



General Assembly Security Council

Distr. *1000 09 88*
GENERALA/43/438
S/19976
1 July 1988

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-third session
Item 36 of the preliminary list*
POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-third year

Letter dated 1 July 1988 from the Permanent Representative
of Nigeria to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement issued by the Federal Government of Nigeria, in response to the recent assertion made by Mr. Jonas Savimbi, leader of UNITA rebel forces in Angola, to the effect that UNITA is receiving support from the Federal Republic of Nigeria, among other African countries, in its fight against the legitimate Government in Angola (see annex).

I further have the honour to request the circulation of the present letter and its annex as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 36 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Major-General J. N. GARBA, CFR
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/43/50.

ANNEX

Statement issued by the Federal Government of Nigeria

Our attention has been drawn to the assertion made by Mr. Jonas Savimbi, leader of UNITA rebel forces in Angola, while appearing as guest on ABC television news programme "Nightline" on the evening of 30 June 1988 to the effect that UNITA has Africa's support and that more African countries, including Nigeria, are coming out for reconciliation with UNITA. That assertion was mischievous, misleading and clearly misrepresented the policy and position of the Government and people of the Federal Republic of Nigeria on the question of the Angolan crisis.

Nigeria's longstanding position on this issue is well known and we wish to categorically reiterate that Nigeria whole-heartedly supports the efforts towards the peaceful settlement of the Angolan crisis. However, we would not support any peace moves that will jeopardize the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of Angola. We do not and will not support any act of rebellion against the legitimate Government of Angola. This is more so, as Nigeria had a similar experience, which we resolved ourselves with little or no interference from the international community. We therefore want to make it abundantly clear that Nigeria's commitment to the legitimate Government of Angola remains unflinching.

Moreover, our anti-apartheid posture does not permit for support to Jonas Savimbi's guerrilla unit which has South Africa as its major source of diplomatic, political and military support.
