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POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE GOVERNMENT OF  
SOUTH AFRICA

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Thirty-sixth year

Letter dated 10 April 1981 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 Declaration of the International Seminar on the Implementation and Reinforcement of the Arms Embargo against South Africa, organized by the Special Committee against Apartheid in London from 1 to 3 April 1981, in co-operation with the World Campaign against Military and Nuclear Collaboration with South Africa and with the assistance of the British Anti-Apartheid Movement.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and the Declaration circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 32 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

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

\* A/36/50.

ANNEX

DECLARATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON THE  
IMPLEMENTATION AND REINFORCEMENT OF THE  
ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA

London, 1-3 April 1981

The International Seminar on the Implementation and Reinforcement of the Arms Embargo against South Africa was organized by the United Nations Special Committee against Apartheid, in co-operation with the World Campaign against Military and Nuclear Collaboration with South Africa, in London from 1 to 3 April 1981. It was attended by representatives of United Nations bodies, governments, national liberation movements of South Africa and Namibia, anti-apartheid movements and other non-governmental organizations, members of Parliaments, and experts.

The Seminar recognized that the situation in South Africa and in southern Africa as a whole, had become much more serious and explosive since the Security Council of the United Nations adopted resolution 418 (1977) of 4 November 1977 on a mandatory arms embargo against South Africa.

The constant acts of aggression, subversion, and terrorism committed by the South African regime against neighbouring States; its continued illegal occupation of Namibia and its rejection of the United Nations plan for the independence of the Territory; the escalating repression in South Africa, including the execution of patriots; the armed confrontation between the forces of the racist regime and freedom fighters; and the recent nuclear tests by South Africa - all these have resulted in a situation which constitutes a graver threat to international peace and security and indeed, a situation of constant and escalating breaches of the peace under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter. The Security Council, and those of its permanent members who prevent necessary action, will be failing in the discharge of their responsibilities if the Council does not make a determination under Chapter VII of the Charter, in the face of this ever worsening situation and take mandatory action prescribed by the Charter.

The full implementation and effective reinforcement of Security Council resolution 418 (1977), and its reinforcement, as well as efficient monitoring of the embargo, have become even more imperative as a minimum step.

In this context, the Seminar expresses its serious concern that Security Council resolution 418 (1977) has not been effectively implemented, because of the resistance of certain Western and other States. It pointed to the failure of many States concerned to enact adequate national legislation, to their narrow interpretations which make the embargo largely ineffective and to the weakness of measures for monitoring and enforcing the embargo.

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As a result of the continued military and nuclear collaboration by several Western and other States - especially the United Kingdom, the United States of America, the Federal Republic of Germany, France and Israel - South Africa's programme of military expansion and nuclear development has further advanced.

The Seminar emphasized that the absence of full implementation of the arms embargo, in terms of cessation of all military and nuclear collaboration with South Africa, seriously undermines the purposes of the arms embargo, as well as the credibility of the United Nations.

The Seminar expressed alarm at recent indications that the new United States Administration intends to retreat from previous United States commitments, build friendly relations with the South African racist regime, repeal the Clark amendment, and even collaborate with that regime, directly and indirectly, in its efforts to destabilize neighbouring States which lend support to the National liberation movements in accordance with the resolutions of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity.

The Seminar, therefore, considered it essential and urgent to promote a world-wide campaign by all governments committed to the liberation of South Africa and Namibia - the African, Non-Aligned and Socialist States, and the Nordic and other Western States - as well as Parliaments, trade unions, and other organizations to press the major Western Powers to co-operate in implementing and reinforcing the arms embargo against South Africa.

After analyzing the experience, the participants in the Seminar made a number of concrete proposals which are reproduced in the papers and report of the Seminar.

As regards the implementation of the arms embargo, the Seminar emphasizes the following:

(a) all States should enact effective legislation or comparable policy directives on the arms embargo - covering transfers through third parties, end use, involvement in production in South Africa etc., - monitor and enforce it scrupulously, and severely punish all violators. The embargo should cover all military collaboration, direct or indirect, in accordance with United Nations General Assembly resolution 35/206B of 16 December 1980.

(b) the term "arms and related material" covers oil, computers, electronic equipment, transfer of military technology, so-called "dual purpose" equipment for military use, components, auxilliary equipment and spare parts of arms as do effective embargo lists.

(c) the recommendations submitted in September 1980 by the Security Council Committee established in pursuance of Resolution 421 (1977) on the Question of South Africa should be adopted by the Security Council without further delay.

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(d) all States should discharge their responsibilities to the United Nations by reporting to the Security Council all information available to them on any violations of the arms embargo.

The Seminar considers it imperative and urgent to reinforce the mandatory arms embargo, particularly as regards nuclear collaboration and the supply of oil to South Africa.

The Seminar examined all the evidence about South Africa's nuclear weapon capability and was alarmed at the enormous threat posed to the peace and security of Africa and the world by the development of an apartheid nuclear bomb. It rejects the claim that a distinction can be made between nuclear collaboration with South Africa for peaceful purposes and for nuclear weapons production. It therefore calls for an end to all forms of nuclear collaboration with South Africa.

Oil is the vital military commodity which has enabled the apartheid regime to intensify the repression of the South African people, maintain its illegal occupation of Namibia and commit repeated acts of aggression against independent African States. No arms embargo is therefore complete without a total prohibition of the supply of petroleum and petroleum products to South Africa. Noting with appreciation the decisions of oil exporting countries to embargo the supply of oil to South Africa, the Seminar urges effective national and international measures to prevent petroleum or petroleum products from reaching South Africa.

The Seminar considers it essential that the Security Council should meet urgently to consider the grave situation in southern Africa, the proposals of this Seminar on the implementation and reinforcement of the arms embargo against South Africa, and other measures to assist the struggle for liberation of South Africa and Namibia.

Assistance to the South African racist regime in the military and nuclear fields constitutes collusion in the crime of apartheid, in the illegal occupation of Namibia and in aggression against the frontline States, as well as a breach of the fundamental obligations of Member States under the Charter of the United Nations.

The Seminar declares, therefore, that any such assistance, direct or indirect, is a crime against the people of South Africa, Namibia and frontline States, a threat to international peace, a challenge to the authority of the United Nations and an offence against the conscience of mankind.

The Seminar emphasizes the need for urgent mobilization of governments, Parliaments and the public - trade unions, religious institutions, students and youth, and individuals - in support of an end to all military and nuclear collaboration with South Africa, and for an oil embargo against South Africa.

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It calls on all governments and organizations to co-operate with the Special Committee against Apartheid, and to support the World Campaign against Military and Nuclear Collaboration with South Africa, in promoting such a mobilization.

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