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LETTER DATED 27 AUGUST 1981 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF NIGER TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF
THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On behalf of the countries belonging to the Group of Non-Aligned Countries which are members of the Security Council, I have the honour to request the convening of a meeting of the Security Council at the earliest possible opportunity to consider the matter referred to in the communication annexed hereto addressed to the President of the Security Council on 24 August 1981.

(Signed) Idé OUMAROU
Permanent Representative of Niger
to the United Nations
Chairman of the Group of
Non-Aligned Countries members
of the Security Council

Annex

Letter dated 24 August 1981 from Mr. Johnny Makatini addressed
to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to draw your attention to the death sentences passed by the Pretoria Supreme Court on three members of the African National Congress (ANC) - Anthony Tsotsobe, 25, Johannes Shabangu, 26, and David Moise, 25 - on 19 August 1981, and to convey the request of our National Executive Committee for appropriate action to be taken by the Council in order to save the lives of these freedom fighters, thereby averting the further deterioration of the already explosive situation in South Africa.

Our grave concern over this verdict and sentence, based on evidence extracted by torture from the accused, is further deepened by the fact that we see it as designed to pave the way for indiscriminate prosecution and execution of all opponents of the apartheid régime.

Guided by the position taken by the Council in previous similar cases, we humbly request at this stage that the President issue a statement on behalf of the Council.

(Signed) Johnny MAKATINI
Chief Representative of ANC
to the United Nations
