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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-first session
Items 19, 33, 36 and 70 of the
preliminary list*

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON
THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO
COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES
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

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-first year

Letter dated 7 July 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 statement of welcome made by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, N. I. Ryzhkov, on 7 July 1986 to the participants in the International Conference for the Immediate Independence of Namibia.

I request you to arrange for the circulation of this letter and its annex as an official document of the General Assembly, under items 19, 33, 36 and 70 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council, and to bring it to the attention of the United Nations 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. S. SAFRONCHUK
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission
of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
to the United Nations

* A/41/50/Rev.1.

Annex

STATEMENT OF WELCOME DELIVERED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL
OF MINISTERS OF THE USSR, N. I. RYZHKOV, ON 7 JULY 1986 TO THE
PARTICIPANTS IN THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR THE IMMEDIATE
INDEPENDENCE OF NAMIBIA

I extend a warm welcome to the participants in the International Conference for the Immediate Independence of Namibia.

The convening of this forum bears witness to the fact that the speedy liberation of Namibia is a central and urgent aspect of the overall struggle to eliminate the shameful remnants of colonialism on earth.

The racist régime in South Africa, in defiance of the norms of international law and the clearly expressed demands of the United Nations, including those of its Security Council, is continuing its illegal occupation of Namibia, and seeking to break by means of armed force the will of the Namibian people for freedom, independence and national self-determination. With the support of the United States of America and certain other Western Powers, the Pretoria racists are seeking to impose a "solution" to the question of Namibia which would in fact maintain the colonial order in Namibia and permit the continued merciless exploitation of its natural and human resources and the use of Namibian territory for fresh acts of aggression against independent African States.

In order to attain these objectives, South Africa and its Western backers are seeking to prevent United Nations involvement in a Namibian settlement, undermine the internationally recognized basis for the attainment of independence by Namibia embodied in Security Council resolution 435 and other relevant United Nations decisions, and link the question of decolonization in Namibia to issues which bear no relevance to it.

As a result, the Namibian people are still living under the yoke of colonial domination, and an acute hotbed of tension which presents a threat to universal peace persists in southern Africa.

The Soviet Union considers it its international duty to support the anti-colonialist and anti-racist struggle of peoples. In this day and age, solidarity with them is also an important component of efforts to establish a reliable system of universal security. Only on the basis of unconditional respect for the right of each people to freedom and independence can conflict situations be defused and the situation in the world's hot spots stabilized.

The sympathy of the Soviet peoples is wholly on the side of the Namibian people waging a heroic liberation struggle under the leadership of its sole legitimate representative, the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO).

The solution of the question of Namibia brooks no further delay. The Soviet Union is convinced that this question can and must be settled by political means. To this end a situation must be created in which, through the exercise of constant,

persistent and increasing influence both on South Africa and on its Western backers, their implementation of the decisions of the Security Council and of the United Nations as a whole on the question of Namibia is ensured and they are compelled to reckon with the will of the people of Namibia and the vast majority of States of the world.

I am convinced that your Conference will make an enormous contribution to the solution of this important problem and will thus effectively advance the struggle for the liberation of the Namibian people from the yoke of colonialism and racism.

N. RYZHKOV
Chairman of the Council of
Ministers of the USSR
