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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-first session
Items 19, 27, 29, 33, 36, 70 and
81 of the preliminary list*
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION
ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE
TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES
CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS
AND THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY
CRITICAL ECONOMIC SITUATION IN AFRICA
POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE GOVERNMENT
OF SOUTH AFRICA
QUESTION OF NAMIBIA
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY
DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC
CO-OPERATION

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-first year

Letter dated 25 May 1986 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to
the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose the text of the message of 25 May 1986 from the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Council of Ministers of the USSR to the Heads of State and Government and peoples of Africa on the occasion of Africa Liberation Day.

I request you to arrange for the text of the message to be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 19, 27, 29, 33, 36, 70 and 81 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council, and to bring it to the

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attention of the Council for Namibia, the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Special Committee against Apartheid.

(Signed) V. V. SHUSTOV
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Permanent Mission of the
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Message of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR
and the Council of Ministers of the USSR to the Heads of
State and Government and peoples of Africa on the occasion
of Africa Liberation Day

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Council of Ministers of the USSR heartily congratulate the Heads of State and Government and peoples of Africa on the occasion of Africa Liberation Day.

This Day symbolizes the will of the African peoples to put an end to colonialism and racism on the continent and to defend their sacred right to determine their own fate. The Soviet peoples are in solidarity with the Africans' struggle against colonialism and racism and the neo-colonialist policy of imperialism, and for peace and universal security.

As was emphasized at the Twenty-seventh Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Soviet Union consistently pursues a policy of expanding friendly relations with the newly independent countries and is deeply sympathetic to the aspirations of their peoples. We shall continue in future to build relations with African countries on the basis of equality of rights and strict respect for their independence.

Africa Liberation Day is being celebrated this year in circumstances in which, through the fault of the most aggressive forces of imperialism, there has been a sharp increase in international tension. The attack by the United States of America on a sovereign African State - the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya - is not just an outrage against universal human morality and international law. It is a brazen challenge to the world community as a whole which exposes the aggressive essence of Washington's imperialist and expansionist foreign policy.

With the intention of taking revenge for the loss of its former domination over the African continent, imperialism is seeking to arrogate to itself the right to interfere in the internal affairs of the newly independent States and decide for them how their life should be built and what allies and friends they should choose. For this purpose, it is arming gangs of puppets in Angola and Mozambique, sponsoring aggressive onslaughts by the Pretoria régime against the "front-line" States and conniving at the excesses of the racists in South Africa, where terror against the opponents of apartheid has become the daily norm. The imperialists are intensifying their policy of economic blackmail, and tying ever tighter the noose of debt which is strangling the countries of the continent.

The course of history is irreversible, and the just cause of the African peoples and the patriotic forces of Namibia and South Africa under the leadership of SWAPO and the African National Congress will inevitably triumph. The Soviet peoples understand the desire of the African countries to unite their efforts to overcome the acute socio-economic problems inherited from their colonial past and protect their peoples against predatory neo-colonialist exploitation. The Soviet

Union is in favour of voluntary and equitable trade and economic co-operation with African States, and of the strengthening of their economic security and independence. Together with the African countries, we shall seek to ensure that the special session of the General Assembly on the critical economic situation in Africa develops an effective and comprehensive programme to resolve the continent's economic problems. We are convinced that the solution to the development problems of all newly independent countries lies in the democratization of international economic relations and the establishment of a new international economic order. The achievement of this vital objective is today inseparable from the overall improvement of the world's political climate, the cessation of the arms race and the struggle against imperialism's attempts to transfer its burden to the shoulders of the newly independent States. To this end, it is vital to strive together to establish a comprehensive system of international security, eliminate nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction and prevent the arms race spreading to outer space.

Our country supports the transformation of Africa into a nuclear-free zone and the elimination of foreign military bases on the continent. The attainment of these objectives would make a fitting contribution to the struggle against the stockpiling of lethal weapons and for the prevention of nuclear war. An important role in this noble cause could also be played by such an authoritative forum as the Organization of African Unity, whose role it is to express the aspirations and interests of independent Africa.

We wish the States, Governments and peoples of Africa success in their just struggle against the imperialist policy of diktat and violence, neo-colonial oppression, racism and apartheid, and for freedom and an independent course of development.
