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LETTER DATED 12 MAY 1966 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-CENERAL

I wish to draw your attention to the fact that I have today sent the following letter to the President of the General Assembly, twentieth session:

"With reference to your letter concerning the enlargement of the membership of the Special Committee on the Policies of Apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa, I have the honour to inform you that the Soviet Union is prepared to take part in the work of the Special Committee.

"The Soviet Union's position on the question of the racist policies pursued by the South African regime is widely known. The Soviet Union holds, as it always has done, that the inhuman policies of apartheid should be brought to an end. As you know, the USSR does not maintain diplomatic or consular relations with the Republic of South Africa, nor does it have trade ties with that country. The Soviet Union has repeatedly declared that it will continue in future to support any appropriate action which will contribute to the speedy elimination of the infamous policies of apartheid in the Republic of South Africa.

"The Soviet Union attaches great importance to the activities of the Special Committee on apartheid and takes the view that, whether or not it proves possible to appoint the additional six members of the Committee pursuant to the decision of the Ceneral Assembly at its last session, the Committee should begin its work without delay as at present constituted."

I should be grateful if you would take the necessary steps to have this letter circulated as an official General Assembly document.

(Signed) N. FEDORENKO