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POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICALetter dated 24 July 1987 from the Permanent Representative  
of the Philippines to the United Nations addressed to the  
Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the joint communiqué issued on 12 July 1987 by Vice President and Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Salvador H. Laurel, and Major General Joseph N. Garba, Chairman of the United Nations Special Committee against Apartheid, at the conclusion of the official visit of the Chairman to the Philippines (see annex).

I would appreciate it if the text of the joint communiqué were published as a document of the General Assembly under item 33 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Salvador P. LOPEZ  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

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\* A/42/150.

ANNEX

Joint communiqué issued on 12 July 1987 by the Vice President and Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines and the Chairman of the United Nations Special Committee against Apartheid at the conclusion of the official visit of the Chairman to the Philippines

The international struggle against the abhorrent system of apartheid has been a long and difficult one, and today it has reached a critical stage that warrants the most urgent and concerted action by the international community. The situation in South Africa and indeed in the southern African subregion as a whole is so volatile that it will ultimately lead to unpredictable results if left unchecked. This is amply demonstrated by the fact that in the last two years, over 2,500 black people have died at the hands of the racist police, 30,000 persons have been detained, of which 40 per cent were children under the age of 18, including 2,000 between the ages of 8 and 16 years.

The international community cannot continue to be indifferent or silent about the day-to-day massacre of black people whose only crime is their staunch opposition to apartheid and their demand for the establishment of social justice and peace in that tormented country. One of the fundamental principles of the Charter of the United Nations is respect for human rights, dignity and freedom, which South Africa defies. It defies it because of the support and solace it receives from certain Powers. We believe this support significantly undermines international action to eliminate apartheid.

We appreciate the measures so far taken by many Governments and intergovernmental organizations and thus commend them. However, we strongly feel that universally-applied comprehensive and mandatory sanctions are the most effective and only peaceful means for the total elimination of apartheid.

It is our earnest hope that the Security Council will soon live up to its statutory responsibility and realize the seriousness of the situation in South Africa and consequently adopt appropriate measures to deal with it.

In the meantime, we pledge our continued and full support and solidarity with the struggling people of South Africa and their national liberation movements, as well as with the front-line States which are paying a heavy price by strongly opposing the abhorrent system of apartheid and are in the forefront in the fight for justice, equality and peace in South Africa.

We also call upon all Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as individuals, to unreservedly support the fight against this monster of racism and apartheid and to give their moral and material support to the liberation movements and to the South African people in their just struggle.

Let the Filipino people and Government, together with the Special Committee against Apartheid and the international community, say "no" to apartheid.