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QUESTION OF NAMIBIA

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Thirty-second year

Letter dated 9 September 1977 from the Acting President of the  
United Nations Council for Namibia to the Secretary-General

The United Nations Council for Namibia, at its 263rd meeting on 7 September 1977, adopted a statement strongly condemning the decision of the Government of South Africa to separate the area of Walvis Bay from the rest of Namibia and administer it directly as part of the Cape Province of South Africa. I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the statement.

The United Nations Council for Namibia decided furthermore to request that the statement be circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Rikhi JAIPAL  
Acting President of the  
United Nations Council for Namibia

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\* A/32/150.

ANNEX

Statement of the United Nations Council for Namibia on  
the reported decision of the Government of South Africa  
regarding the status of Walvis Bay

1. The United Nations Council for Namibia has learned with grave concern of a report that the Government of South Africa has announced that the port of Walvis Bay would cease to be part of Namibia and would be administered as part of South Africa's Cape Province.
2. The United Nations Council for Namibia condemns in the strongest terms this unilateral attempt by South Africa to destroy the territorial integrity and unity of Namibia. Walvis Bay has always been an integral part of Namibia and South Africa has no right to change its status, or to appropriate it as a part of its own territory. The action by South Africa is against the territorial integrity of Namibia as recognized by General Assembly and Security Council resolutions, in particular Security Council resolution 385 (1976) of 30 January 1976. The South African decision is illegal and is an act of racist and colonialist expansion and deserves the condemnation of the entire membership of the United Nations. Furthermore, its decision to extend its own racist legislation to the blacks in Walvis Bay is a blatant act of provocation and calls for universal denunciation.
3. The United Nations Council for Namibia strongly endorses the statement of the International Conference in Support of the Peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia, held at Maputo from 16 to 21 May 1977, concerning the status of Walvis Bay. In its Maputo Declaration in Support of the Peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia and Programme of Action for the Liberation of Zimbabwe and Namibia, the Conference recognized Walvis Bay as an integral part of Namibia and rejected the attempts of South Africa to separate it from the rest of Namibia with which it was inextricably linked by geographical, historical, economic, cultural and ethnic bonds. a/ Furthermore, the Conference appealed to all States to endeavour to dissuade South Africa from pursuing its efforts to separate Walvis Bay from Namibia. The Conference called upon Governments to reject decisively all attempts by South Africa to dismember the Territory of Namibia and especially the decision to annex Walvis Bay. b/
4. The United Nations Council for Namibia recalls the decision taken by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) at its twenty-ninth ordinary session, and subsequently endorsed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU at its fourteenth ordinary session, which reaffirmed that any

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a/ A/32/109/Rev.1-S/12344/Rev.1, annex V, para. 25.

b/ Ibid., para. 50 (b).

agreement negotiated to lead Namibia to genuine independence must be based on specified pre-conditions, inter alia, the preservation of the present limits of the Territory, including Walvis Bay as a part of Namibia.

5. The United Nations Council for Namibia declares that the status of Walvis Bay is a colonial question. It was through colonial conquest and subsequent unilateral imposition of administrative arrangements that successive colonial régimes imposed their domination over the people and resources of Namibia, including Walvis Bay. The attempts by South Africa to perpetuate its control over Walvis Bay are an indication of the aggressive and expansionist designs of the Pretoria régime, which must be countered by the firm responses of the United Nations.

6. The United Nations Council for Namibia reiterates its full support of the legitimate struggle of the Namibian people under the leadership of its liberation movement, the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), to achieve self-determination and national independence in a united Namibia. The legitimacy of the struggle has been solemnly proclaimed by resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council. In particular, in its resolution 31/146 of 20 December 1976, the General Assembly declared that the continued illegal occupation of Namibia by South Africa constituted an act of aggression against the Namibian people and against the United Nations as the legal authority to administer the Territory until independence. It furthermore supported the armed struggle of the Namibian people, led by SWAPO, to achieve self-determination, freedom and national independence in a united Namibia. The refusal of South Africa to withdraw from Namibia and its current designs on Walvis Bay constitute an increasing threat to international peace and security in southern Africa.

7. The independence of Namibia cannot be complete without the recovery of Walvis Bay from South African control. The United Nations Council for Namibia expects the Security Council to take appropriate and adequate measures to maintain the status of Walvis Bay as an integral part of the international Territory of Namibia.

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