances of their fullest co-operation in the implementation of resolution 435 (1978).

Question of co-operation by South Africa

8. Immediately following the adoption by the Security Council of its resolution 435 (1978), I communicated the text of the resolution to the Government of South Africa. Further, at meetings held at my request on 30 September and 11 October 1978 with the Chargé d'Affaires of the Republic of South Africa to the United Nations, I discussed questions concerning the implementation of resolution 435 within the context of my explanatory statement.

9. In addition, I entered into further consultations with the five Governments which submitted the proposal for a settlement of the Namibia situation (S/12636), in the light of the assurances which they had given me of their continued good offices to facilitate the implementation of my mandate.

10. The Foreign Ministers of the five Governments concerned, namely Canada, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, held discussions in Pretoria from 16 to 18 October 1978 with the Government of the Republic of South Africa in regard to the implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978). Texts of official communications issued after these discussions have been circulated as Security Council documents S/12900 and S/12902 respectively.

11. On 20 October, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of Canada, accompanied by representatives of the other four Western Governments, on behalf of their Foreign Ministers, informed me of the results of the talks in Pretoria, following which we had an exchange of views on the matter.

In the light of these exchanges of views, I have initiated further consultations with others concerned.

12. Within the context of the mandate entrusted to me by Security Council resolutions 431 (1978) and 435 (1978) respectively, I and my Special Representative are continuing with our endeavours in regard to the issues concerned, within the competence prescribed in the relevant Security Council decisions.

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