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LETTER DATED 23 JANUARY 1978 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF VENEZUELA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I should like to refer to Security Council resolution 418 (1977) concerning the arms embargo against South Africa.

In the United Nations and in other competent forums, Venezuela has repeatedly expressed its opposition to the policies of the apartheid régime of South Africa and has strongly condemned them. Venezuela has supported all the resolutions adopted by various United Nations organs with a view to putting an end to that shameful régime of racial discrimination and repression. The delegation of Venezuela in the Security Council voted in favour of resolution 418 (1977) on 4 November 1977 and, on that occasion, reiterated its position on this question.

Accordingly, Venezuela has not maintained, and will not maintain, relations of any kind with the racist régime of South Africa and will continue to comply with the many decisions taken by the United Nations against that régime. The Government of Venezuela hopes that the embargo on the sale of arms to South Africa imposed by the Security Council, which is a particularly significant step, will provide an impetus for the adoption of more effective measures in the struggle against the apartheid régime, and it also expresses the hope that those countries which have a special responsibility in the implementation of resolution 418 (1977) will comply scrupulously with its provisions.

I should be grateful if this letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Maria Clemencia LOPEZ
Minister-Counsellor
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.