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\*Nkrumah, Abdel Gamal Nassr, Kenneth Kaunda, Sekou Toure, Amilcar Cabral, Murtala Mohammed, Senora Moises Maqhel, Seretse Khama, Kinshasa, Leabue Jonathan, Chief Albert Luthuli, Herbert Chitepo and many others.

stinh9/Meto, Eduardo Mondlane, Hourii Bommediene,

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To them all, we owe an undying debt which we can only discharge by persisting in the struggle for the realisation of the vision they shared - the vision of a united, free, prosperous, progressive and peaceful Africa. In a sense, we have a right to stand here and address this Silver Jubilee only to the extent that by our deeds we

defend, uphold and promote that vision.

The goal of a united Africa is one that has been handed to us by all the African patriots who have gone before. It is the good fortune of the peoples of our continent that it has been pursued with determination and exemplary vigour by many with whom we have the honour to share this hall today.

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This enduring dedication and unswerving commitment to Africa's cause are embodied in the current chairman of our organisation, His Excellency Comrade Kenneth Kamukama, President of the Republic of Zambia. 31st Chairman of the Frontline States.

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. , for us in the liberation struggle, it is highly

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eighteen years ago that when the OAU was formed, before the independence of Zambia, were the President of PAFMECSA, a unique political organisation in which independent

African states shared a common and equal membership with non-independent territories represented by their respective liberation movements. Today, as current chairmen of the OAU, you are presiding over the celebrations marking its 25th anniversary. This speaks eloquently of your tremendous staying power as a leader of the African people;

Your Excellencies, to we who are aware of the world's most brutal regimes, the decisive issue of the unity of our continent assumes a special meaning and sense of urgency.

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d, considering the meeting that

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no African country can be free until all Africa is free, not only as an eminent principle, but also as a vital guide to action which has made victory over the forces of colonialism possible. In our region of Southern Africa, daily events emphasise the point that to guarantee the freedom of the member states of this Organisation, the people of South Africa and those of Namibia must be free.

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We are therefore convinced that as we mark the 25th Anniversary of the OAU} Africa will renew its commitment to unite in action for the total liberation of our continent and edept aÃ© well as ensure imhlemtation of the necessary decisions for the realisation of this noble objective which we set ourselves collectively and i Vindividualhy a quarter of a centyny egoo

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MUF. This 25th Anniversary commemoration also serves as an appropriate platform for the  
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national liberation movements of Southern Africa to pay tribute to Africe and to  
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people of conscience worldawide, who have exerted their energies towards the total  
isolation of the apartheid re3ime and who have actively participated in the campaign  
for the imposition of comprehensive mandatory sanctions against this regime.

Their commitment to tliie noble cause is vindicated by their conviction that apartheidd  
is not only the rootâ\200\224oause of conflict in our region but that it is also a crime  
a3ainst the entire humanity and a grave threat to world peace and securitya  
we in Southern Africa are therefore greetly inspired by end indebtedi'to the  
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worliunide enti-apertheid movement particularly in those ceihtries whose governments,  
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such as those of the United States, United Kingdom and the Federatel Republic of  
Germany which collaborate with the racist regimeo

From this rostrum we urge them to

intensify their noble efforts. It is throu3h that eflort that the debate on sanctions\_  
\* has now been transformed from "whether to apply sanctions against Pretoria" to  
"what type of sanctions to apply".

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(It 13 for this reason that 1n the oomln3 month our attent ion and the attention of

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ifrice will he directea towerde the US Con3rese in washin3ton Where the Sanction  
Bill is hein3 debated; We cell upon the QAU to urge-the US lememeakers to take a  
gnwitive p031Mton on this bill, that muet eurelv lead to the en& of the conflict  
in our re3i0h.

In the same vein, Africa must call upon the US Presidential candidates, to commit themselves in favour of comprehensive mandatory sanctions against apartheid regime; economic assistance for the member states of the SADC; the establishment of diplomatic relations between the USA and the People's Republic of Angola; the cessation of US

aid to UNITA. The commitment of the African Union to the fight against apartheid and the promotion of economic and social development in Africa is a clear message to the international community.

1. The African Union

the frontline states to enhance their defence capabilities against South Africa's state terrorism, if elected.

The victory of the African Union in the international community, combined with the determination

of the people of Southern Africa, guarantee our victory against the 'white

minority regime. Regardless of the resistance that this common enemy may offer,

the victorious outcome of our struggle can neither be steeped nor denied. The message of

history cannot be reversed.

The historic destinies of the peoples cannot be

negated. The oppressed people will attain their emancipation, however strong the oppressive might appear to be.

Your Excellencies, on this occasion of the Silver Jubilee of the OAU we make bold

to say that the Organisation of African Unity has established itself as a mighty

force in world politics. It enjoys such weight as none of our peoples can

attain individually. Our peoples expect that on this historic occasion

those who are gathered here will renew the timeless vows to which this organisation

is bound: to liberate the oppressed, feed the hungry, assert the dignity of those

ilzl'exrixlg failed to quell the popelar political upsurge in South Africa through the  
f zealous application of the State of Emergency, the regime has now clampedmdown on,  
; 18 nohâ\200\224violent democratic organisations, imposed severe restrictions on the med  
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9 and threateneĩ-\202 to take serious aetionâ\200\230egainst even rell5lous leaders. â  
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Haunted by the spectre of theihNC, the apartheid regime has now set up in Africa,  
EuroPe and North.hmeriea, assassination units, the soâ\200\224called Zâ\200\224squads to  
physieelhy  
ellminete ANC leading Officials. The recent coldnhlooded murder he PgrgssefSamrade  
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iEulâ\200\230ĩ-\201eSeetemoer, ANC Chief Representative, is evidence of Pretpria's sinist  
er  
designs.

The Preteria regime has transplanted all the evils of its apartheid policy with--  
all its vicioueness on to theâ\200\224tEPÂ¥\$Â¥EEy=af Namibia, which it illegally occupies  
in  
defiance of international law. In the brutal war that'this're5im.e is waging 15011111812  
the Namibia people 13 has now entered a new phase; wherein it is reportedly murdering  
systematically, neW'born male children. This comes at a tlme when Adrioe and the OAU  
are d\_eeply concerned and pre-occupied with the survival of children,

This new wave of terrOr is not in the least fortuitous. It is the unfolding of e  
5ĩ-\202eolared programme whose basic tenets were announced by ?.W. Bethe himself who  
recently made clear that the regime was determined to eliminate the ANC and all  
extra~parliamentery opposltion ln order to pave the way for7m03Â§%a%e blacks to  
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participate in his bogus reform schemes.

>At the regional level the regime has been pursuing the same twinâ\200\224track polioyÂ¥i  
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zviz, theâ\200\234133ÂfÂ§1ÂfÂ§31â\200\224ef its hegemony through the intensification of i  
ts i-\201estabiliâ\200\224

sation e:the neighbouring states as in the case of Angola and Mozambique whilst  
simultaneously seeking to projectitself est: being in search of peace through  
negotiations.

g For all those who we elOsely followihc the political eVents in Southern Africa it  
; is abundantly clear tieat contrary to all appearances

the regime has entered into

negotiations with Angola from a position of weakness rather than strength. A major

.eohtrihutingvfectorthet has pushed Pretoria to the negotiating table is undoubtedly,v  
; the humillietlh5 defeat it suffered at the hands of Angolan forces in the great

-bettle of Cuitoâ\200\224Cuanavalle. At Cuito.Cuenavalle, the Popular Armed Forces of An5  
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(FAPLA) suboessfullyâ\200\230defended hot only the territory of Angola against a meraudin  
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invader but have also defended the dignity and honour of Afrioag

? Thusl~lhilet Anbola has entered the talks from a position of military strength She

5 still need

all the support that we can muster.

There\_oan therefore he no better

2platform thatn the 25th Anniversary commemoration for Africa to comznit itself to

(the Ã@efehoe of Am5ola end 111 the other Frontlihe States which are carryin5 the

brunt of the Stru551e in South Africa and Namibian

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Ybur Exoellenoiee, twenty five years ago, the Pretoria regime felt confident that it  
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[would remain in power for all time. It was steadily building the apartheid structures,  
certain that it would proÃ@uce a social svetem that would guarantee the permanent  
subjugation of the bleolc majority and the perpetual domination of the Namibian people

\_ %Â\$.}}11 thesystem of violent repressien.

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?Thus if the struggle e6einet the apartheid reglme 25 years ago was a formidable one,  
{\it has become an increasingly enormous one todeyo In perueance of its sinister

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objective, the apartheid regime has over the years built up 1 colloel military â\200\234  
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mlÂ\$ht, perfected ite repressive machinery in both Namibia and South Afriee and hee

as a matter of etete policy, continued to wreak havoc in the neighbourln2

with contemptuous disregard feVlife and property.

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It would, however, be incorrect to View the etente of our region purely through the

prism of therapartheid regime's mounting repression. Indeed the forces of liberation  
ln our regiohï-\202heVe not only grown in strength but have also registered important  
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\r' ToÃ@ey, the apartheid re lme is steeped in a general permanent crisis from which it  
ommot extricate itself. Its arrogant confidence is a. thing of the past. The white

pogulation which the racist regime had hopeÃ@ to keep united behind the ruling  
fascist eerty is e diminishing minority end is ditided eehever before. The belt of  
colonieed territories that it had hoped would ring its.bordere as a protective

perimeter eecuringâ\200\231apertheid.30uth Africa from the impact of the.hfriceh revoluti  
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has vanished for everï¬\201fee,e

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As the etruggle\$ in both:=lamuela and South Africa conti¬\201puesto regs with increasing  
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These neseite are some of the meet imp01â\200\234tent achievements of the persistent

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etwu"le of the peOplee of our continent to destroy the apartheid system. Their  
true import lies in the challenge they poee to us. For they goint to the task we  
face collectively as we celebrate this Silver Jubilee of the QAU: Netâ\200\224eeÃyeÃe~t



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lnÃ©eeeteâ\200\224+ha~poss1h1111ileÂ§\_\_Q.advaeee,;m314amxhhmmÂf~â\200\230Ihej emphasise the necessity

for us to eat decisively and consistentl3r in pursuit of victory.

f Your Excellencies, our commemoration le tekinb place when Africa and our region are

l wagine en all~out offensive to rid our continent of the last bastion of colonialism.\*

The Pretoria regime, in an effort to make the laetâ\200\224ditch stand has itself embarke  
d

uyon a massive counteruoffene ive characterised by a new wave of terror unleashed

against its Opponents in Namibia and South Afhioeo

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who are despised, and position our mother continent in its rightful place among the community of nations.

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Above all, we have to repeat that Africa must be free. Africa must be prosperous. Africa must be at peace with itself and thrive in a universe that is free of nuclear weapons, and governed by civilised norms of friendship and cooperation among the peoples.

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Addis Ababa a-May 25, 1988.

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9111 81mm mmme 0.8 21.1115 03 811m 1111) eommmem: ADDIS 13131  
11111111 ~ MAY 25, 1988

Mr Chairman,

Distinguished African Hea6s of State andGovernment,

Your Excellencies Ministers, Ambassadors and High Commissioners,

Comrades, Ladies and Gentlemen;

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pa3t1319ani3.ln\_thiÂ\$:g\_emn\_meetlhgg On this occasion we should also like to place  
on record our deepâ\200\224felt gratitude to the party, government and people of Ethiopia  
for enabling us to come to this ancient capital in order to mark an important land-  
mark in the life of our continental organisation, the OAU.

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Indeed the almost legendary hospitality of the Ethiopoah people can truly be testified  
to by all of Africa's sons and daughters who over the years have had to come to the  
birthplace of the OAU.

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31Allew~me to pay special tribute113 the great son of Africa under whose wise guidance

â\200\230and leadership Ethiopia and Africa have been and continue to be indebted benefi-  
ciaries

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~ Comrei-\201e Mengietu Haile Mariam, General Secretary of the Genital.33mmÃ@t\$eeâ\200

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W0lhere Party of Ethiopia, President of the PeOple' s Demooratio Republic of Ethiopia  
and Commenderulanhief of the Revolutionhary'Armed.Forees.

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address this august and historic Silver Jubilee

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the presence amongg

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us of many outstanding sons and daughters of our continent who were, some in person  
amd others in spirit, with us 25 veers ago in this historic city.

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peoples et.its\_Â£3undatlen We speak of both the famoa8 and the unaoelaimed'uho,4ï-\201Luw

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through\theirâ\200\224eeenifiees, enabled us to look at the destiny of our continent and  
our

l own respective countries with confidence, hope, and the certainty of a bright and  
.glorious future.

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Iy is beyond our power to make up \_frioaâ\200\230eï¬\202roll~Cell of the herOes and heroi  
nes who

were the architects of our viete iee, w ' laid the foundations for other successes ,  
that we have yet to achieve. '

e historic day on the African calendar, we

do recall with pride and pee ion an pev our humble tribute to the great galaxy of  
Lhaqltlntu.un4uw wgsï¬\202'

leadere of the African Revolution in which are to be found eaehâ\200\224tÃ©tenefasâ\200  
\224Khame\*ï¬\201khrumah

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