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SECURITY COUNCIL CONDEMNS UNITA'S SHOOTING DOWN OF WFP CIVILIAN PLANE
ON HUMANITARIAN MISSION IN ANGOLA AND INJURIES TO CREW

Following consultations held this afternoon, the President of the Security Council, Jamsheed K.A. Marker (Pakistan), made the following statement to the press:

The members of the Security Council are deeply concerned by the report on the shooting down in Angola by National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) forces of the 'Antonov-12' plane on a humanitarian mission in the framework for the World Food Programme (WFP), resulting in the severe injuries of the two Russian members of the crew.

The members of the Council strongly condemn this outrageous hostile act against the civilian airplane, which undermines the efforts of the international community to provide humanitarian relief to the suffering population in Angola.

The members of the Council demand that UNITA takes all necessary measures to prevent recurrence of such acts of violence against international humanitarian agencies and their personnel and reiterate that persons who commit or order the commission of such acts should be held personally responsible.

The members of the Council pay tribute to the courage and commitment of these dedicated people who accept considerable personal risk in order to provide humanitarian relief assistance to the Angolan population.

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