



Security Council

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NOTE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The President of the Security Council wishes to bring to the notice of Member States the following message from the President of the Security Council to the World Conference on Sanctions against Racist South Africa, Paris, 16-20 June 1986:

"In my capacity as President of the Security Council for the month of June, I have the honour to transmit a message to the World Conference on Sanctions against Racist South Africa. This message does not prejudice the individual position of members of the Security Council on specific aspects of the way the problem is to be resolved.

"The Security Council has repeatedly condemned the abhorrent system of apartheid and reaffirmed that the policy of apartheid is a crime against the conscience and dignity of mankind, incompatible with the rights and dignity of man, the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and seriously disturbs international peace and security.

"Following the World Conference for Action against Apartheid held in Lagos in August 1977, the Security Council, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, determined that the acquisition by South Africa of arms and related matériel constituted a threat to the maintenance of international peace and security and imposed a mandatory arms embargo against South Africa. In its resolution 418 of 4 November 1977, the Security Council decided that all States should cease forthwith any provision to South Africa of arms and related matériel of all types and should refrain from any co-operation with South Africa in the manufacture and development of nuclear weapons.

"Subsequently, by its resolution 421 of 9 December 1977, the Security Council, mindful of the need for appropriate machinery in order to examine the progress of implementation of the measures envisaged by the provisions of resolution 418 (1977), decided to establish a Committee, consisting of all members of the Council, to monitor the progress of implementation and to study ways and means by which the mandatory arms embargo could be made more effective against South Africa.

"On 13 June 1980, the Security Council, gravely concerned over the aggravation of the situation in South Africa, unanimously adopted resolution 473 (1980). In that resolution the Council strongly condemned the Government

of South Africa for further aggravating the situation and for its massive repression against all opponents of apartheid, and called on all States strictly and scrupulously to implement resolution 418 (1977) and to enact, as appropriate, effective national legislation for that purpose. It further requested the Security Council Committee established under resolution 421 (1977) to redouble its efforts to secure full implementation of the arms embargo against South Africa by recommending measures to close all loopholes in the arms embargo, reinforce and make it more comprehensive. In accordance with that resolution, the Committee submitted a report to the Security Council (S/14179) containing an analysis of problems encountered in the implementation of the embargo and a series of conclusions and recommendations. The Committee is currently engaged in studying ways and means to make the mandatory arms embargo more effective by closing any loopholes.

"The Security Council acted to enhance the effectiveness of the arms embargo by the unanimous adoption on 13 December 1984 of resolution 558 (1984). In that resolution the Council, recognizing that South Africa's intensified efforts to build up its capacity to manufacture armaments undermined the effectiveness of the mandatory arms embargo and considering that no State should contribute to South Africa's arms production capability by purchasing arms manufactured in South Africa, requested all States to refrain from importing arms, ammunition of all types and military vehicles produced in South Africa.

"In its resolution 569 (1985) of 26 July 1985, the Security Council strongly condemned the apartheid system and all the policies and practices deriving therefrom and urged States Members of the Organization to adopt selective voluntary measures against South Africa.

"By its resolution 581 (1986) of 13 February 1986, the Security Council strongly condemned racist South Africa for its threats to perpetrate acts of aggression against the front-line States and other States in southern Africa and called upon all States to exert pressure on South Africa to desist from perpetrating acts of aggression against neighbouring States. It demanded once again the immediate eradication of apartheid as the necessary step toward the establishment of a non-racial democratic society based on self-determination and majority rule through the full and free exercise of universal adult suffrage by all the people in a united and non-fragmented South Africa.

"In the statements which they made in the Security Council, the members of the Council condemned aggression committed by South Africa against Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe on 19 May 1986.

"The members of the Security Council are committed to do all in their power, consistent with the Charter of the United Nations, to hasten the achievement of this objective.

"In my capacity as President of the Security Council, I wish to extend to the President of the Conference, and to the participants of the Conference, my sincere wishes for success in hastening the elimination of the scourge of apartheid."