



General Assembly Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

A/40/557
S/17405

16 August 1985

ENGLISH

ORIGINAL: FRENCH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fortieth session
Item 35 of the provisional agenda*
POLICIES OF APARTHEID OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fortieth year

Letter dated 16 August 1985 from the Permanent Representative of
Senegal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the statement made by His Excellency Mr. Abdou Diouf, President of the Republic of Senegal and current Chairman of the Organization of African Unity, following the latest developments in South Africa (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the statement circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 35 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Massamba SARRE

* A/40/150.

ANNEX

Statement by the President of Senegal, current Chairman of
the Organization of African Unity, following the latest
developments in South Africa

Although his speech was eagerly awaited and although there had been a widespread chorus of international censure which had grown louder since the proclamation of the state of emergency, South African President Pieter Botha has once again shown how far obstinacy in blindness and persistence in despising human beings by reason of their race can lead.

Even in the eyes of those whose condemnation of apartheid had thus far been rather mild and who had therefore refused to adopt mandatory economic sanctions against the segregationist régime, the general turbulence of the present internal situation in South Africa offered President Botha the opportunity, for once, to grasp the true sense and scope of events and anticipate them by taking specific action for the total and definitive renunciation of apartheid before being compelled by force to do so some day, a day which is no longer so far away.

Unfortunately, nothing of the sort happened. No specific measures were announced. On the contrary, the President of South Africa went so far as to deny the existence of the black majority, since in his view South Africa was composed of several minorities. Mr. Botha did not even shrink back from contradictions. In the same speech, he actually rejected the principle of universal suffrage in his country on the ground that it would lead to domination by one group over another.

And to cap it all, the President of South Africa reaffirmed the necessity for Bantustans and even rejected the creation of a fourth chamber, which would not satisfy the black majority in any case. It is thus clear that his speech is merely beating a dead horse.

The Organization of African Unity, speaking through me, expresses its profound indignation and its deep disappointment at such a state of affairs. It solemnly reaffirms its support, more resolute than ever, for the black majority in South Africa, for the valiant freedom fighters who form the liberation movements of South Africa and for the front-line countries.

I am convinced that such sugar-coating will never succeed in disarming or catching off guard the internal resistance which has today taken on an unprecedented scope and magnitude.

The Organization of African Unity appeals once more to international public opinion and to the Governments of the Western countries, to which South Africa has just proved its bad faith and its persistent blindness. We ask them for greater understanding of the just cause of the South African peoples and for increased moral, material and diplomatic assistance for their struggle, so that mandatory economic sanctions, which alone are capable of making the supporters of apartheid see the light, may be adopted.

A/40/557
S/17405
English
Page 3

This is the only way to save from irreparable disaster a region which is vital for the balance of the planet and peace in the world.

Wisdom commands us all at this crucial moment to draw on the human spirit's inexhaustible resources of clear vision and generosity before it is too late.

(Signed) Ahdou DIOUF
President of the Republic of Senegal,
Current Chairman of the
Organization of African Unity
