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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Twentieth session  
Agenda item 36THE POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICANote by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to circulate to the Members of the General Assembly the attached letter, dated 14 June 1966, from the President of the twentieth session of the General Assembly concerning the appointment of the six additional members of the Special Committee on the Policies of Apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa in accordance with paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 2054 A (XX) of 15 December 1965.

Rome, 14 June 1966

PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Twentieth session

Dear Mr. Secretary-General,

I refer to my letter of 31 March 1966, reproduced in document A/6226, in which I stated that the consultations with delegations did not provide the expected indications in order to appoint the six additional members of the Special Committee on the Policies of Apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa in keeping with the very precise requirements set forth in operative paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 2054 A (XX), and that there was no other choice left but to have this matter re-examined by the General Assembly at its next session.

Subsequently, the Chairman of the Special Committee requested me, through you, on behalf of the Committee, to make formal approaches to Member States concerned to ascertain their willingness to be designated as members of the Committee.

According to this request, I sent - through your good offices - identical letters, the text of which is enclosed, to the Permanent Representatives of nineteen Member States which were selected taking into account the criteria indicated in the above-mentioned paragraph 3 of resolution 2054 A (XX), namely;

- (a) Member States having higher trade with South Africa according to the available statistical data;
- (b) Member States having, under the Charter, primary responsibilities for the maintenance of international peace and security;
- (c) Member States from areas not already represented or not equitably represented in the Committee.

Up to this date seventeen replies have been received:

(a) Fourteen have indicated their inability, on various grounds, to take part in the work of the Committee;

His Excellency  
U Thant  
Secretary-General of the  
United Nations  
New York, N.Y.

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(b) Three have indicated willingness to serve in the Committee, among the six members to be appointed; two of these have also indicated that such an appointment could be acceptable provided that some other assumptions, which in the present circumstances have not materialized, are fulfilled.

On the basis of the aforementioned replies, it appears that it is still not possible to designate the six additional members in accordance with the requirements of the General Assembly resolution.

I would greatly appreciate it if this letter could be communicated to the Chairman of the Special Committee and to all Member States.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Amintore FANFANI

Enclosure

PO 230 SOAF (2-1)

22 April 1966

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit to you the following letter from His Excellency, Mr. Amintore Fanfani, President of the twentieth session of the General Assembly, on his behalf and at his request:

"Sir,

"I have the honour to refer to operative paragraph 3 of resolution 2054 A (XX), adopted by the General Assembly on 15 December 1965, deciding to enlarge the Special Committee on the Policies of Apartheid of the Government of the Republic of South Africa by the addition of six members 'to be appointed by the President of the General Assembly on the basis of the following criteria:

- '(a) Primary responsibility with regard to world trade;
- '(b) Primary responsibility under the Charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security;
- '(c) Equitable geographical distribution.'

"In my letter of 31 March 1966 to the Secretary-General, published as document A/6226, I stated that, as the consultations with delegations did not provide the expected indications in order to appoint the six additional members in keeping with the very precise requirements set forth in the resolution of the General Assembly, there was no other choice left but to have this matter re-examined by the General Assembly at its next session.

"Subsequently, the Chairman of the Special Committee has requested me, on behalf of the Committee, through the Secretary-General, to make formal approaches to Member States concerned to ascertain their willingness to be designated as members of the Committee and to inform the Special Committee as soon as possible so that it can consider the situation in the light of the results of the approaches.

"I have the honour, therefore, to ask you to be so good as to convey to your Government my request that it consider the matter and to inform me as soon as possible whether it is willing to be designated as a member of the Special Committee. I would like to add that I am addressing a similar request to a number of other Governments, so as to enable me to select six members from among those willing to be designated, or to take other appropriate action.

"Accept, Sir, ...

(Signed) Amintore Fanfani"

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I shall be grateful if you could communicate to Mr. Fanfani, as soon as possible, your reply to this letter.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

U Thant  
Secretary-General

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