

UNITED NATIONS



GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



SECURITY
COUNCIL

Distr.
GENERAL

A/35/160
S/13869
1 April 1980
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Thirty-fifth session
Item 28 of the preliminary list*
POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE GOVERNMENT
OF SOUTH AFRICA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-fifth year

Letter dated 27 March 1980 from the Chairman of the Special
Committee against Apartheid to the Secretary-General

I have the honour, on behalf of the Special Committee against Apartheid, to transmit herewith, for the attention of the General Assembly and the Security Council, the Declaration of the International Seminar on an Oil Embargo against South Africa, held at Amsterdam, from 14 to 16 March 1980.

The Special Committee fully endorses the Declaration. It shares the conviction that an effective oil embargo against South Africa is imperative in view of the present situation in southern Africa, and that such an embargo is feasible. It therefore expresses the hope that the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations, Governments and non-governmental organizations will take urgent action in implementation of the Declaration. It stresses the need for action not only by all oil-exporting countries but also by countries which export refined oil products to South Africa, and by countries in which companies involved in the oil industry of South Africa or transporting oil and oil products to South Africa are registered.

The Special Committee considers that a mandatory decision by the Security Council for an oil embargo against South Africa is essential and urgent. It therefore hopes that the Council will consider the matter without delay in accordance with resolution 34/93 F adopted by the General Assembly on 12 December 1979.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and the annex thereto circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 28 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

B. Akporode CLARK
Chairman
of the Special Committee against Apartheid

* A/35/50.

ANNEX

Declaration of the International Seminar on an Oil Embargo
against South Africa

1. The International Seminar on an Oil Embargo against South Africa, organized by the Holland Committee on Southern Africa and the Working Group Kairos, in co-operation with the United Nations Special Committee against Apartheid, met at Amsterdam from 14 to 16 March 1980, with the participation of Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, liberation movements and individual experts.
2. The Seminar recognizes the urgent need for positive and effective international action to secure the implementation of General Assembly resolution 34/93 F of 12 December 1979 on an oil embargo against South Africa.
3. The Seminar declares that sanctions are imperative in view of the growing threat to international peace and security posed by the apartheid régime in South Africa. In defiance of international law, the Pretoria régime persists in the criminal policy of apartheid and continues its illegal occupation of Namibia. The peace of the area is particularly threatened by the repeated acts of aggression against front-line African countries.
4. These criminal and aggressive acts are only possible because of South Africa's ability to fuel its repressive and war machinery. The Seminar considers that an oil embargo is therefore both necessary and urgent.
5. The Seminar salutes the victory of the people of Zimbabwe. The freedom of Zimbabwe must become a spur for greater international action against the apartheid régime in Pretoria until Namibia and South Africa are free.
6. A total embargo on the supply of crude oil and oil products to South Africa is an important component of international action for the elimination of apartheid and support for the struggle of the oppressed people of South Africa and Namibia for liberation.
7. Such an embargo has become more feasible since all the member States of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and other major oil-exporting countries have now prohibited export of their oil to South Africa.
8. The embargo is a key element of international sanctions against South Africa, and can seriously weaken the racist régime, because of the dependence of South Africa on imported oil and because the shipping of oil cannot easily be disguised.
9. The embargo is essential as a reinforcement and extension of the mandatory arms embargo against South Africa imposed by the Security Council on 4 November 1977 (resolution 418 (1977)).

/...

10. The International Seminar, therefore, declares its full support for resolution 34/93 F, adopted by the General Assembly on 12 December 1979, on an oil embargo against South Africa and for the relevant resolutions of the Organization of African Unity.

11. It calls for an international campaign by all Governments, organizations, and individuals to:

(a) Secure an urgent and mandatory decision for an oil embargo against South Africa by the Security Council of the United Nations;

(b) Encourage all States immediately to enact effective legislation and other measures to implement an oil embargo, including strict penalties against companies, institutions and individuals violating the embargo;

(c) Prevent, by public action, the continued collaboration by multinational companies with the racist régime of South Africa in obtaining crude oil and refined oil products, as well as in its oil and related industries.

12. The Seminar commends all Governments which have imposed an oil embargo against South Africa and in particular the revolutionary Government of Iran.

13. It notes with admiration the action taken by Nigeria against British Petroleum, which set up a deceitful swap arrangement to supply its South African subsidiary. It urges other States to take similar action in solidarity with the oppressed people of southern Africa.

14. The Seminar condemns all countries which are sustaining the apartheid régime by continuing to supply, directly and indirectly, crude oil and oil products to South Africa.

15. It condemns those Governments which continue to prevent the imposition of a mandatory oil embargo against the South African régime - particularly France, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, which enjoy the right of veto in the Security Council.

16. It recognizes the need for co-ordinated and active efforts to persuade these Governments to change their attitudes and co-operate in international action.

17. Similarly, action is also required against all those States which opposed the General Assembly resolution on the oil embargo (Belgium, Canada, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Luxembourg, the United Kingdom and the United States of America) and the Western and other States which abstained (Australia, Austria, Greece, Guatemala, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Portugal and Spain), while taking into account the genuine problems of certain States in southern Africa which felt obliged to abstain.

18. The Seminar urges the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity to study and take necessary measures to assist independent African States in southern

/...

Africa which neighbour South Africa and Namibia and may be adversely affected by an oil embargo against the apartheid régime.

19. The Seminar emphasizes that, pending a mandatory decision by the Security Council, all Governments should take unilateral measures to implement the embargo. The embargo should cover the supply of crude oil, refined oil products, technology and know-how, equipment, capital and personnel.

20. The Seminar notes with appreciation the resolution of the Netherlands Parliament urging the Netherlands Government to persuade the countries of the European Community to impose a collective oil embargo against South Africa. If such collective action is not forthcoming, the Seminar urges the Netherlands to take action in the spirit of the parliamentary debate and impose an effective embargo against South Africa.

21. The Seminar condemns the oil companies which, in defiance of the resolutions of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity, have invested in South Africa and Namibia and thereby provide direct support to the apartheid régime. It draws particular attention to the five major multinational oil corporations with subsidiaries in South Africa - British Petroleum, Caltex, Mobil, Shell and Total - and also condemns the shipping companies and oil traders who have been involved in the nefarious manoeuvres to enable South Africa to obtain oil. It further condemns the banks and engineering companies which have financed and facilitated the development of the petroleum industry in South Africa - and in particular those which have participated in the construction of the Sasol oil-from-coal plants, such as:

Banks

Barclays	-	United Kingdom
Standard	-	United Kingdom
Hill Samuel	-	United Kingdom
Dresdner	-	Federal Republic of Germany
Bayerische Vereinsbank	-	Federal Republic of Germany
Berliner Handels und Frankfurter	-	Federal Republic of Germany
Commerzbank	-	Federal Republic of Germany
West Deutsche Landesbank	-	Federal Republic of Germany

Engineering companies

Fluor	-	United States of America
Deutsche Babcock	-	Federal Republic of Germany
Lurgi	-	Federal Republic of Germany
Linde	-	Federal Republic of Germany
Spie Batignolles	-	France
Air Liquide	-	France

/...

22. The Seminar recognizes the need for a redoubled and determined effort by Governments and organizations in close co-operation with the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity, and in solidarity with the national liberation movements of South Africa and Namibia, to end all such collaboration with South Africa.

23. It therefore urges the following:

(1) All countries which have not yet done so should enact legislation and take other necessary measures to implement an effective embargo on the supply of crude oil and refined oil products to apartheid South Africa. They should take effective measures to end any collaboration with South Africa's attempts to mitigate the effects of an oil embargo by the construction of fuel plants such as Sasol oil-from-coal plants. They should prevent the supply of finance, technology, equipment and personnel and any other assistance in the construction of such plants.

(2) All oil producing and exporting countries which have not yet done so should strengthen their control over the final destination of their oil, and through the incorporation of end-user clauses in the initial contracts of sale, ensure that their oil does not reach the apartheid régime through resale or via any other company, organization or Government.

(3) All countries should enact legislation to stop the transport to South Africa of all crude oil and oil products, wherever they originate. Governments should take separate and collective action to prevent South Africa from obtaining oil through the spot market or swap deals as well as arrangements involving the use of free ports or similar transit facilities.

(4) Governments should enact legislation to enable the seizure of tankers owned by their nationals or registered in their countries which are used to transport oil to South Africa and take action against any companies or individuals who supply or transport crude oil or oil products to South Africa.

(5) All organizations - of students, youth, workers, churches, and others - especially in the countries where the multinational oil corporations are based, should take action so that their Governments and the oil companies stop supplies of crude oil and oil products to the racist régime. They should expose the criminal nature of such support to the racist régime.

(6) Workers in the oil fields, refineries and ports, and those who sail the tankers, should be encouraged to take action that will prevent the supply of oil to the apartheid régime.

(7) The oil embargo should be reinforced by the creation of machinery to monitor all oil shipments to South Africa, as recommended in resolutions of the Organization of African Unity.

(8) All Governments and organizations opposed to apartheid should observe 20 May 1980 as the International Day for an Oil Embargo against South Africa. Trade unions, religious bodies, anti-apartheid movements and other groups should organize demonstrations on that day against companies which continue to violate the oil embargo or participate in the oil and related industry in South Africa.
