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POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE GOVERNMENT  
OF SOUTH AFRICA

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Thirty-fifth year

Letter dated 1 December 1980 from the Chairman of the Special  
Committee against Apartheid to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you, for the attention of the General Assembly and the Security Council, the text of a statement issued by me in connexion with the moves taken by the racist régime of South Africa to grant so-called "independence" to Ciskei.

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

(Signed) B. Akporode CLARK  
Chairman of the  
Special Committee against Apartheid

ANNEX

Statement issued on 26 November 1980 by the Chairman  
of the Special Committee against Apartheid

1. On behalf of the Special Committee against Apartheid, I wish to draw the attention of the international community to the moves of the racist régime of South Africa to grant so-called "independence" to Ciskei.

2. Ciskei has a population of 660,000 Africans, but the South African régime considers another 1,433,000 Xhosa-speaking people outside Ciskei as Ciskeians. The territory has an area of 5,300 square kilometres and has been promised another 3,000 square kilometres: it will comprise only 2.4 per cent of the land area of South Africa. The density of resident population is 126 per square kilometre as against 25 for South Africa.

3. Ciskei is situated in one of the poorest regions of South Africa with hardly any industry and a chronic scarcity of water. It has been suffering from severe drought for several years. About 40 per cent of the total male population of working age leave the territory to find work, and present unemployment in the urban areas is estimated at 39 per cent.

4. The moves for so-called "independence" are being made in collusion with Chief Lennox Sebe, the so-called "chief minister" of the territory. Tribal chiefs appointed by the racist régime hold two thirds of the seats in the Assembly. Numerous opponents of the unpopular "homeland" régime have been subjected to arbitrary detention and persecution under Proclamation R 252 of 1977 and many have fled the territory. Widespread student protests this year have been ruthlessly suppressed by Brigadier Charles Sebe, Ciskei's intelligence chief, who was formerly a member of the notorious South African Bureau of State Security.

5. A survey of attitudes of Ciskeians, prepared for a Ciskei government commission by Professor Lawrence Schlemmer of the University of Natal in 1979, showed that 90 per cent favoured a one-man one-vote Government in the whole of South Africa. It also disclosed that 84 per cent of those interviewed considered Chief Sebe "a man who is controlled by the South African Government".

6. With the so-called "independence" of Ciskei - coming after the so-called "independence" of the Transkei, Bophuthatswana and Venda - the racist régime purports to deprive 7 million Africans of their rights of citizenship and nationality. It intends to proceed further with bantustanization in order to consolidate South African white domination in most of South Africa, while relegating the African people, who constitute the overwhelming majority of the population, to client "states" which can be no more than reservoirs for cheap labour and dumping grounds for the aged and the infirm.

7. On behalf of the Special Committee, I appeal to all Governments and organizations to denounce the moves to declare the so-called "independence" of

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Ciskei. There must not and cannot be any recognition, direct or indirect, of the bantustans and no dealings with them.

8. The oppressed people of South Africa deserve full support, moral and material, in their struggle to destroy the criminal system of apartheid and bantustanization and to establish a democratic society based on the principle of one man, one vote in the country as a whole.

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