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NOTE

Attached are five letters from the Secretary-General addressed to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of South Africa on the subject of Namibia, to which reference is made in the letters from the Foreign Minister to the Secretary-General which were circulated as Security Council documents S/13611, S/13612, S/13614, S/13619 and S/13620.

Annex I

Letter dated 5 November 1979 from the Secretary-General  
to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of South Africa

You will recall that on 1 October a Working Paper entitled "Monitoring and the Establishment of a Demilitarized Zone" was transmitted to your Government in connexion with the question of Namibia. In view of the urgency of the situation I consider it essential to hold high-level simultaneous consultations with the parties concerned at the earliest possible opportunity.

To this end, I should like to invite your Government to be represented at these consultations and would propose that they be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, between 12 and 15 November. Invitations have been extended to the governments of Angola, Botswana, South Africa and Zambia as well as to SWAPO. Invitations to be represented have also been extended to the Governments of Mozambique, Tanzania and to those of the Western Five. From the UN side, I shall be represented by Mr. Brian Urquhart, Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Affairs, Mr. Martti Ahtisaari, my Special Representative for Namibia, and Mr. Abdulrahim Farah, Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Questions, accompanied by senior military and political experts.

It would be the purpose of the consultations to clarify questions arising from the Working Paper, with the implementation of Security Council Resolution 435 (1978) in mind.

Accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Kurt WALDHEIM

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Annex II

Letter dated 7 November 1979 from the Secretary-General  
to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of South Africa

I have the honour to refer to your letter of 7 November, regarding the proposed consultations in Geneva on the question of Namibia.

On receiving your initial response of 12 October, and before issuing the present invitations, I carefully considered your suggestion that South African and United Nations military personnel should jointly examine the issues. As indicated to your Permanent Representative in New York, however, I concluded that the issues had both political and military implications and would, therefore, need to be resolved in the wider context. In arriving at this conclusion, I also considered the questions and views which were conveyed to me by the other parties.

In these circumstances, it appears to me that the most appropriate next step should take the form of high-level consultations in Geneva. During these consultations, all relevant military issues can be considered at an early stage, as part of the wider effort to implement Security Council resolution 435 (1978). It is also my view that the various clarifications to be provided must meet the concerns, not of any one party, but simultaneously, of all involved. To this end, the United Nations delegation will be led by Under-Secretary-General Urquhart, of whose experience in such matters you are no doubt aware. He will be accompanied by senior colleagues and by political and military experts fully familiar with the situation in Namibia. I believe, moreover, that the presence of the Western and front line Governments, with which South Africa and SWAPO negotiated the original settlement proposal (S/12636) will assist in the process of clarification of the matters arising from the Working Paper.

As to the question which you raise concerning representation at the Consultations, it is my view that South Africa remains the interlocutor in regard to Namibia, particularly as your Government has stated that South Africa retains authority in Namibia pending the implementation of the settlement Proposal (S/12950, para. 8).

In the light of these clarifications, I trust that Your Excellency will agree to send an appropriate delegation to Geneva, so that the questions raised by your Government and by others in relation to the Working Paper can be resolved with a view to the implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978). In view of the dates contemplated for the consultations in Geneva, I would appreciate the earliest possible indication of your intentions.

Accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Kurt WALDHEIM

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Annex III

Letter dated 8 November 1979 from the Secretary-General  
to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of South Africa

I have the honour to refer to your letter of 8 November concerning the consultations proposed in Geneva on the question of Namibia.

As indicated in my letter of 7 November, it is my view that the consultations should not merely be exploratory but should seek to resolve the various questions, both political and military, raised by your Government and by others in relation to the Working Paper, with a view to the implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978). Should satisfactory progress towards agreement on the principles of the Working Paper be achieved in Geneva, subsequent discussions could be held as necessary between the competent military and other personnel in order to elucidate practical issues relating to implementation, and to arrange any appropriate reconnaissance in the area.

As regards formal invitations to the Geneva consultations, my view remains as expressed in my letter of 7 November. However, should members of the organizations to which you refer be in Geneva, my representatives would again be prepared to meet with them, as they did in New York in March.

Accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Kurt WALDHEIM

Annex IV

Letter dated 9 November 1979 from the Secretary-General  
to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of South Africa

I have the honour to refer to your letter of 9 November concerning the proposed consultations in Geneva.

Given the background to the negotiations on the question of Namibia and the imperative need to move towards the implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978), I believe it is important that the Geneva consultations make real progress towards agreement on the principles of the Working Paper, and not be viewed merely as a further round of exploratory talks. I realize that the consultations will be conducted on an ad referendum basis.

As regards SWAPO's participation in the consultations, I would refer Your Excellency to the Working Paper. It is evident from it that the co-operation of SWAPO is necessary to the success of the arrangements and this, indeed, is underlined by the questions you have raised in your response of 12 October. It was obvious in the circumstances that SWAPO should be invited to the consultations.

As to the status of SWAPO, Your Excellency will recall that it is a party to the settlement Proposal and has thus always participated in consultations on these matters. I should also like to refer Your Excellency to my report of 29 August 1978 (Document S/12827) which, in dealing with the implementation of resolution 435 (1978), states that UNTAG will act with complete impartiality.

We are proceeding with arrangements for the consultations in Geneva and are looking forward to the participation of your delegation.

Accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Kurt WALDHEIM

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Annex V

Letter dated 12 November 1979 from the Secretary-General  
to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of South Africa

I have the honour to refer to your letter of 10 November 1979 concerning the consultations in Geneva on the question of Namibia, which was communicated to me in the afternoon of 11 November.

In my letters to you of 7 and 8 November 1979, I set out the basis of my position on the matter of the presence during the current consultations in Geneva of the organizations to which you refer. I assume that you will have informed them of my response.

I wish again to make clear that my representatives in Geneva would be happy to meet with the representatives of these organizations in the same manner and with the same access as in March. For purely practical reasons, I have asked the representatives of the Western Five to inform these organizations directly and urgently of the above.

In these circumstances, I very much hope that South Africa will be able, without further delay, to join the consultations which are now under way in Geneva.

Accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Kurt WALDHEIM

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