



General Assembly    Security Council

Distr.  
GENERAL

A/45/125 ✓  
S/21148  
15 February 1990  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
Forty-fifth session  
POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE  
GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA

SECURITY COUNCIL  
Forty-fifth year

Letter dated 13 February 1990 from the Permanent Representative of  
Madagascar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit for your information the text of two messages,  
dated 2 and 11 February 1990 respectively, from His Excellency  
Mr. Didier Ratsiraka, President of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, to  
His Excellency Mr. Frederik de Klerk, President of the Republic of South Africa.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annexes circulated  
as an official document of the General Assembly, under the item entitled "Policies  
of apartheid of the Government of South Africa", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Blaise RABETAFIKA  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

ANNEX I

Text of the message dated 2 February 1990 from the President of  
Madagascar to the President of the Republic of South Africa

It is with pleasure that I extend to you my sincere congratulations for the courageous measures you have just announced to your country's Parliament and to the entire world, namely the release of Nelson Mandela and legal recognition of the African National Congress (ANC).

These measures, characterized by justice and common sense, mark a historic advance of the utmost importance and pave the way for the effective eradication of the apartheid system.

Please believe that the Democratic Republic of Madagascar duly appreciates the magnitude of your political gesture, which reflects honour upon you and presages the dawning of a new era in Africa.

Basing myself on the readiness you have so clearly expressed to move forward, I dare to hope that this first step will strengthen your commitment to the rapid and definitive dismantling of the nefarious apartheid system.

The entire Malagasy people and its Revolutionary Power rejoice exceedingly and without reservation at the unconditional release of Nelson Mandela and the restoration of the right of the black people of South Africa to free political expression.

(Signed) Didier RATSIRAKA  
President of the Democratic  
Republic of Madagascar

ANNEX II

Text of the message dated 11 February 1990 from the President of  
Madagascar to the President of the Republic of South Africa

The release of Nelson Mandela today compels me to extend to you once again my warmest congratulations on the fact that this event constitutes a brilliant realization of your constructive vision in which the apartheid system is to be consigned to oblivion along with one of the darker periods in mankind's history.

May you continue along the right path and ultimately arrive at the total elimination of apartheid in South Africa - in so doing, you will have earned Africa's gratitude.

For its part, the Democratic Republic of Madagascar stands fully ready to make any contribution asked of it during the difficult period in which a régime characterized by justice and freedom comes to life in South Africa.

(Signed) Didier RATSIRAKA  
President of the Democratic  
Republic of Madagascar

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