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GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA

 SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-third year

Letter dated 17 June 1988 from the Permanent Representative of
Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement issued on 17 June 1988 by the Acting Foreign Minister of Japan, His Excellency Mr. Keizo Obuchi, on the rejection by the supreme court of South Africa of the appeal for a retrial of the "Sharpeville Six" (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 36 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hideo KAGAMI
Ambassador Extraordinary
and Plenipotentiary,
Permanent Representative of
Japan to the United Nations

 * A/43/50.

ANNEX

Statement, issued on 17 June 1988 by the Acting Foreign Minister of Japan, on the rejection by the supreme court of South Africa of the appeal for a retrial of the Sharpeville Six

The Government of Japan has repeatedly expressed to the Government of the Republic of South Africa its grave concern over the planned execution of six persons involved in the 1984 Sharpeville incident. The executions will surely engender additional political turmoil in South Africa and adversely affect prospects for the abolition of apartheid through peaceful means.

The Government of Japan deploras the decision of the supreme court in Pretoria to reject the appeal for a retrial, in defiance of the strong requests of Japan and the international community, and strongly appeals to the Government of South Africa to rescind the execution orders and to strive to realize a peaceful solution to the South African problem through dialogue, as soon as possible.
