

Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-third session.

15th plenary meeting
26 May 1988

1988/24. Women and children in Namibia

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1986/23 of 23 May 1986,

Recalling also the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,³⁰ in particular paragraph 259, which calls for the speedy and effective implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978) of 29 September 1978 concerning the independence of Namibia,

Gravely concerned about the delay in the implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978) regarding the withdrawal of South Africa's illegal administration from Namibia and the holding of elections under the supervision of the United Nations,

Deeply concerned about the perpetual suffering of Namibian women under the illegal occupation of the racist South African régime, and further concerned about the use of Namibian territory as a springboard for attacking and destabilizing neighbouring States,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on new developments concerning the situation of women under *apartheid* in South Africa and Namibia and measures of assistance to women from South Africa and Namibia who have become refugees as a result of the practice of *apartheid*,⁴⁵

1. *Condemns*, in no uncertain terms, the racist régime of South Africa for its installation of a so-called interim Government at Windhoek;

2. *Denounces* the forcible conscription of Namibian men and women between the ages of 17 and 55 years into the racist army, as well as the detention of children, practices which consolidate and facilitate widespread repression throughout the country;

3. *Rejects* South Africa's insistence on linking the independence of Namibia to the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola;

4. *Demands* the release of all political prisoners, among whom are included women and children, and the lifting of the state of emergency imposed by South Africa for more than twelve years;

5. *Demands* that South Africa refrain from using Namibia as a base from which to infiltrate Angola and other independent neighbouring countries;

6. *Calls upon* all women of the world to support and assist all bodies struggling to put an end to colonialism in Namibia;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-third session a comprehensive report on monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women with regard to women and children in Namibia.

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1988/25. Situation of Palestinian women

The Economic and Social Council,

Referring to the report of the Secretary-General on the situation of Palestinian women living within and outside the occupied Arab territories,⁴⁶

Mindful of the humanitarian principles and provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949,⁴⁷

Recalling the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,³⁰ in particular paragraph 260 thereof,

Noting with deep concern the escalating Israeli oppression and ill-treatment of the Palestinian people, including women and children in the occupied Palestinian territories,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the situation of Palestinian women and children inside and outside the occupied Palestinian territories to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-third session;

2. *Strongly condemns* the application of an "iron-fist" policy by Israel, the occupying Power, against Palestinian women and their families in the occupied Palestinian territories;

3. *Reaffirms* that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War is applicable to territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as a matter of urgency, to send a mission composed of experts on the status of women to investigate the situation of Palestinian women and children, in the light of the recent tragic developments in the occupied Palestinian territories;

5. *Requests* the Commission on the Status of Women to monitor the implementation of the provisions of paragraph 260 of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women concerning assistance to Palestinian women inside and outside the occupied territories;

6. *Reaffirms* that Palestinian women, as part of a nation whose people are prevented from exercising their basic human and political rights, cannot participate in the attainment of the objectives of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies, namely equality, development and peace, without the realization of their inalienable right to return to their homes, their right to self-determination and their right to establish an independent State in accordance with the relevant United Nations resolutions.

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1988/26. Elimination of discrimination against women in accordance with the aims of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

The Economic and Social Council,

⁴⁶ E/CN.6/1988/8 and Corr.1.

⁴⁷ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.