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GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA

SECURITY COUNCIL
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Letter dated 1 December 1982 from the Chairman of the Special
Committee against Apartheid to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith, for the attention of the General Assembly and the Security Council, the text of the Declaration adopted by the Conference of West European Parliamentarians on Sanctions against South Africa, held at The Hague on 26 and 27 November 1982.

The Conference was organized by a group of Members of Parliament in the Netherlands, in co-operation with the Special Committee against Apartheid, in connexion with the observance of the International Year of Mobilization for Sanctions against South Africa.

I request that this letter be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 33, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Alhaji Yusuff MAITAMA-SULE
Chairman of the
Special Committee against Apartheid

ANNEX

Declaration of the Conference of West European Parliamentarians
on Sanctions against South Africa, 27 November 1982

The Conference of West European Parliamentarians on Sanctions against South Africa, convened at the initiative of a group of Dutch parliamentarians of different political parties, in cooperation with the United Nations Special Committee against Apartheid, was held at the Dutch Parliament Building in the Hague on 26 and 27 November 1982. The Conference was chaired by Mr. Hadar Cars, former Minister of Commerce of Sweden (Liberal Party). The Conference provided an opportunity for members of national parliaments in Western Europe, as well as of the European Parliament, to exchange information on action taken by their countries to end collaboration with the racist regime of South Africa and support the oppressed people in their legitimate struggle for freedom and human rights; to consult on further action, especially by Parliaments and their members; and to promote coordination of action.

The holding of the Conference, in the context of the International Year of Mobilization for Sanctions against South Africa proclaimed by the General Assembly of the United Nations, emphasizes the moral responsibility of West European countries to make an effective and positive contribution in international efforts to eliminate apartheid and promote peace, as well as the important role which Parliaments and their members can play in this respect.

The Conference heard opening addresses by H. E. Alhaji Yusuff Maitama-Sule (Nigeria), Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid; H.E. Mr. Joaquim Alberto Chissano, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Mozambique; and Mr. Jan Nico Scholten, member of the Netherlands Parliament, speaking on behalf of the Preparatory Committee.

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The participants in the Conference were acutely conscious of the grave situation in Southern Africa, and the danger of a wider conflict, resulting from the policies and actions of the racist regime of South Africa, and the responsibility of governments and peoples of Western European countries to take effective action to help secure peace, freedom and democracy in Southern Africa. They noted with great anxiety that the Pretoria regime had increased repression against the black people of South Africa, and that many political detainees were being tortured and even killed. The negotiations for the independence of Namibia had been frustrated by the intransigence of the Pretoria regime, and by its escalated acts of aggression and destabilization against the Frontline States.

The participants recognized the need for maximum international pressure against the Pretoria regime and support for the legitimate struggle of the people of Southern Africa for the elimination of apartheid, the genuine independence of Namibia and the establishment of a democratic State in South Africa. They held full consultations on action by Parliamentarians of Western Europe towards the end, and have adopted the following Declaration.

The Conference declares that it is the duty of the governments and peoples of Western Europe to cooperate with African States in order to secure peace and freedom in South Africa.

It declares its full support for the struggle of the people of Namibia for genuine independence; and the struggle of the people of South Africa for the elimination of apartheid and the establishment of a democratic society. It expresses great appreciation to the Frontline States for the sacrifices they have made in support of freedom in South Africa and Namibia, and declares that they deserve all necessary assistance from the international community.

The Conference calls on the United Nations Security Council to impose mandatory sanctions against the regime. It emphasizes in particular the need for mandatory action to prohibit all military and nuclear collaboration with South Africa: to end all supplies of oil and oil products to South Africa; to stop all new investments in, and financial loans to, South Africa; and to end imports of coal and other commodities from South Africa.

It also calls for assistance to the national liberation movements of South Africa and Namibia, and to the Frontline States; sports, cultural, consumer and other boycotts of South Africa; and other actions to demonstrate solidarity with the oppressed people of South Africa and Namibia.

The participants pledge to take action, especially in their Parliaments, towards these ends. They will call on their governments to support sanctions against South Africa, and to exercise all their influence to promote universal and mandatory sanctions by the United Nations Security Council. They will also urge maximum assistance by their governments as well as organizations in their countries, for the oppressed people of South Africa and Namibia, and their national liberation movements, as well as the Frontline States.

The Conference expresses appreciation to all governments which have unilaterally imposed sanctions against South Africa and calls for extending unilateral sanctions. It also commends trade unions, religious bodies and other non-governmental organizations which have unequivocally opposed the minority regime in South Africa and have taken action to sever all political, religious, cultural and other contacts with that regime. In this connection, it welcomes the decisions of the recent assembly of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches.

It condemns the decision of the International Monetary Fund in granting a credit of more than one billion dollars to South Africa, under the pressure of a few Western countries, in spite of the appeal by the General Assembly of the United Nations. It also condemns continuing loans by banks and financial institutions to South Africa.

The Conference expresses its great anxiety that the Government of the United States of America has encouraged the racist regime by its ill-conceived policy of "constructive engagement" with that regime: its relaxation of the arms embargo against South Africa; and its support of efforts by the South African regime to frustrate the negotiations for the independence of Namibia through the so-called "linkage" with non-related matters.

It calls on all West European countries to stop all cooperation with the apartheid regime and to support the struggle for freedom in Southern Africa. It urges them to cooperate with independent African States in persuading the Government of the United States of America to abandon its present policies in Southern Africa.

After discussion of the developments in Southern Africa and an exchange of information on action taken by Governments, Parliaments and organizations in their countries, the Conference agreed on the following as a guide for concerted action by Parliamentarians.

1. Military and nuclear collaboration with South Africa

The mandatory arms embargo against South Africa, imposed by the United Nations Security Council by resolution 418 of 4 November 1977, must be fully implemented, effectively monitored and reinforced to prohibit all military and nuclear collaboration with South Africa. All governments must stop exports of so-called "dual purpose" equipment and military technology, as well as computers and communication equipment to South Africa. The arms embargo should not be limited to deliveries to the South African armed forces and must also include those to the South African police and all other government agencies.

Towards this end, Parliamentarians should:

- (a) take initiatives for an effective embargo with strict penalties, in countries which have not yet done so, to cover total cessation of all cooperation with South Africa in the nuclear field, transfer of technology relevant to arms production or nuclear plants, and import of military equipment or components manufactured in South Africa;
- (b) take relevant initiatives for the enactment of effective legislation on these points:
- (c) urge their governments to press for effective monitoring of the arms embargo by the Security Council, and to persuade the major Western Powers to facilitate the reinforcement of the arms embargo; and
- (d) maintain liaison with the United Nations Special Committee against Apartheid, and the World Campaign against Military and Nuclear Collaboration with South Africa.

2. Oil embargo against South Africa

The Conference stresses the importance of an effective oil embargo against South Africa, and recalls the conclusions of the Conference of West European Parliamentarians on an Oil Embargo against South Africa held in Brussels in January 1981. It welcomes the proposal made by the oil exporting countries at the current session of the United Nations General Assembly for an international conference to consider means for the effective implementation of the embargoes imposed by oil-exporting States.

Parliamentarians should:

- (a) urge their governments to press for a mandatory oil embargo against South Africa;
- (b) propose legislation for an oil embargo against South Africa. Such legislation should prohibit export and transport of oil and oil products to South Africa; any assistance to the petroleum industry in South Africa and any activities by corporations under their jurisdiction, including shipping companies, in violation of the embargoes imposed by the oil exporting countries.

The Conference requests the Special Committee against Apartheid and the Shipping Research Bureau in Amsterdam to take steps to keep parliamentarians and governments informed of all developments, including action by international organizations and national governments, and also to consult with those nations and organizations which are promoting international action to phase out flags of convenience.

3. Investments and loans

The Conference calls for an immediate end to investments in, and financial loans to, South Africa as urged by repeated resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly. Parliamentarians should consider initiating national legislation to end investments in, and financial loans, to South Africa.

4. Imports of uranium

The Conference calls on all governments to recognize the United Nations Council for Namibia as the legal authority for the Territory of Namibia and to implement its Decree No. 1 on the Protection of the Natural Resources of Namibia. Parliamentarians should initiate action, in countries which have not yet done so, to prohibit imports of uranium and other commodities from Namibia. They should also take necessary action so that Euratom will urgently see to it that no uranium from Namibia is delivered to Western Europe.

5. Imports of coal

The Conference calls on all countries of Western Europe to stop imports of coal from South Africa.

6. Boycott of apartheid sport

The Conference urges all governments and sports bodies to take necessary measures for a total boycott of apartheid sports.

Parliamentarians should urge their governments:

- (a) to refuse visas to South African sportsmen and sports administrators;
- (b) to stop any assistance to sports bodies which continue exchanges with South Africa; and
- (c) support the proposed United Nations Convention against apartheid in sport.

7. Visas to South Africans

The Conference calls on all governments, which have not yet done so, to end visa-free entry to nationals of South Africa, and to issue regulations to refuse visas to

- (a) military, police and intelligence personnel; and
- (b) representatives of the so-called "independent" bantustans.

They should, on the other hand, provide asylum to South Africans who refuse to participate in the military and security forces of South Africa on conscientious grounds.

8. Assistance

The Conference calls on governments and organizations to increase assistance to the oppressed people of South Africa and Namibia and their national liberation movements.

It also calls on the European Communities and national governments to increase contributions to the Southern Africa Development Co-ordination Conference (SADOC) and provide assistance to Frontline States.

9. Others

The Conference encourages initiatives by parliamentarians:

- (a) to send missions to Frontline States for consultations with their governments and with leaders of national liberation movements;
- (b) to promote joint action by like-minded governments of Europe pending mandatory decisions by the United Nations Security Council; and
- (c) to help publicize the situation in Southern Africa, and encourage movements against apartheid.

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The Conference expresses grave anxiety over the deadlock in the negotiations for the independence of Namibia, caused by the demands of the South African regime with the support of the United States of America. It denounces the plans of the South African regime to impose a so-called "internal settlement" in order to set up a puppet government in the Territory.

It urges all governments to impose sanctions against South Africa if the South African regime proceeds to implement those plans.

The Conference extends its greetings to the African National Congress of South Africa on its seventieth anniversary.

It pledges full support to the campaign for the release of Nelson Mandela and all other South African and Namibian political prisoners.

It requests the organizers of the Conference and the Special Committee against Apartheid to convey this declaration to the United Nations, the European Communities, the European and national Parliaments, and all other appropriate organizations.

Participants in the Conference agree to maintain liaison among themselves and with the Special Committee against Apartheid in their efforts to promote the implementation of this Declaration. Participants request the Preparatory Committee of the Conference to encourage initiatives on sanctions by West European parliamentarians, and to assist in the exchange of information among them.
