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LETTER DATED 12 MARCH 1968 ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF ALGERIA, BOTSWANA, BURUNDI, CAMEROON, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, CHAD, CONGO (BRAZZAVILLE), CONGO (DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF), DAHOMEY, ETHIOPIA, GABON, GHANA, GUINEA, IVORY COAST, KENYA, LESOTHO, LIBERIA, LIBYA, MADAGASCAR, MALI, MAURITANIA, MOROCCO, NIGER, NIGERIA, RWANDA, SENEGAL, SIERRA LEONE, SOMALIA, SUDAN, TCGO, TUNISIA, UGANDA, UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC, UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA, UPPER VOLTA AND ZAMBIA

Upon instructions of our respective Governments, we have the honour to request an urgent meeting of the Security Council to examine the situation in Southern Rhodesia (Zimbabwe).

Your Excellency and members of the Security Council will recall that it has been more than a year since the Council adopted selective mandatory sanctions in its resolution 232 of 16 December 1966.

It is also to be recalled that at the time these measures were contemplated African Governments had expressed the view that they would not bring about the desired result.

After more than a year since these measures had been in operation, it is now obvious that they have failed.

The failure of these measures has been dramatically demonstrated by the recent tragic assassination of political prisoners by the racist régime in Rhodesia. More such assassinations are also planned and expected.

Furthermore, we note with regret that no effort has been made in the meantime by the administering Power - the Government of the United Kingdom - to enter into negotiation with the leaders of the African political parties with a view to establishing a Government which meets the legitimate aspiration of the people of Zimbabwe.

Having regard to these facts and the recent deterioration of the situation, our Governments believe that it is urgently incumbent upon the Security Council to

examine this continuing grave situation which still constitutes a threat to international peace and security and to envisage the necessary measures and action under Chapter VII of the Charter with a view to enabling the people of Southern Rhodesia (Zimbabwe) to exercise their right to self-determination in accordance with resolution 1514 (XV).

(Signed by the representatives of):

ALGERIA	MADAGASCAR
BOTSWANA	MALI
BURUNDI	MAURITANIA
CAMEROON	MOROCCO
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC	NIGER
CHAD	NIGERIA
CONGO (BRAZZAVILLE)	RWANDA
CONGO (DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF)	SENEGAL
DAHOMEY	SIERRA LEONE
ETHIOPIA	SOMALIA
GABON	SUDAN
GHANA	TCGO
GUINEA	TUNISIA
IVORY COAST	UGANDA
KENYA	UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC
LESOTHO	UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
LIBERIA	UPPER VOLTA
LIBYA	ZAMBIA
