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LETTER DATED 29 AUGUST 1984 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ZIMBABWE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to request that the attached document, entitled "SWAPO Statement on Cessation of Armed Hostilities in Namibia" and dated 13 August 1984, be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Elleck K. MASHINGAIDZE
Ambassador/Permanent Representative

Annex

SWAPO Statement on Cessation of Armed Hostilities in Namibia dated 13 August 1984

Pursuant to its commitment and deep yearning to put an immediate end to the bloodshed, loss of lives and destruction of property in Namibia, SWAPO reaffirms its readiness to cease armed struggle in Namibia if South Africa should agree to a specified time frame, with a fixed date, for the commencement of the implementation of the United Nations Plan for the independence of Namibia as embodied in United Nations Security Council resolution 435 (1978).

The sole purpose of SWAPO's armed struggle is to end the illegal occupation of Namibia by South Africa. There will certainly be no need or justification for SWAPO to continue with the armed struggle once the South African Government has agreed to a concrete time frame for Namibia's independence, through the fixing of a date for the commencement of the implementation of resolution 435.

It is very important that the South African Government understands that SWAPO will not agree to a South African supervised and controlled transitional process to Namibia's independence. There exists among the Namibian people a profound distrust of the South African Government because of its record of wanton repression and atrocities in Namibia.

Against this background, SWAPO is firmly convinced that the Namibian people must have the protection and assurance of the international community that the transitional process to independence will, indeed, be free, fair and democratic. It is in the light of this that SWAPO cannot accept the idea of a cessation of hostile acts in Namibia, which South Africa is proposing, in the absence of a firm commitment by South Africa to a fixed date for the commencement of the implementation of resolution 435.

SWAPO remains ready, however, for direct and constructive contacts with South Africa at the highest possible level.