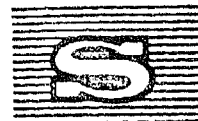


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LETTER DATED 18 APRIL 1977 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED
TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF ALL STATES MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS
AND MEMBERS OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

I have the honour to refer to my note PO 230 BOTS (1) of 4 February 1977 in which I transmitted a copy of Security Council resolution 403 (1977) of 14 January 1977 concerning assistance to Botswana.

It will be recalled that the Security Council recognized the special economic hardship confronting Botswana as a result of the need to divert funds from development projects for security needs and accepted the invitation of the Government to dispatch a mission to assess the country's needs in preparation of an international programme of financial and other assistance.

I wish to inform you that the Mission which I dispatched to Botswana in February has completed its work and submitted its report. The Mission was able to ascertain the effects of diverting resources from planned development to security needs, and the amount of financial, technical and material assistance which the country will require in order to carry out its planned development. This information is set out in detail in the attached copy of the Mission's report (S/12307).*

The Mission made a careful assessment of the amount of resources which it was expected would need to be diverted to security needs during the first three years of Botswana's new national development plan, which runs from 1976 to 1981. The Mission concluded that some \$28 million would have to be diverted for this purpose from the planned development. The Mission recommended that the most useful type of compensatory help from the international community would be financial assistance on a general programme basis to the Government. Nevertheless, if such assistance were not available to cover the whole \$28 million, a substantial proportion of it could be provided on a project-by-project basis.

Besides studying the resource-diversion aspects of the situation, the Mission also examined the extent to which security problems are making it necessary to introduce new projects in order to safeguard the general development of the country. The Mission identified 11 such projects, 9 of them being completely new and 2 of them being projects already in the national development plan, the implementation of which should now be accelerated. The total cost of these 11 projects would be \$25.5 million.

* Not reproduced in the present document.

It will thus be seen that the total sum required by Botswana to enable it to continue with its normal development, as envisaged in resolution 403 (1977), will amount to \$53.5 million over the next three years.

The Government of Botswana appreciates the need for co-ordinated action both in seeking international assistance and in using the assistance to implement the proposed programmes. I have designated Mr. Abdulrahim Abby Farah, Assistant Secretary-General for Special Political Questions, to be responsible at Headquarters for co-ordinating action by the United Nations system. His office will work in close co-operation with the Government of Botswana and will act as clearing house for information on all aspects of the assistance programme. In addition it will maintain records of the requirements of Botswana and of offers of assistance received or pledged.

The Government of Botswana has informed me that it will welcome both multilateral and bilateral assistance to help maintain the momentum of the country's development during this difficult period. A special account has been established at Headquarters for the convenience of those donors who may wish to channel their contributions to Botswana through the United Nations.

I am confident that all States will give the matter their most urgent attention and will respond positively to the appeal made by the Security Council by providing Botswana with the financial and material help which it so urgently needs. I trust that your Government will find it possible to contribute substantial assistance for this purpose.

(Signed) Kurt WALDHEIM
Secretary-General