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TEXT OF SPEECH DELIVERED BY MRS NZO,
CHAIRMAN OF THE ANC (SA) WOMEN'S
SECTION IN TANZANIA ON THE OCCASION OF
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY AT ARNATOGLU
HALL, DAR ES SALAAN ON 11th MARCH: 1222.

Thank you Chairman, the National Chairman of Umoja wa
Wanawake Wa Tanzania, Lady members of the diplomatic corps,
Comrades and Friends.

We are meeting today to celebrate an event that fell three
days ago to pay tribute to the women throughout the world
who fell in the cause of struggle and, to extend our solidari-
ty to those women who are still locked in a life and death'
struggle against exploitation, colonialism, racism, neo-colo-
nialism, hunger, disease and illiteracy.

Comrade Charman,

March 8, which is International Women's Day has a heroic
history dating back to 1910 when hundreds of working mothers
and girls, working in the New York clothing industry went out
on a militant demonstration for decent working conditions,
shorter hours of work and a better standard of living.
Frightened by the success of the strike which brought to
focus the might of united action by the working women, the
American monopoly capitalists unleashed a rain of terror
subjecting the women demonstrators to extreme brutality and
savagery. Mounted horses were ruthlessly made to trample upon
them and the baton wielded with the ferocity unknown in any
society.

These heinous and barbaric actions against the women in New
York fueled the world with disgust and anger. Clara Zetkin, a
German progressive woman had to move a motion in Copenhagen
for the observance of that day as International Women's Day
each year on March 8. .

In response to that call, our one million women in different
centres throughout the world, began to celebrate this day
on March 8, 1911.

That Chairman and friends, is in short the significance of
the International Women's Day.

'h In the recent years, this occasion has given us the opportu-
nity to extend international solidarity support to all those,
especially women, fighting for peace and the emancipation
of women as proclaimed in the United Nations Charter for
the rights of women. At the same time, it is an occasion '
on which we extend active support to the oppressed and stru-
ggle Women in Mozambique, Angola, Namibia, South Africa,
Zimbabwe, Guinea Bissau, the Middle East, in Indo-China and
Latin America for the overthrow of the forces of imperialism,
colonialism and racism in those countries. It is an occasion
when we hail our sisters in the newly African independent
countries for their contribution for the strengthening of
their sister states towards economic independence which serves
the interests of the African revolution as a whole.

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Comrade Chairman,

The women of South Africa are a loyal detachment of the great international army of women who as a disciplined force have assaulted the citadels of Oppression since the fmmmhgofmnsdww

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The history of our Organisation which was founded in 1912 in response to the clarion call of its founding fathers, is replete with references of the heroic contributions of the Women of our country. Theirs has been and continues to be a determined struggle against white minority fascist oppression, the transference of all power to the dispossessed and degraded African people, all in the interests of the rapid advancement of our country along genuinely democratic lines. The development of this struggle which today has reached the irrevocable stage of armed struggle has always found our women folk marching in the front ranks.

Comrade Chairman,

I would be failing in my duty if I do not request this meeting through you, to stand up for a minutes silence in honour of those women who fell in the cause of struggle be it in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Comrade Chairman,

On this occasion we should remember some of the heroines of South Africa like Dorothy Nyembe currently serving a sentence of 15 years imprisonment for her contribution in the cause of peace and progress.

Florence Matomela whose husband died whilst she was serving a prison sentence. Our sister Florence, also paid the supreme sacrifice when she too had to die immediately after her release from jail.

We salute Miss Shanti Naidoo who, because of the savage ban imposed on her cannot leave racist South Africa even on an exit permit.

We salute Mrs Albertina Sisulu Who, together with her young son of 15 years of age, was arrested and placed in solitary confinement under the 90-day no-trial law. She is now banned and confined to a small township in Johannesburg.

We raise our fists in salute to one of the first young women of South Africa, Comrade Mercy Tshabalala, who at the age of 18 years joined the military wing of our Organisation - Umkhonto Wesizwe. Comrade Mercy died at 25 ready to storm the barriers of apartheid through the barrel of the gun.

At this hour, our support goes all out to Angela Davis who is being persecuted by the American oppressive machine for a crime she did not commit.

Let us remember all our fighting women in Africa, Asia and Latin America the success of whose struggles will ensure world peace and human progress.

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Finally, let us convey our deep felt appreciation to the peace-loving women of the world who have not failed us , in the fierce and protracted struggles we are engaged upon. We are also thankful for continuing moral and material support we receive from free and independent African States, the Socialist countries as well as from progressive forces whose influence on their capitalist Governments, is to us a magnificent source of inspiration.

To our sisters in Tanzania, we say to them "UMOJA WA WANA-RAKE OYEEE .

LONG LIVE THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAYEE

LONG LIVE PROGRESSIVE WOMEN OF THE WORLDDEE!

LONG LIVE THE FIGHTING WOMEN OF AFRICAZEE

LONG LIVE INDEPENDENT AFRICAZEE

POWER TO THE WOMENEE

AMANDLAZEE