

# UNITED NATIONS



## GENERAL ASSEMBLY SECURITY COUNCIL

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
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QUESTION OF NAMIBIA

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Thirty-fourth year

Letter dated 26 October 1979 from the Acting President of the  
United Nations Council for Namibia addressed to the Secretary-  
General

I have the honour to transmit to you the attached statement of the President of the United Nations Council for Namibia, issued on 26 October 1979, on the revelation of a nuclear explosion carried out by the Government of South Africa.

I should like to request that the statement be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 27, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Miljan KOMATINA  
Acting President of the  
United Nations Council for Namibia

ANNEX

Statement issued on 26 October 1979 by the President of the  
United Nations Council for Namibia on the revelation of a  
nuclear explosion carried out by the Government of South  
Africa

1. The President of the United Nations Council for Namibia feels compelled to draw the attention of the international community to the awesome implications for international peace and security, particularly in southern Africa, resulting from the revelation that South Africa detonated a nuclear device on 22 September 1979. This action by the colonialist and racist Pretoria régime constitutes an ominous sign of defiance by a régime obsessed with perpetuating insane policies of racist domination and colonial exploitation against the indignant protests of the international community.
2. The President of the Council recalls a previous statement of the Council on 7 September 1977 a/ strongly condemning the reported intention of the Government of South Africa to carry out nuclear tests at South African nuclear installations in the Kalahari Desert. On that occasion, it drew the attention of those States which had contributed to South African nuclear development to the perils which such policies could bring upon the international community, particularly in southern Africa, and underlined their special responsibility for the dangerous situation which was unfolding. Today, those concerns have particular relevance. Those Western Powers which assisted the development of South Africa's nuclear capability bear a grave responsibility for this most disturbing development.
3. The President of the Council is certain that the heroic people of Namibia and of South Africa who for such a long time have sacrificed their lives in their struggle to fulfil legitimate aspirations for self-determination, freedom and genuine national independence will not be deterred by the sinister designs of the colonialist and racist régime in South Africa.
4. The President of the Council alerts the international community to the consequences of this turn of events for the prospects of an international settlement of the question of Namibia through the withdrawal of the illegal South African administration from the Territory and the fulfilment of the legitimate aspirations of the Namibian people for self-determination, freedom and national independence in a united Namibia. The Pretoria régime has persistently attempted to undermine the efforts for a negotiated settlement of the question of Namibia through a series of unilateral acts, the sole purpose of which has been to ensure the perpetuation of its illegal occupation and ruthless exploitation of

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a/ A/32/213-S/12398. For the printed text, see Official Records of the Security Council, Thirty-second Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1977.

the people and national resources of the Territory. By its action South Africa has revealed the full extent of its contempt for the well-considered view of the overwhelming majority of the members of the international community, which fully supports the aspirations of the Namibian people for genuine independence.

5. In contravention of United Nations resolutions and the will of the international community, South Africa is clearly bent on imposing a puppet régime on Namibia and destroying its unity and territorial integrity. In order to ensure its criminal aims, the illegal South African administration maintains in Namibia the machinery of a police State which, through its tactics of terror, carries out the arrest, torture and murder of Namibian patriots while cynically pretending to assist the Namibian people in creating the institutions for an independent Namibia. In addition to its brutal practices of repression of the legitimate aspirations of the Namibian people, South Africa has increasingly utilized the Territory for indiscriminate military assaults against the peace-loving people of neighbouring independent African countries. The vicious murder of innocent women and children in Cassinga Camp in Angola a year ago is a sufficient reminder of the ruthless extremes of the Pretoria régime.

6. The President of the Council once again stresses the position of the United Nations that the South African presence in Namibia is illegal and should be immediately and unconditionally terminated and that any arrangements by South Africa to impose unilaterally an internal settlement on the people of Namibia is in contravention of all decisions of the General Assembly and the Security Council. The acquisition by South Africa of nuclear weapons raises the danger of increasing the reckless and arrogant expansionist actions of the racists of Pretoria and dangerously aggravates the threat to international peace and security in southern Africa.

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