



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.4/1987/47
4 March 1987

Original: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Forty-third session
Agenda item 6

VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA: REPORT OF
THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS

Letter dated 3 February from the Chairman of the
Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts on southern Africa
addressed to the Assistant Secretary-General for
Human Rights

You must have received the message I addressed to you last week informing you of my inability, personally, to present the current report of the Ad Hoc Working Group of Experts to the Commission on Human Rights. This has come about because of my new duties and I deeply regret it.

It is now apparent that these new responsibilities which I have just assumed will not allow me to participate fully in the future work of the Ad Hoc Working Group. It is therefore with the utmost regret that I must inform you that I shall not be a candidate when the membership of the Working Group comes up for renewal during the current session of the Commission.

I have always regarded my membership of the Working Group as a great privilege. My role as Chairman of the Group in the past seven years has enabled me to have a much deeper understanding of the cruel nature of apartheid. It will therefore remain my deepest hope that, having justifiably condemned apartheid as a crime against humanity, the international community will make every effort to see to its total elimination in the shortest time possible.

I should be grateful if you would bring this letter to the attention of the Commission on Human Rights and of my colleagues of the Ad Hoc Working Group. Please assure my colleagues that I shall continue to follow the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group with close interest as the Group endeavours, with commitment and steadfastness, to unearth the many ugly aspects of apartheid and thus assist the Commission on Human Rights in its efforts to arrest the dangerous drift of this inhuman system.

(Signed) Annan A. CATO
Chairman
Ad Hoc Working Group of
Experts on southern Africa