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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE
SUPPRESSION AND PUNISHMENT OF THE CRIME OF APARTHEID

Views and information submitted by States parties, specialized
agencies and non-governmental organizations in accordance with
Commission on Human Rights resolution 1989/8

Note by the Secretary-General

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REPLIES RECEIVED FROM STATES PARTIES

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MEXICO

[Original: Spanish]

[14 December 1989]

"With reference to paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 43/97, concerning the request for information on the forms of the crime of apartheid, as described in article II of the Convention, committed by transnational corporations operating in South Africa, the position of the Government of Mexico towards the apartheid régime of the Government of South Africa is as follows:

I. General position

Mexico has in various international forums censured the Pretoria Government's policy of apartheid and it has supported the resolutions adopted both by the United Nations Security Council and by the General Assembly that condemn the policies and practices of the racist régime.

Similarly, the Government of Mexico has spoken in favour of broad mandatory sanctions against South Africa, in keeping with Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, and has taken various measures to bring greater pressure to bear on the South African authorities to give up their policies of discrimination, in accordance with the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions.

II. Diplomatic and consular relations

Mexico does not maintain diplomatic or consular relations with South Africa. In accordance with the terms of General Assembly resolution 2671 F (XXV), Mexico closed down its consulate in South Africa in 1974.

III. Economic relations

The Government of Mexico has endeavoured to comply strictly with the resolutions adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in connection with suspending economic, financial, trade and other relations with South Africa.

In this respect, on 30 October 1987 the Official Gazette published a decree whereby it is prohibited to import and export goods originating in or from or destined for South Africa, even if such goods pass through third countries but have their origin in or are destined for South Africa.

Mexico has also fully observed the arms embargo against South Africa imposed by the Security Council in resolution 418 (1977).

Similarly, the Government of Mexico has respected the various General Assembly resolutions concerning the oil embargo against South Africa. To this end, it has been stipulated that Petróleos Mexicanos (PEMEX) contracts for the sale and purchase of crude oil must specify that Mexican crude will be sold only to end-users, the aim being to prevent our petroleum being resold or exchanged. PEMEX must also regularly inform its clients that any operation of this type excludes South Africa and that failure to comply with this obligation would entail termination of the contract.
