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LETTER DATED 3 DECEMBER 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF ANGOLA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit the attached letter from His Excellency Mr. Jose Eduardo dos Santos, President of the Republic of Angola, for your urgent attention, with the request that it be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Afonso VAN-DUNEM "MBINDA"
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 23 November 1992 from the President of the Republic
of Angola addressed to the Secretary-General

I am informed of the positions of UNITA contained in the letter from Mr. Jonas Savimbi to the United Nations Under-Secretary-General, Mr. Marrack Goulding.

We took note of the acceptance by UNITA of the outcome of the legislative elections of 29 and 30 September but we must express our concern about the suggestion that they were certifiably fraudulent and with irregularities because they did not correspond to the statement made on 17 October by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Miss Margaret Anstee.

The recent acceptance of the election results is all the more ambiguous as one cannot infer from the letter that UNITA's wish to go for a second round means its acknowledgement and respect for all democratically elected bodies.

Under these circumstances, the Government's position is that UNITA should comply with article 4 of the constitutional law and other legislation applicable to the political parties regarding participation in the political life as well as the democratic and peaceful means that can be utilized.

I should stress that UNITA has participated in the discussion and preparation of such laws, as shown by the minutes that it signed and, therefore, it should be liable, both in civil and criminal terms, for damage caused to the State and to third parties.

The Government considers that the solution to the so-called Angolan crisis, in addition to an unequivocal acceptance of the election results, must depend on the following:

1. Compliance with the Bicesse Accords, which implies:

(a) A cease-fire and, consequently, as a minimum requirement, the return of UNITA's military forces to the same conditions in which they were on 29 and 30 September for the resuming of said Accords;

(b) Demilitarization and disarmament of UNITA;

(c) Participation of UNITA in the formation of the Angolan Armed Forces;

(d) Return of UNITA to a legal status;

(e) An effective extension of the State administration to the whole national territory;

(f) Participation of the UNITA deputies in the elected National Assembly.

2. To carry out these tasks, upon completion of which the required conditions will have been met for the presidential elections runoff, an increased role of the United Nations is desirable.

The United Nations involvement in the peace process and process of democratization in Angola will end with the holding of the second round of presidential elections, which could not take place within the 30 days stipulated in the electoral law because of the situation created by UNITA. Therefore, I request that Your Excellency submit for the consideration of the Security Council a request for an extension of the mandate of UNAVEM II. The nature of that mandate under the new conditions may be the subject of discussion between the Government and the United Nations.

3. I want to emphasize that the current Government believes that the tasks performed by the international observers, namely, the United States of America, Portugal and Russia, and those performed by the United Nations complement each other and, that being so, we continue to consider them useful to the process under way even in a modality adapted to the new institutional framework, when the democratically elected bodies will be inaugurated. The last meeting of the political parties stated the same view and it is our conviction that the next Government will not depart from that position.

4. Your Excellency, we would like to request that you consider, within the framework of the Organization you lead, the possibility of studying a way for the United Nations to be involved in ensuring the safety of the UNITA leaders for a certain period of time, because as long as the mistrust felt by the latter organization has not been assuaged, this issue can constitute a pretext for its failure to participate in such acts that are important and indispensable for the functioning of the country's institutions and for the implementation of the Bicesse Accords.

As regards the UNITA members who are in Luanda under the Government's custody, I want to stress that their situation must be addressed within the framework of a comprehensive solution of the crisis because in the areas occupied by UNITA there are State employees and officials under their detention.

(Signed) Jose Eduardo DOS SANTOS
President of the
Republic of Angola

