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LETTER DATED 9 FEBRUARY 1978 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF BENIN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

To mark the first anniversary of the crushing by the people of Benin of the imperialist armed aggression of Sunday, 16 January 1977, a week of solidarity with peoples and countries struggling for their national liberation and an International Conference on Mercenaries were held at Cotonou from 9 to 16 January 1978, on the initiative of the Popular Revolutionary Party of Benin.

Some 40 delegations representing countries, parties and democratic organizations took part in these manifestations. Many messages of support were received, particularly from Mr. Kurt Waldheim, Secretary-General of the United Nations, and from the Presidents of the United Republic of Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of Madagascar.

The results of the proceedings of the Week of Solidarity and of the International Conference on Mercenaries are very positive. These results, which certainly fall within the framework of efforts to promote international peace and security, consist of the following documents:

- I. DECLARATION OF COTONOU
- II. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MERCENARIES
 1. General declaration on mercenaries
 2. Resolution on mercenaries
 3. Special motion addressed to the African Heads of State and to the current President of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) concerning the OAU Convention on the Elimination of the Use of Mercenaries adopted in 1977 at Libreville
 4. Resolution of support for the Beninese people subjected to the imperialist armed aggression of Sunday, 16 January 1977
- III. WEEK OF SOLIDARITY WITH PEOPLES AND COUNTRIES STRUGGLING FOR THEIR NATIONAL LIBERATION
 1. Declaration of solidarity with the African national liberation movements
 2. Motion of support for Korea

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3. Motion of support for the Palestinian people
4. Motion concerning southern Africa
5. Motion of support for the Polisario Front of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic

IV. LIST OF DELEGATIONS

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to request you to arrange for these documents to be circulated as Security Council documents.

(Signed) Thomas S. BOYA
Ambassador

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Annex I

DECLARATION OF COTONOU

WEEK OF SOLIDARITY WITH PEOPLES AND COUNTRIES STRUGGLING
FOR THEIR NATIONAL LIBERATION

AND

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MERCENARIES

COTONOU, 9-16 JANUARY 1978

To coincide with the anniversary of the crushing, by the people of the People's Republic of Benin, of the imperialist armed aggression of 16 January 1977, a week of solidarity with the struggling peoples and an International Conference on Mercenaries were held at Cotonou from 9 to 16 January 1978 on the initiative of the Popular Revolutionary Party of Benin.

The following countries, parties and organizations participated in this great manifestation of solidarity and this important international conference: Algeria, Angola, German Democratic Republic, Saharan Arab Democratic Republic, People's Republic of Benin, Congo, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Cuba, Ghana, Guinea, Hungary, Iraq, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liberia, Niger, Nigeria, Romania, Somalia, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe, Equatorial Guinea, Bulgaria, Poland, Togo, Viet Nam, SWAPO of Namibia, PAC of Azania, ANC of South Africa, Siwa-Lima Party of South Moluccas, Portuguese Communist Party, Italian Communist Party, French Communist Party, Afro-Asian-Latin American Peoples' Solidarity Organization, Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization, French Association for Friendship and Solidarity with the Peoples of Africa, Kwame Nkrumah International Cultural Committee, FRETILIN, Pan-African Youth Movement, World Federation of Trade Unions.

The memory of the heroes and martyrs of independence and revolution, named Patrice Lumumba, Amilcar Cabral, Che Guevera, Mehdi Abdel Nasser and Ho Chi Minh, inspired the work of the Conference.

The participants welcomed this important initiative and expressed great appreciation to the Popular Revolutionary Party of Benin, headed by President Kerekou, and to the Beninese Government and people for having organized this manifestation at a time when imperialism is behaving more aggressively than ever and when there is a need for all progressive forces to close ranks in order to give it the appropriate answer and thus ensure the victory of the struggle for national liberation, independence and social progress.

The participants were gratified at the victories achieved by the people of the People's Republic of Benin, under the leadership of the Popular Revolutionary Party of Benin, in consolidating its national independence and adding strength to its

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sovereignty and to the struggle against under-development and other legacies of colonialism.

They welcomed the qualitative changes which have occurred in the performance of the tasks of production and national construction through the mobilization and involvement of the working masses. The successes achieved in that respect mean a considerable strengthening of Africa's fighting front against colonialism, neo-colonialism and imperialism. It is for that reason that the imperialists, on 16 January 1977, unleashed the hordes of mercenaries in their pay to commit aggression against the People's Republic of Benin and thus attempt to halt the revolutionary process taking place there.

The participants, hailing the victory of the Beninese people over the aggressors, strongly denounced French imperialism for its responsibility and certain African puppet régimes for their collusion in that dastardly act of aggression, and reiterated their complete solidarity with the Beninese people. The holding of these meetings in Cotonou to celebrate the first anniversary of that victory, which was a victory for all progressive forces in Africa and throughout the world, confirmed the determination of the Beninese people to defend the achievements of their revolution and to go forward to further victories. It also marked an important stage in the drawing together and mobilization of the progressive forces in Africa and of their allies throughout the world with a view to more sustained action against foreign domination and exploitation, against assaults on the independence and sovereignty of African countries and for freedom, dignity and peace.

The October Revolution of 1917, the continued resistance of the peoples of the world to oppression and exploitation, the development of the national liberation movement, which for the past 30 years has been winning great victories and inflicting heavy defeats on the forces of domination and subjection, the emergence after the Second World War of many socialist countries in Europe and, in Asia, the historic victory at Dien Bien Phu in 1954 and the decisive defeat inflicted on American imperialism in Indo-China by the peoples of Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos, the triumph of the Algerian revolution in Africa, the triumph of the Cuban revolution in Latin America, the triumph of the cause of independence and revolution in Angola through the strength of will of MPLA and international solidarity, the shrinking of the area subjected to colonialism and imperialism throughout the world, the questioning in the economic field of the present order and the increasing demand for a more just world economic order, the accentuation of the revolutionary thrust and the profound aspiration of the masses of the people for the kind of development and social progress which only socialism can ensure for them, illustrate the tremendous amount of ground which has been covered in the past 60 years. These were all historic events in the course of world affairs during this twentieth century, and they hastened the onset of the widespread crisis in which capitalism is now hopelessly floundering.

The fight of the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America for liberation, the development of workers' struggles and of the democratic movement in Europe, the collapse of the fascist dictatorships in Spain, Portugal and Greece, the worsening

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of the crisis of the capitalist system and the tremendous progress achieved in all fields by the countries devoted to freedom, justice and peace have given new and vigorous impetus to the anti-imperialist struggle and opened up for the peoples of the world new prospects of greater victories.

The great defeat suffered by American imperialism in South-East Asia, the collapse of the colonial system under the hammer blows of the peoples of Africa and the intensification of the struggles waged by the constantly expanding non-aligned movement caused international imperialism, seriously shaken, to redirect its strategy of domination and exploitation and to focus its aggressiveness and most of its designs on Africa, the Middle East and the Indian Ocean so as to erect a rampart around those areas, strengthen its positions there, counter the flourishing national liberation movement, breach the unity established by the Arab and African countries around the cause of liberation and attack and destroy the citadels of national independence and revolution, thus gaining absolute mastery over the vast resources of those regions and making them its private preserve.

The new imperialist strategy of domination and exploitation is developing in two main directions, one based primarily on policies of intimidation and force and the other on methods that are more pernicious but no less harmful and dangerous.

This strategy is clearly part of a carefully elaborated global plan, carried out in a climate of disorder and calculated confusion in an attempt to disorient and outwit the progressive forces and to create artificial rifts, the better to accomplish their work of undermining and demolition.

These roles of the various imperialist Powers are distributed and made to overlap in such a way that it is not easy to reveal their complicity in the criminal activities. This tactic reflects the concern of the imperialists to avoid appearing openly behind one and the same mask, so as not to be perceived as a single bloc, which would lead to their undoing and their total isolation. Duplicity, like amalgamation and diversion, has always formed part of the arsenal of imperialism.

Furthermore, the imperialists lose no opportunity to divert financial, economic, humanitarian and cultural institutions from their purpose, and even to use the effects of natural disasters on the lives of the peoples of developing countries to subject them to pressure and blackmail so as to influence their policies and strengthen the imperialist hold over them.

The sudden resurgence of the Western Powers' interest in Africa, the Middle East and the Indian Ocean is instructive in this connexion. It is not reflected solely in the compassion which the Western Powers, the traditional supporters of the racist régimes of southern Africa and of zionism, have suddenly displayed for the oppressed peoples of Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa, the Arab peoples and the poorest African countries. It is reflected above all in interference, in an increasing number of subversive activities, in recourse to armed intervention and in the inauguration of a policy of military alliances involving the reactivation and extension of foreign military bases in Africa and in the Indian Ocean.

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In southern Africa, the imperialists, acting through Pretoria and Salisbury, are working relentlessly against the front-line States, especially Angola and Mozambique. At the same time, in groups of five or two, they are hatching plans and initiatives clearly designed to render devoid of substance the independence which the international community is demanding with particular insistence for the people of Namibia. In so doing, the imperialists think that they can call in question the authority of SWAPO, the authentic representative of the Namibian people, by impairing the unity and integrity of Namibia; they are seeking to destroy the unity of the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe in order to despoil the people of Zimbabwe of the fruits of their struggle and sacrifices, to save the European colonists and to keep the South African prison closed. In fact, with certain humanitarian changes they wish to maintain and consecrate the colonialist and racist entity of Pretoria, specifically by depriving the South African people of their national identity and their fundamental rights.

Faced with the irresistible impetus of the struggle of the peoples for their liberation and independence, international imperialism, finding itself at bay, has devised a new strategy of which mercenaries are the privileged tool, which it cynically uses to perpetuate the exploitation and oppression of the peoples still under foreign domination and to carry out the colonial and neo-colonial reconquest of young States by rendering their progressive and revolutionary régimes unstable, so as to prevent them from devoting themselves entirely to the task of economic, social and cultural development.

This desire to destabilize such régimes is reflected throughout the African continent by the restoration of puppet régimes and by manipulations which lead to local conflicts that provide a pretext for interference and military intervention under the cover of so-called defence or "co-operation" agreements. Thus the imperialist Powers, basing their actions on reactionary Arab forces and exploiting to the full the situation prevailing in the Near and Middle East and the equally complex situation in the horn of Africa, are causing serious harm to progressive Africa.

The use of mercenaries, which is truly a catastrophe for mankind, must be denounced vigorously and combated systematically until it is definitively eliminated from the African continent and international custom. That is currently one of the essential tasks of the progressive forces.

In the Middle East, the treachery of the Egyptian régime and Sadat's crossing over into the enemy camp has destroyed Arab solidarity vis-à-vis the Palestinian problem, thus endangering the sacred cause of the Palestinian people, the very existence of the PLO which embodies their aspirations, and that of all the Arab peoples (Rejection Front).

The Conference hails the formation of the Rejection Front of progressive Arab States, welcomes the unification of the Palestinian national liberation movement and supports the decisions of the Tripoli summit which are designed to thwart zionism and international imperialism.

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In north-west Africa, as a result of Spain's abdication of its responsibilities, the intrigues of French imperialism and the expansionist ambitions of Rabat and Nouakchott, not only has a genocidal war against the people of Western Sahara been going on for two years, but a situation with incalculable consequences has been created, seriously jeopardizing stability and peace in the region, in the Mediterranean basin and in Africa as a whole.

The direct intervention of the French armed forces in a conflict which pits an African people, arbitrarily deprived of the exercise of its inalienable rights, against a coalition of two highly armed States, which are guilty of aggression and of violating all the principles which govern international life, reveals the role played by the French Government in the plot against the Saharan people. It reveals the determination of that Power to create at any cost situations that will enable it to interfere in the affairs of the African continent, so that it may seek to restore its puppets to power, regain the positions it has lost and play the role of policeman assigned to it in the strategy of domination and exploitation devised by international imperialism.

The desire for revenge on the Algerian revolution which inspires the France of Giscard d'Estaing, both in its threats against Algeria and in the demonstrations and military operations in which France is engaging on Algeria's borders, signifies the continued existence of the policy of hegemony, the nostalgia for gunboat diplomacy and the precarious nature of international co-operation and peace.

Moreover, the imperialists and their spokesmen in Africa have made a great outcry about the assistance given by Cuba, other socialist countries and the progressive African countries to Angola, whose newly-born independence was subjected to the joint attacks of the Western Powers, acting through their puppets and South Africa.

Their policy of aggression and diktat having ignobly failed, the invasion of Angola having been repelled, MPLA being firmly established and the People's Republic of Angola asserting itself as one of the driving forces of the new Africa, thanks to the consistent and decisive assistance provided by Cuba, other socialist countries and all the progressive forces in Africa and throughout the world, the imperialist Powers take this natural manifestation of solidarity as a pretext for seeking to relaunch on a larger scale their sinister designs against the progressive peoples and countries of the continent and the national liberation movements.

In responding to the appeal of the people and Government of Angola, whose independence was endangered, the Cubans, worthy sons of the great Cuban revolution, performed a duty of international solidarity of great historical significance.

The participants in the Week of Cotonou denounce with the utmost vigour the propaganda of international and African reactionary forces which seek to distort the nature of the Cuban assistance to the People's Republic of Angola and other African countries and to exploit that noble assistance in an effort to justify the current acts of aggression committed by imperialism against Africa.

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The participants pay tribute to the invaluable contribution of the Cuban revolution and revere the memory of the noble sons of Cuba who have fallen on the field of honour in Angola.

The independence of the countries which have seized their freedom by force of arms is an achievement that must at all costs be protected and consolidated.

The right of peoples to self-determination, which is solemnly recognized by the Charter of the United Nations, relevant United Nations resolutions and other international legal instruments, and the principle of the immutability of the boundaries inherited from colonization, which is one of the corner-stones of the Organization of African Unity and is widely endorsed by the international community, are further achievements of the long struggle of oppressed peoples throughout the world, particularly the African peoples. These achievements must be preserved, especially since the very future of Africa and of international peace and security depends on them.

The solidarity between the national liberation movements, the democratic forces of Western Europe, the socialist countries and all the forces throughout the world which are devoted to freedom and peace is an invincible weapon that has already proved itself in the liquidation of the colonial empires and the defeat of imperialism. Now more than ever before, that solidarity must manifest itself in all its strength and achieve its extension and full effectiveness by mobilizing all its components in an anti-imperialist front which is active, dynamic and capable of accepting the challenges and responding with equal energy to the bellicose plots and provocations of the imperialists and their lackeys.

This is also a matter requiring the attention of the non-aligned movement, which in the past has been able at each crucial stage to rise to the occasion, advance the cause of national independence and successfully wage the most difficult battles on all fronts against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism and in defence of independence and sovereignty, equality of States before the law, the recovery of natural resources and a new and more just international economic order.

Consequently, the Conference decides:

1. To undertake a campaign to promote awareness at both the national and the international levels by all appropriate means - dissemination of information, conferences, seminars, briefing missions, publications - with regard to the practices, intrigues and misdeeds of imperialism directed against the progressive countries, the struggling peoples and the liberation movements. To that end, it calls upon all progressive forces throughout the world to unite their efforts in that enterprise.
2. To increase the material, political and diplomatic support given to the liberation movements to enable them to intensify their struggle to regain their sovereignty, to the progressive countries exposed to imperialist threats and to the democratic and progressive forces which are struggling to eliminate neo-colonialism, especially in Africa.

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3. To do everything possible to facilitate the admission of the victims of colonial wars of aggression to hospitals and other appropriate institutions.

4. To intensify assistance to countries having common frontiers with territories still under domination and to provide them with support and assistance in countering the continued acts of aggression committed against them.

5. To co-ordinate all action by the participants in order to induce international organizations to assume their responsibilities with regard to the struggling peoples.

6. To manifest promptly and vigorously solidarity with any African country which is the victim of imperialist aggression or whose independence or territorial integrity is threatened.

7. To establish a politico-juridical institution to pursue the action aimed at eradicating the use of mercenaries, the plundering and the subversion of which Africa is the victim.

8. To pursue, in the spirit of the Declaration of Cotonou, the activities begun on the initiative of the Popular Revolutionary Party of Benin aimed at promoting the anti-imperialist solidarity front with a view to making it ever stronger and more effective.

Annex II

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MERCENARIES

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1. GENERAL DECLARATION ON MERCENARIES

The ever more glorious victory of the national liberation struggle in the countries of the third world and the decisive progress made in the elimination of the bases of imperialist domination in Africa are a compelling political reality of our times which no longer in any way leaves imperialism a free hand to attack the freedom of peoples and the sovereignty of States.

Everywhere in Africa, Asia and Latin America, the colonial empires have collapsed and the neo-colonial régimes by means of which the imperialist Powers continue to exercise their domination through dummy leaders or puppet politicians have themselves become nothing but tottering haunts of imperialism, fragile staging posts threatened with irremediable ruin.

Surrounded thus on all sides and driven to despair, international imperialism, on the brink of defeat, is resorting to the most odious means to break the resistance of the peoples and undermine their revolutionary struggle. It has devised a vast plan for the colonial reconquest of Africa and the third world, a plan aimed at destroying by armed aggression and subversion the triumphant national liberation movements and progressive régimes which, in Africa, Asia and Latin America, defend the safeguarding of national sovereignty, dignity and territorial integrity and thus provide secure backing for the national liberation struggle of the peoples of Africa, South America and Asia.

The preferred instrument for this diabolical plan of colonial reconquest and attacks against the freedom of the struggling peoples is the use of mercenaries.

It is a clearly established fact of our time, a universally attested reality which arouses the unanimous indignation and censure of all those who love justice and peace, that mercenaries are the criminal instrument used today by international imperialism to "maintain, establish or restore fascism, colonialism, neo-colonialism and racism, or to attack the progress of freedom and peace in the world".

The use of mercenaries thus appears clearly to be one of the most serious scourges threatening the peace and security of peoples in the world today, an evil weapon of blind and brutal destruction, to which imperialism, at its last gasp, has cynically resorted in order to try, by means of bloody terror, mass crimes, nameless acts of piracy and massive destruction, to stop the victorious march of the peoples towards a society of justice, freedom, dignity, prosperity and well-being for the working masses.

Mercenaries are an old weapon, developed by aggressive imperialism to commit acts of armed intervention and attack the freedom of the struggling peoples and the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of States. The use of mercenaries against the sovereignty of newly emerged States and against the liberation movements has intensified over the past 20 years or so.

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During this period, the list of instances of armed intervention by mercenaries is a long one and is worthy of note:

- STANLEYVILLE, CUBA, SUDAN, NIGERIA, CONGO, PALESTINE, GUINEA, ANGOLA, BENIN, ZIMBABWE, NAMIBIA, WESTERN SAHARA, EAST TIMOR.

These acts of intervention by mercenaries, killers hired by the imperialist West and well-qualified specialists in mass crimes, have left many indelible marks in the above-mentioned countries: gratuitous massacres of children, women and old people, barbarous murders of patriotic sons, and considerable material destruction. In recent years, the martyred victims of murderous mercenaries, acting on the orders of imperialism, number in the thousands.

The mercenaries are generally recruited in the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Belgium, the Federal Republic of Germany and Portugal, and even in some African countries which also serve as staging posts for training and transport and as bases for their criminal intervention in Africa.

Armed intervention by mercenaries, their recruitment and training, the provision of their military equipment by sordid imperialist circles, and their transit or transport through the countries which offer them the use of various port facilities, have been unequivocally condemned on various occasions by international organizations, in particular the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity.

As far as the United Nations is concerned, mention should be made of the following relevant resolutions: General Assembly resolutions 2395 (XXIII), 2465 (XXIII), 2548 (XXIV) and 3103 (XXVIII), and the most recent resolutions of the Security Council, 404, 405 and 419 (1977), which condemned the armed aggression by mercenaries against the People's Republic of Benin on Sunday, 16 January 1977.

In the case of OAU, mention should be made of three basic documents: the two OAU declarations of 1967 and 1971 on the activities of mercenaries in Africa and the OAU Convention adopted at the OAU summit meeting in 1977.

In view of the criminal objectives behind the use of mercenaries, it appears clear today that it is the instrument of international reaction which wishes to establish, restore or maintain, against the irresistible will of the peoples, colonialism, neo-colonialism, fascism, apartheid, the racist domination of white minorities in southern Africa and zionism, and one of the means of the counter-offensive launched by imperialism against the progressive and anti-imperialist countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America and against national liberation movements, social progress and world peace and security, and to protect the selfish and dishonestly acquired interests of the multinational corporations, the secret services or other sordid imperialist circles and to meet new needs for the bloody repression of democratic workers' struggles in the capitalist West and in the neo-colonial countries.

The use of mercenaries thus appears to be a crime, in accordance with the Convention adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU at Libreville in 1977:

Any individual, group or association, any representative of a State or any State itself which, with a view to using armed violence to oppose a process of self-determination or to attack the territorial integrity of another State, commits one of the following acts shall be regarded as having committed the crime of being involved in the activities of mercenaries:

(a) Sheltering, organizing, financing, supplying, equipping, training, promoting, supporting or employing in any manner whatsoever armed forces composed wholly or in part of persons who are not nationals of the country in which they are to operate for personal material or other gain;

(b) Enrolling, enlisting or attempting to enlist in the above-mentioned forces;

(c) Permitting the development in territories under its sovereignty or in any other place under its control of the activities mentioned in subparagraph (a) or granting facilities for the transit, transport or any other operation of the above-mentioned forces.

Any individual or body corporate who commits the crime of being involved in the activities of mercenaries as defined in paragraph 1 of this article commits a crime against peace and security in Africa and shall be punished accordingly.

Armed intervention by mercenaries in Africa, Asia and Latin America would not be facilitated if certain countries did not offer their territory for training, transit and transport. These countries are thus used as rear bases for intervention by mercenaries. In Africa, this applies mainly to Gabon and Morocco for aggression against Benin, to Senegal and Mauritania for aggression against the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic, and to Zaire for aggression against the People's Republic of Angola. Similarly, the imperialist Powers have established military bases in certain African countries (Senegal, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Morocco, Mauritania and Zaire) from which commando units of mercenaries, integrated into regular military contingents of the imperialist Powers, set out to commit acts of aggression.

We cannot remain silent about the interdependence of the activities of mercenaries against progressive régimes and liberation movements in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the terrorist activities of fascist and imperialist circles against democratic and progressive forces and against African emigrants in Europe, particularly in France. Behind these terrorist acts lies the same enemy, international imperialism through its instruments, namely, the Western secret services, the networks for the recruitment of mercenaries and the fascist international, the Organization of Free Africa, which pay the mercenaries. It is becoming increasingly necessary for the progressive and democratic forces of Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe to develop greater solidarity of action.

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Such are the nature and specific manifestations of the international mercenary force.

2. RESOLUTION ON MERCENARIES

The International Conference on Mercenaries, held at Cotonou from 9 to 16 January 1978 on the initiative of the Popular Revolutionary Party of Benin, was attended by representatives of some 40 parties, States, liberation movements and progressive organizations from various nations.

Having listened with interest to the masterly inaugural address by the President of the Central Committee of the Popular Revolutionary Party and Head of State of Benin, President Mathieu Kerekou, and having unanimously adopted as a working document the papers submitted to the Conference,

Having listened carefully to all the statements by delegates of countries represented at the Conference and taken note of the documentation on mercenaries submitted by the secretariat of the Conference,

Having considered in detail the nature of the phenomenon of mercenaries and its manifestations throughout history and its development over the years, and having agreed that the use of mercenaries is a weapon of colonial reconquest and a permanent threat to the peace and security of peoples, particularly in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Oceania and the Middle East,

Considering that mercenary operations, in all their manifestations, are governed by only one law, the law of gain, and represent a permanent threat to the economic and social development process of the independent countries of Africa, Asia, Latin America and Oceania which have opted for an economic policy of recovering national resources for the exclusive benefit of their peoples,

Convinced that imperialism is a single entity and that it avails itself of all means, including mercenaries, in seeking to destabilize the progressive and revolutionary régimes of Africa, Asia and Latin America with a view to replacing them by hireling régimes of its own,

Convinced also that the use of mercenaries is a calculated tactic of imperialism and serves as an instrument for the defence of its mercantile interests,

Considering that the existence of foreign imperialist bases in certain African countries, including Morocco (Tangiers), the Ivory Coast (Bouaké), Senegal, Gabon, Zaire, the Central African Empire, Kenya, and Mauritius (Diego Garcia), is a grave assault on the sovereignty of their peoples and a serious threat to the independence of the other countries of the continent,

THE CONFERENCE

Firmly supports the peoples subjected to all forms of imperialist aggression and assures them of its active and indestructible solidarity;

Urges countries devoted to peace, social justice and freedom to redouble their vigilance and to combine their efforts to defeat all the manoeuvres of armed imperialist aggression by mercenaries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Oceania;

Calls upon African States and peoples resolutely and constantly to oppose through their democratic parties and organizations the use of their territories as bases for training and for armed imperialist aggression;

Calls upon all the struggling peoples, particularly those of Africa, Asia, and Latin America, to become more acutely aware of the deadly scourge of mercenaries and consequently to improve and strengthen their solidarity;

Solemnly urges all States scrupulously to respect and strictly to comply with the United Nations resolutions on mercenaries and other typical forms of imperialist aggression, particularly Security Council resolution 239 (1967), the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 2395 (XXIII), 2465 (XXIII), 2548 (XXIV) and 3103 (XXVII) and the most recent Security Council resolutions 404 (1977), 405 (1977) and 419 (1977), which unequivocally condemned the armed aggression by mercenaries against the People's Republic of Benin on Sunday, 16 January 1977;

Decides to intensify public information and propaganda activities in the countries of Africa, Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe, with major emphasis on the capitalist countries which serve as the recruiting and training-ground for mercenaries, with a view to eradicating the phenomenon of mercenaries;

Urges all countries participating in this Conference to promote the establishment of a political and legal institution for the purpose of properly studying and explaining the phenomenon of mercenaries with a view to its complete eradication;

Requests African States to ratify as early as possible the OAU Convention on Mercenaries.

THE CONFERENCE

Vigorously condemns the imperialist countries, principally France, the United Kingdom, the United States and the Federal Republic of Germany, for their manifest and scandalous collusion with the minority racist régimes of South Africa and Rhodesia, and with the new African colonizers in the case of Western Sahara, aimed at destabilizing progressive régimes in Africa and obstructing the progress of the struggle for the liberation of African peoples still under domination;

Forcefully condemns the multinationals, certain international investment agencies and certain European public authorities for their collaboration in financing acts of aggression by mercenaries against the peoples of Africa, Asia, Latin America and Oceania;

Vigorously condemns the Governments of African countries that tolerate the installation of foreign military bases in their territories and that are used for refuge or transit purposes by mercenaries, the vile agents of international imperialism;

Firmly denounces the odious crimes perpetrated against progressive humanity by international imperialism through the use of mercenaries to attack and brutally massacre peoples struggling for their political and economic liberation;

Condemns the imperialist Powers that employ their mass media to accuse liberation movements of terrorism, whereas they keep silent about the crimes of mercenaries and in most cases glorify them.

3. SPECIAL MOTION ADDRESSED TO THE AFRICAN HEADS OF STATE
AND TO THE CURRENT PRESIDENT OF THE ORGANIZATION OF
AFRICAN UNITY (OAU) CONCERNING THE OAU CONVENTION ON
THE ELIMINATION OF THE USE OF MERCENARIES ADOPTED IN
1977 AT LIBREVILLE

THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MERCENARIES, HELD AT COTONOU FROM
9 TO 16 JANUARY 1978,

1. Considering that mercenaries, as one of the favourite weapons of colonial reconquest, constitute a veritable scourge which threatens the peace and security of independent States in Africa and throughout the world;

2. Considering that this new form of armed imperialist intervention, directed particularly against progressive African countries and peoples, constitutes one of the most barbarous forms of mass crimes against all mankind and against world peace and security;

3. Considering that the Convention on the Elimination of Mercenaries was adopted by the fourteenth summit meeting of African Heads of State, held at Libreville in July 1977;

4. Considering United Nations General Assembly resolutions 2395 (XXIII), 2465 (XXIII), 2548 (XXIV) and 3106 (XXVII) and the most recent Security Council resolutions 404 (1977), 405 (1977) and 419 (1977), which condemned the armed aggression by mercenaries on Sunday, 16 January 1977, against the People's Republic of Benin;

5. Urges the current President of OAU to secure as quickly as possible the ratification of that Convention by all member States of OAU;

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6. Requests the current President of OAU to do his utmost to enable the African Group to submit that Convention to the United Nations with a view to its adoption by all Member States.

4. RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE PEOPLE OF BENIN SUBJECTED TO
THE IMPERIALIST ARMED AGGRESSION OF SUNDAY, 16 JANUARY 1977

The International Conference on Mercenaries, held at Cotonou from 9 to 16 January 1978,

Having considered the detailed documentation on the imperialist armed aggression to which the People's Republic of Benin and its peaceable, industrious and revolutionary people were subjected on Sunday, 16 January 1977;

Considering Security Council resolutions 404 (1977), 405 (1977) and 419 (1977), which recognized the reality of that imperialist armed aggression and condemned it as an ignominious action;

Considering that the only goal of the militant people of Benin is to construct in the People's Republic of Benin a prosperous and sovereign homeland, in friendship and solidarity with all peoples of the world;

Considering that since 26 October 1972 the people of Benin has resolutely and irrevocably been pursuing honour, dignity, sovereignty and national independence and that the imperialist armed aggression of Sunday, 16 January 1977, is simply a consequence of that revolutionary movement;

Considering that all imperialist armed aggression against the peoples of Africa, Asia, Latin America and Oceania is aimed solely at colonial reconquest;

Gives the valiant people of Benin its unfailing support in its just struggle to liberate itself totally from foreign domination;

Appeals to all peoples and Governments devoted to freedom, justice, national dignity and peace to denounce and condemn the use of mercenaries as a form of imperialist armed intervention aimed at jeopardizing their independence and national sovereignty;

Congratulates the Beninese people on all their victories at the political, economic and social levels over imperialism, and in particular over the imperialist armed aggression of Sunday, 16 January 1977.

Annex III

SOLIDARITY WITH PEOPLES AND COUNTRIES STRUGGLING FOR THEIR
NATIONAL LIBERATION

1. DECLARATION OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE AFRICAN NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS

A week of solidarity with peoples struggling for their national liberation was held from 9 to 16 January 1978 at Cotonou, in the People's Republic of Benin.

The organization, on the initiative of the Popular Revolutionary Party of Benin and the Beninese Government, in celebration of the first anniversary of the glorious victory of the Beninese people over French imperialism - the main instigator of the contemptible act of aggression committed against the Beninese revolution on Sunday, 16 January 1977, by a horde of mercenaries - of a week of solidarity with the African national liberation movements marks a new stage in Africa's struggle to complete the decolonization of the continent and to put an end to foreign domination, exploitation and assaults on the dignity of peoples and of the individual African. It occurs at a time of sharpened confrontation between the progressive forces of Africa, on the one hand, and the combined forces of imperialism, of the racist minority régimes in southern Africa and of those African States which stand in a feudal relationship to the imperialist and reactionary Powers outside Africa, on the other hand.

This intensification of the struggle follows upon the serious reverses suffered by imperialism with the collapse of Portuguese colonial domination and the emergence in southern Africa of two powerful new bastions of freedom, Mozambique and Angola, where, despite the desperate efforts of the imperialists, of the racists in southern Africa and of puppets of every colour, MPLA triumphed and led the heroic people of Angola to final victory with the support of the socialist countries and of progressive forces in Africa and throughout the world.

The achievement of independence by the countries formerly colonized by Portugal opened up new prospects to the peoples of Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa. It has already resulted in a marked increase in their fighting capacity and in great successes against the enemy, both militarily and at the political and diplomatic levels.

In Africa, as in other regions of the world, the imperialist and racist colonial order is gradually crumbling, while capitalism is in deep crisis and the contradictions which beset the world of today are growing more acute. This is the real reason for the furious assault of a dying imperialism on the peoples of southern Africa, the repeated acts of aggression by the racists of Salisbury and Pretoria against the front-line States, and the manoeuvres of the Western Powers to deprive the peoples of Namibia and Zimbabwe of the fruits of their struggle and their sacrifices, in order to safeguard their South African bastion and their interests in the region. This is the reason for the arrogance displayed by Vorster and Ian Smith in continuing to defy the international community and trample underfoot all United Nations resolutions calling for the restoration of the rights of the oppressed peoples of southern Africa to freedom, independence and dignity.

The barbarous conduct and the affronts to their dignity suffered by the Africans, and the open collusion of the Western Powers with the régimes of southern Africa, clearly show the hostility of these Powers to the cause of the peoples of Africa.

Similarly, the systematic acts of aggression against Mozambique and Angola bear witness to the determination of the protectors of Ian Smith and of Vorster to destabilize those two progressive countries, which are in the vanguard of the anti-imperialist struggle in that region.

This determined attempt at destabilization is in fact reflected throughout the continent in the reinstatement of puppet régimes and the stirring up of local conflicts, which are used as a pretext for interference and military intervention under cover of so-called defence or "co-operation" agreements. Thus, the Western Powers, supported by Arab reaction and exploiting both the situation prevailing in the Near and Middle East and the no less complex situation in the Horn of Africa, are dealing a serious blow to progressive Africa.

In north-west Africa, Spain disregarded international commitments and betrayed the Saharan people by delivering it into the hands of two African countries, Morocco and Mauritania, which, in order to realize their expansionist ambitions, have turned colonialist, in emulation of the former despots of their peoples. Western Sahara was invaded and dismembered, by agreement with Madrid and with encouragement from Paris in particular, and without any protest by the international community against this heinous act. As could have been foreseen, the present outcome is an extremely grave situation which affects not only the stability and security of the region, but also the entire Mediterranean and the whole of Africa. Strong in its inalienable right to self-determination and independence, and determined to defend itself and impose its will, the Saharan people, under the leadership of the Polisario Front, has taken up arms in a fierce struggle to evict the occupying forces, inflicting upon them such defeats that their imperialist masters are forced to fly to their assistance in order to prevent the total collapse of their protégés.

For instance, France, motivated by the greed familiar to the African peoples it formerly colonized, eager to settle accounts with the Africans and still vindictive towards the Algerian revolution, has assumed the weighty responsibility of involving its air force against the Saharan people's Liberation Army, thus participating directly in the genocide campaign against a people whose self-denial and heroism symbolize the African ideal of freedom and dignity.

The aggression of 16 January 1977 against the Beninese revolution is a further illustration of imperialism's frenzy in its attempts at subversion, economic sabotage and destabilization in Africa. The purpose of this aggression was to overthrow the revolutionary régime which has been zealously working since 1972 to eliminate the vestiges of colonialism and create the material basis of the socialism for which it has opted in order to put an end to the exploitation of man by man.

Confronted with the onslaught of imperialism against national liberation movements and progressive countries in Africa, our duty is clear: to form a common front in order to consolidate the independence so recently won and guarantee the African national liberation movements firm support and active assistance in effectively combating colonialism, racism, apartheid, expansionism and annexation.

The combined forces of imperialism and of African and Arab reaction are engaged in an outright campaign to undermine and demolish the independent countries through the activities of mercenaries, in which African States are involved through the consequent inter-African disputes, in which they intervene in violation of the principles of non-interference in the affairs of other States and non-use of force in the settlement of disputes, and through the splits they constantly provoke in Africa by sowing the seeds of confusion and division, the more surely to accomplish their sombre ends.

Linking subversion and violence to deceit in order to destroy or intimidate or to encircle and terrify, the imperialists are obstinately pursuing the goal of depriving OAU of its very reason for existence, seeking to bring about its disintegration and the consequent dislocation of the non-aligned movement, which would enable them to breach the unity of Africa, to weaken its States and the national liberation movements, to demolish the policy of non-alignment which is indissociable from the policy of national independence, to break the unity and solidarity which constitute the bulwark of that independence within the movement of non-aligned countries, to bring into dispute the historic, political and economic achievements so dearly won by that movement through its dynamism and its will to struggle, and to postpone indefinitely its fundamental demand for a new economic order.

In southern Africa, the victories of the Mozambican and Angolan peoples over Portuguese colonialism are a positive and decisive contribution to the liquidation of foreign domination in that part of the continent, where the partisans of apartheid are offering less and less resistance to the onslaughts of the freedom fighters.

The national liberation movement in South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe is thereby strengthened and committed to the final battle for the definitive elimination of colonialism and racism from that region of the continent.

Thus, in South Africa, the struggle being waged by the people under the leadership of its revolutionary vanguard, the African National Congress and PAC, is now at an advanced stage.

Being unable to contain the drive for freedom which inspires the African masses in South Africa, the partisans of apartheid have engaged in increasingly savage repression of these peoples.

The utter determination of the South African people to continue the struggle until final victory is achieved has caused the Pretoria régime to intensify its military build-up, to the point of acquiring nuclear weapons, thus threatening with intervention the independent African States that are supporting the struggle of the South African people and creating a serious threat to peace and security in the region.

In Namibia, the armed struggle waged by SWAPO to wrest independence for the valiant Namibian people is a solid barrier to the manoeuvres and attempts by

Pretoria and its Western allies to create a neo-colonial situation in order to safeguard their sordid interests.

The armed struggle for national liberation carried on by the Patriotic Front in Zimbabwe is winning more victories each day over the enemy in Salisbury. The Western endeavour, the main purpose of which is to safeguard the interests of the white minority to the detriment of the aspirations of the people of Zimbabwe, is doomed to failure because of the vision and strength of the armed struggle conducted with exemplary courage and determination by the Patriotic Front.

Throughout Africa, the organized peoples are vigorously developing armed struggle and mass movements against colonial and neo-colonial domination, racism, apartheid and the exploitation of man by man.

Their innumerable victories are now exposing the basically vulnerable nature of imperialism and frustrating the sinister imperialist design to dominate the world. These victories confirm us in our revolutionary conviction that only armed struggle will lead the struggling peoples to freedom and independence.

The cause for which so many martyrs sacrificed their lives is a just cause. It is the cause of all peoples in Africa and throughout the world.

Thus, the intensification of the liberation struggle against colonialism, neo-colonialism and racism in Africa necessitates, at this decisive stage, active assistance, more material backing and full, urgent and consistent support from all peoples devoted to peace, justice and progress throughout the world.

For these reasons, the States, parties, movements and organizations participating in the Week of Solidarity with peoples struggling for their liberation:

Vigorously condemn the policy of apartheid and racial discrimination practised by the partisans of the white minority racist régimes of Pretoria and Salisbury against the peoples of South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe;

Strongly denounce the support and assistance lent by the Western Powers, in defiance of the resolutions of international bodies such as the United Nations, OAU and the non-aligned movements, to the illegal racist régimes of South Africa and Rhodesia;

Appeal for appropriate backing and support for the front-line States of southern Africa in order to consolidate their independence and their means of combating the repeated acts of aggression committed against them by the partisans of apartheid and effectively discharging their historic mission in southern Africa;

Vigorously condemn the policy of aggression and annexation undertaken by Rabat and Nouakchott against the Saharan people;

Also strongly condemn the intervention of the French armed forces in north-west Africa;

Invite all progressive forces in the world to give effective support to the Polisario Front in its struggle to regain the national rights of the Saharan people;

Salute the democratic forces in France which support the just cause of the Saharan people and that of the national liberation movement in southern Africa, and declare that they make a distinction between the people of France and the governing circles in Paris;

Invite peoples devoted to peace and justice, particularly the African peoples, to strengthen and invigorate the anti-colonialist and anti-imperialist front in order to eliminate the last bastions of colonialism and racism in Africa, combat imperialism more effectively and bring about its rapid defeat;

Solemnly appeal to the African Governments to organize periodically specific activities (international, regional or subregional conferences, weeks of solidarity) with the movements and peoples struggling for their liberation, in order to focus African and world public opinion on colonial situations and imperialist manoeuvres in the African continent;

Calls on African Governments, on parties and on solidarity organizations and movements to increase their active support, political and diplomatic and also material, to national liberation movements in Africa and throughout the world.

2. MOTION OF SUPPORT FOR KOREA

The week of solidarity with countries and peoples struggling for their liberation, and the International Conference on Mercenaries held at Cotonou from 9 to 16 January 1978,

Bearing in mind the grave situation prevailing in the Korean peninsula owing to the division of Korea, which has lasted for more than 30 years,

Bearing in mind the hypocrisy of the United States of America, which, although claiming to withdraw its troops, is actually stepping up military aid to the South Korean puppet clique and manoeuvring more intensively to perpetuate its scheme for two Koreas,

Considering that the Park Chung Hee clique actively supports the American idea of dividing the country in two, in contradiction to the profound aspirations and the interests of the South Korean people, who are the victims of fascist repression,

Considering that the acts of the United States of America and the South Korean authorities are in flagrant violation of the three principles for reunification set forth in the North-South joint statement of 4 July 1972 and of resolution 3390 B,

Considering that this violation is a grave challenge to the national demands of the Korean people and of the progressive countries of the world,

Considering that Korea must be reunified to end tension and the threat of war in the region,

1. Demand that the reunification of Korea should be effected in total conformity with the three principles and the five-point guidelines for the reunification of the country suggested by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;
2. Demand that the United States of America should abandon its policy of two Koreas and withdraw from South Korea all its troops and all their armaments, of whatever type;
3. Demand that the puppet Park Chung Hee clique should immediately free all arrested patriots and democratize the society in South Korea;
4. Call upon all the progressive countries and peoples of the world to bring greater pressure to bear on the United States of America to cease its intervention in the internal affairs of Korea and its various forms of support to the South Korean puppet clique, whose policy is based on division, perfidy, fascism and war.

3. MOTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

The States, parties, movements and organizations participating in the week of solidarity with African countries and peoples struggling for their liberation, held at Cotonou from 9 to 16 January 1978,

Considering that the main instrument and agent of the arbitrary and illegal occupation of Arab territories and of the non-recognition of the national rights of the Palestinian people is the zionism employed in the Middle East by international imperialism, the common enemy of all peoples devoted to freedom, justice, dignity and peace,

Considering that history shows and will always show that the Palestinian people have no option but to wage a bitter and resolute struggle and to resist fiercely the expansionist policy of Israel in order to gain recognition of their national rights and secure the creation of an independent Palestinian State,

Mindful of the common destiny of the African and Arab peoples and of all peoples and nations which are oppressed, exploited, despoiled, ridiculed and humiliated,

Reaffirm their full solidarity with the noble struggle of the Palestinian people, under the rightful leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization, for the exercise of their national rights in independence, justice and peace;

Maintain that peace in the Middle East will be just and lasting only if Israel withdraws completely and unconditionally from all occupied Arab territories and an independent and sovereign Palestinian State is established;

Express their profound conviction that the only way to a just and final settlement of the Palestinian question and the Middle East question is recognition of the national rights of the Palestinian people and establishment by the Palestinian people itself of its own State;

Denounce the diabolical alliance between the Israeli expansionists and the racist régimes of Pretoria and Salisbury, whose clear objective is to maintain and strengthen the policy of genocide and extermination of the Palestinian, Arab and African peoples;

Denounce the collusion between the feudal and reactionary Arab régimes and the United States of America and the dialogue between Cairo and Tel Aviv regarding the solution of the Palestinian question;

Appeal to all peoples and countries devoted to peace, justice and freedom to combat zionism, which is a form of racism, as is emphasized in a United Nations resolution;

Consider that the struggle against zionism is the only way of bringing about a just solution to the Middle East problem in the form of the advent of an independent and sovereign Palestinian State;

Welcome the decisions taken at the Tripoli summit meeting on the reunification of all the Palestinian resistance organizations.

4. MOTION CONCERNING SOUTHERN AFRICA

The States, parties, movements and organizations participating in the week of solidarity with countries and peoples struggling for their liberation, held at Cotonou from 9 to 16 January 1978, having examined the current situation in the three countries of southern Africa, namely, South Africa (Azania), Namibia and Zimbabwe - a disturbing situation characterized by a decisive turning-point in the heroic liberation struggle of the peoples of the region,

Considering once again that the colonial, neo-colonial and racist policy being implemented in southern Africa by the hideous monsters Vorster and Ian Smith is contrary to the fundamental principles of freedom, human dignity and the equality of all before the law,

Bearing in mind the grave threat which this imperialist policy represents to peace and security in our great, rich and beautiful continent, Africa, and throughout the world,

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Considering, therefore, that the maximum support of the entire international community must be elicited for the struggle being waged by the peoples of South Africa (Azania), Namibia and Zimbabwe to achieve their legitimate aspirations to self-determination, national independence, equality and justice,

Commend the front-line countries for their efforts in support of the nationalists of Azania, Namibia and Zimbabwe;

Appeal to the international community to decide upon a clear course of action to compel the racist Pretoria régime to terminate its measures of savage repression in Azania and its illegal occupation and exploitation of Namibia;

Severely condemn once again the odious colonialist, fascist and racist minority régimes of Pretoria and Salisbury and their reactionary policy and ideology of oppression and exploitation of man by man;

Vigorously denounce the imperialist States and their African lackeys for continuing to flout the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and other resolutions adopted by the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, the non-aligned movement and other international forums and organizations on the subject of the liberation of the countries of southern Africa;

Reaffirm their active support for and solidarity with all the countries and peoples of southern Africa struggling against foreign domination, apartheid and racial discrimination and with the fearless legitimate and authentic leaders of South Africa (Azania), Namibia and Zimbabwe;

Earnestly call upon all progressive and democratic countries and forces and the entire international community to make increasingly available to the liberation movements concerned all such forms of military, material, financial and diplomatic assistance as may be required for continuing and intensifying the liberation struggle until final victory has been won.

5. MOTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE POLISARIO FRONT OF THE SAHARAN DEMOCRATIC ARAB REPUBLIC

The States, parties, movements and organizations participating in the week of solidarity with countries and peoples struggling for their liberation, held at Cotonou from 9 to 16 January 1978,

Bearing in mind that the right of the Saharan people fighting for self-determination, freedom and national independence is recognized by all international forums, including the Organization of African Unity, the United Nations and the International Court of Justice, and by the non-aligned movement,

Considering that, despite this recognition of the right of Western Sahara to self-determination, Morocco and Mauritania, urged on by international imperialism,

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have engaged in a war of aggression and expansion against the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic and its vanguard, the Polisario Front,

1. Strongly affirm that the struggle of the Saharan people against foreign domination, oppression and exploitation is part of the anti-imperialist struggle for independence and national liberation;

2. Express their militant solidarity with and firm support for the legitimate national cause of the Saharan people;

3. Welcome the many victories won by the heroic fighters of the Polisario Front, the real spearhead of the liberation struggle in Western Sahara;

4. Strongly condemn the Moroccan and Mauritanian annexionists and expansionists for their criminal covetousness of the resources of Western Sahara, this being the main reason prompting their dastardly armed invasion against the Saharan people, who are determined to fight to the end to secure respect for their right to existence and freedom;

5. Condemn the intervention of the imperialist Powers, such as France, which are openly and directly providing military support to the Moroccan and Mauritanian troops in their aggression;

6. Condemn the imperialist threats to carry the neo-colonial war into the sovereign territory of the Republic of Algeria;

7. Demand that all violations, from whatever source, of the sovereignty of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, should cease;

8. Urgently appeal to all justice-loving and peace-loving peoples and Governments to recognize the young Saharan Democratic Arab Republic and to provide it with the political and material assistance that is required if the just cause of its martyred people is to prevail;

9. Emphasize the imperative need for the Organization of African Unity to convene as soon as possible a special summit meeting on the problem of Western Sahara, in accordance with the resolutions adopted by the Port Louis and Libreville summit meetings, and accordingly invite the progressive States of Africa to strive actively to bring about such a meeting.

Annex IV

LIST OF DELEGATIONS PARTICIPATING IN THE WEEK OF SOLIDARITY WITH
PEOPLES AND COUNTRIES STRUGGLING FOR THEIR NATIONAL LIBERATION
AND IN THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MERCENARIES

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WEEK OF SOLIDARITY WITH PEOPLES AND COUNTRIES STRUGGLING FOR THEIR
NATIONAL LIBERATION AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MERCENARIES

COTONOU, 9-16 JANUARY 1978

LIST OF DELEGATIONS

(1) People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

Led by Comrade Hoffman Sliman, member of the Central Office of FLN, Adviser to the Office of the President of the Republic.

(2) People's Republic of Angola

Led by Comrade Pascal Luvualu, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the MPLA Labour Party. The delegation also included Comrade Gorge Paulo, alternate member of the Central Committee of MPLA, Minister for Foreign Affairs.

(3) German Democratic Republic

Led by Comrade Alfred Babing, member of the Presidium of the German Committee for Solidarity.

(4) Delegation of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic

Led by Comrade Ibrahim Hakim, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the SDAR.

(5) People's Republic of the Congo

Led by Comrade Nicolas Okongo, member of the Military Committee of the Parti Congolais du Travail. The delegation also included Comrade Dieudonné Itoua, member of the Central Committee of the Parti Congolais du Travail.

(6) Delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Led by Comrade Ri Seung Ho, Secretary-General of the Korean Committee for Solidarity with the Peoples of the World.

(7) Socialist Republic of Cuba

Led by Comrade Armando Acosta, member of the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party, President of the Cuba-Africa Friendship Association.

(8) Delegation of Socialist Ethiopia

Led by Comrade Aragaw Kassaye, member of the Provisional Governing Council of Socialist Ethiopia.

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(9) Republic of Ghana

Led by Brother Benjamin Forjoe, Ambassador of Ghana to the People's Republic of Benin.

(10) Delegation of the Republic of Guinea

Led by Comrade Camara Damantang, member of the Central Committee of the PDG, Permanent Secretary of the Political Bureau and President of the Legislative Assembly.

(11) Delegation of the Hungarian Republic

Led by Comrade Karoly Kiss, Vice-Chairman of the Committee for Solidarity, member of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party.

(12) Delegation of Iraq

Led by Comrade Sahib Bafi, Ambassador of Iraq in Lagos.

(13) Delegation of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

Led by Comrade Hadir Hamedel, Ambassador of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the Republic of Guinea.

(14) Delegation of the Republic of Liberia

Led by Brother Christopher Alfonso Minikon, Assistant to the Minister, Director-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

(15) Delegation of the Republic of the Niger

Led by Brother Amadou Moumouni, Permanent Representative of the Niger to the People's Republic of Benin.

(16) Delegation of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

Led by Brother Yussuf, member of the Supreme Military Council of Nigeria, Inspector-General of the Federal Police.

(17) Delegation of the Socialist Republic of Romania

Led by Comrade Alexa Haralambie, member of the National Central Committee of the League, Deputy Chief of the Interior Section of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party.

(18) Delegation of Somalia

Led by Comrade Warsane Jusef Dahir, First Vice-President of Somali Revolutionary Youth.

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(19) Delegation of Czechoslovakia

Led by Comrade Ian Laika, member of the Committee for Solidarity with African and Asian Nations, Chief of the Foreign Affairs Section of the Central Committee of the Socialist Youth Union.

(20) Delegation of Yugoslavia

Led by Comrade Dimitrije Babić, Special Adviser to the Office of the President of the Central Committee of the Communist League.

(21) Delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

Led by Comrade Ivan Petrovich Kichenko, member of the Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African Countries.

(22) Delegation of the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe

Led by Comrade Simon K. Moyo, member of the Revolutionary Council, Section for Foreign Affairs.

(23) Delegation of Equatorial Guinea

Led by Mr. Obani Batho, Director-General of Internal Policy, Head of the Secretariat for National Security.

(24) Delegation of the People's Republic of Bulgaria

Led by Comrade Gheorgui Bozhkov, Ambassador of Bulgaria to the People's Republic of Benin.

(25) Delegation of Poland

Led by Comrade Beguslaw Ludwikowski, Chief of the Foreign Relations Section of the Central Committee of the Polish Workers' Party.

(26) Delegation of the Togolese Republic

Led by Brother Amedegnato Vigniko, Director of Elementary Education, representing the Rassemblement du Peuple Togolais.

(27) Delegation of SWAPO of Namibia

Led by Comrade Sam Musialela, member of the Central Committee of SWAPO, Head of the SWAPO Office for the Middle East.

(28) Delegation of PAC of Azania

Led by Comrade Vusumzi Make, Director for Pan-African Affairs and member of the Central Committee.

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(29) Delegation of ANC of Azania

Led by Comrade Josie Marvin.

(30) Delegation of the Siwa-Lima Party of the South Moluccas

Led by Mrs. Delpina Sahureka, Head of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

(31) Delegation of the Portuguese Communist Party

Led by Comrade Carvalho Rodriguez, member of the Central Committee of the Portuguese Communist Party.

(32) Delegation of the French Communist Party

Led by Professor Jean-Michel Goux.

(33) Delegation of the Italian Communist Party

Led by Comrade Guido Bimbi, member of the Editorial Board of the Party Journal.

(34) Delegation of the Afro-Asian-Latin American Peoples' Solidarity Organization

Led by Comrade Isailda Montalvo, Deputy Secretary-General of AALAPSO.

(35) Delegation of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization (AAPSO)

Led by Comrade Nguyeur Phuc, representative of Viet Nam in the AAPSO secretariat.

(36) Delegation of the French Association for Friendship and Solidarity with the Peoples of Africa

Led by Maître Claude Larzul, Counsel to the Legal Committee of the Association.

(37) Delegation of the Kwame Nkrumah International Cultural Committee

Led by Comrade Yahya Diallo, Secretary-General of the Committee.

(38) Delegation of the Pan-African Youth Movement

Led by Brother Jenerali Nliwengu, Deputy Secretary-General of the Movement.

(39) Delegation of the World Federation of Trade Unions

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(40) Delegation of FRETILIN (Frente Revolucionária Timor Leste Independente)

Led by Comrade Ramos Horta, Secretary for Foreign Relations.

(41) Delegation of the People's Republic of Benin

Led by Comrade Michel Alladaye, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Republic of Benin and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Co-operation of the People's Republic of Benin.
