



UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY
COUNCIL



Distr.
GENERAL

S/11945
27 January 1976
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/FRENCH

LETTER DATED 26 JANUARY 1976 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE NETHERLANDS TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE
SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have been requested by the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, which country currently exercises the function of President of the European Community, to transmit to you the outlines of the démarche undertaken on the eve of the debate in the Security Council on Namibia by the Netherlands Ambassador to South Africa on behalf of the nine countries of the Community.

"The nine countries of the European Community have had an exchange of views on the problem of Namibia within the framework of their normal consultations on political co-operation. With reference to what has emerged from the Windhoek constitutional conference and from the debate which took place recently in the United Nations General Assembly, they deem it advisable to set forth to the Government of the Republic of South Africa their position on the question of Namibia.

"As they indicated in the message addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the occasion of 'Namibia Day', the nine countries of the European Community consider that South Africa should withdraw from Namibia as soon as possible and that the inhabitants of Namibia should have the opportunity to exercise at an early date their right to self-determination and to independence. The exercise of this right should consist of the opportunity of expressing their opinions on the political and constitutional future of the Territory as a whole, through a fully democratic process under the supervision of the United Nations.

"They accordingly feel that all the political groups should be free to engage in peaceful political activities throughout the Territory during the process of self-determination.

"Consequently, they consider that the release of all Namibians detained because of their political opinions and the return to their territory of the Namibians at present in exile could contribute appreciably to ensuring this democratic and peaceful participation in the process of self-determination.

"In the light of the foregoing, the nine countries consider the indications that have emerged thus far from the Windhoek constitutional conference inadequate. As its representativity is limited to ethnic groups, not all the political forces have been able to participate in it. It therefore does not appear to guarantee the fully democratic character of the process of self-determination. Furthermore, it still does not appear to provide for the constitutional future of Namibia to be determined by the Namibian people through a single consultation organized on a Territory-wide basis.

"The nine countries of the Community therefore feel that it is essential for the Republic of South Africa to promote the process of self-determination of Namibia on the basis of the above-mentioned principles and by applying modalities which should be determined through negotiations between the South African Government and the Secretary-General of the United Nations so as to enable the United Nations to exercise supervision."

I have the honour to request you to transmit this letter to the President of the Security Council and to have it circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Johan KAUFMANN
Permanent Representative of the
Kingdom of the Netherlands
to the United Nations