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THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN SUPPORT  
OF THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN  
SOUTHERN AFRICA AND IN SOLIDARITY WITH  
THE FRONTLINE STATES

10 - 13 April, 1979  
Lusaka - Zambia.

Report by Mr. Nouri Abdel Razzak  
Acting Secretary General of the AAPSO

Your Excellency President Dr. Kenneth Kaunda,  
Highly Esteemed guests,  
Dear Comrades,

We are on the front-line of the battle.!

This, Your Excellency and comrades, is the deep significance of our meeting here and now, on this valiant land of Zambia, steadfast as it stands in confrontation with a desperate array of the imperialist, colonialist and racist forces.

This, Your Excellency and comrades, is why we join forces - forces indeed to be reckoned with - in the most militant support to our brothers of the Liberation movements in this cherished part of Africa.

This, Your Excellency and comrades, is the expression of our hands locked in the closest solidarity with the Front-line States.

While our brothers of the liberation movement, at this very moment, courageously hold the battle-lines, arms in hand, deep inside the jungle, plains, posts and trenches, selflessly willing to shed their very life-blood for the cause of liberation and the dignity of their independent sovereign free home-lands; do we have a choice, Your Excellency and comrades, but to extend all our

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solidarity and assistance to them and to the Front-line countries that stint no effort towards their support ?

Your Excellency, comrades, it is not only that we can have no choice on the political ethical and human plains, but it is also our sacred duty, indeed it is mainly by that we stand justified.

Allow me then, Your Excellency and comrades, to express on behalf of the Permanent Secretariat of AAPSO and in my own name, our deep thanks and gratitude to His Excellency President Dr. Kenneth Kaunda for the great honour he added to this meeting by accepting to inaugurate it. Allow me also to express our deep gratitude and thanks to the leaders of the government, the United National Independence Party and to the people of Zambia for hosting this important Conference, the hospitality they had shown, and the facilities they extended.

The mere fact that the International Conference in Support of the National Liberation Movements in Southern Africa and in Solidarity with the Front-line States is held here in Lusaka, the capital of Front-line State, provides by itself an eloquent testimony to the resolute will of the world forces of peace and democracy determined to do away, once and for ever, both with colonialism in Southern Africa, and the Apartheid policy underpinning it, the ruthless inhuman policy imperialism is desparately trying to keep alive against the will, the conscience and the dignity of the whole humanity.

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The war of liberation heroically waged by the peoples of Southern Africa under the leadership of their respective vanguard movements, the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe, the SWAPO of Namibia and the ANC of South Africa, and the struggle waged by humanity for the creation of a world free of imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, and all forms of exploitation of man by man, is one and indivisible.

Colonialism and racism, essentially based on the **exploitative** ideology dividing mankind into-"men born to serve" and "men born to be served", have been the cause of the worst sufferings of peoples, in particular the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America.

It was this dark night, with its lot of sufferings and genocide, which held back for three whole centuries the process of socio-historical progress in Africa. But inspite of upheavals marking their history, the African peoples have never reconciled themselves with the domination of the capitalist western powers.

The emergence of the socialist community victorious after the Second World War, the development of its might in all fields throughout the forties and fifties, the emergence and development of the non-aligned movement in the fifties and early sixties, the development of democratic movements in many countries of Western Europe and the chronic crisis of the **capitalist system**, have greatly contributed to the emergence and acceleration of the national patriotic struggle all over the world, particularly in Africa where the 1960s witnessed the creation of new independent states.

After the great victories recorded in South-East Asia by the heroic peoples of Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia against the U.S. imperialism, after the collapse of Portuguese colonialism and fascism in Africa under the powerful blows of the national liberation movements in the former Portuguese colonies, and particularly after the historic battle of Angola where world imperialism has suffered an outstanding defeat, the call for freedom began to shake the strongholds of racism in Southern Africa; the flames of revolution are glowing in the South African ghettos, provoking a chain - process of disintegration in the last remnants of colonial empires in Zimbabwe and Namibia and driving the supporters of Apartheid, together with patrons, to their last ditch.

In face of these irreversible victories, world imperialism had to modify its tactics and designs. It resorted to destabilization tactics, provoking and encouraging fratricide wars, and posing itself as a supporter of peaceful settlements and compromises with the aim of undermining the militant unity of the struggling peoples, and reswinging the balance of forces in its favour.

The recent imperialist offensive in Africa clearly reveals the new intrigues and machinations hatched by imperialism in a bid to maintain the positions of foreign monopolies, reinforce the imperialist build-up, undermine the unity of the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America and weaken the developing countries' relations with their real allies: the socialist community and the other world progressive forces. The ultimate goal sought by these conspiracies is to establish an international military and economic order dominated by the U.S. and the other imperialist powers.

With the new alignment of world forces no longer allowing imperialism to accord its open support to the minority racist regimes, it has now resorted to more subtle means: while feigning feelings of sympathy towards the liberation movements they are contributing to the build up of the strike-force of the racist regimes. No wonder then that the Western powers, whose governments invariably use veto in the U.N. in favour of the infamous Pretoria and Salisbury regimes, are engaged today in perfidious manoeuvres and manipulations to pose as champions of the cause of liberation of the oppressed peoples in Southern Africa, while, in real fact, they are bent on the safeguarding and the consolidation of their military and economic interests by maintaining their servile neo-colonialist puppet regimes.

This new multi-form offensive in Africa is not isolated from the imperialist overall offensive in the Middle East, in Asia, and other parts of the world, nor from the military build-up and the production of new mass destruction weapons, nor from the instigation of new hot beds of tension all over the world.

However this overall offensive does not imply, by any means, that imperialism and its agents are gaining an upper hand. A thorough analysis of the new positions and areas won by the mass movement during the last few years, and their effect on the world balance of forces, would prove the fact that, in its death throes, imperialism is now resorting to all what ever means in its power to postpone its inevitable fate. This fact is eloquently evident in Africa as well as in the Middle East, where Israel, the tool of neo-colonialist strategy, is in close collaboration with the racist regime of South Africa in all the fields, which proves, once again, that zionism is organically linked with racism and indeed a form of racism.

The struggle of the peoples of Southern Africa against Apartheid, racism and imperialist manoeuvres, and the steadfastness of the Front-Line states are not any more the concern of the peoples of the region or even the African continent alone. The intensity of the world wide mass movement, which in turn reflected itself in government areas during the last few years signifies the fact that the struggle of Southern African peoples has become one of the urgent concerns of all peoples of the World.

The U.N. World Conferences Against Apartheid in Lagos in 1977, and in Geneva in 1978, the World Conference Against Apartheid, Colonialism and Racism, initiated by AAPSO, and held in Lisbon in 1977, the NGO International Anti-Apartheid Conference held in Geneva in 1978, the U.N. Special Session on Namibia, the New Delhi International Anti-Apartheid Conference co-sponsored by AAPSO in New Delhi in 1978, the creation in London with the firm support of AAPSO, of ICOSA's Secretariat shouldering the permanent task of winning the world public opinion to the side of the just and legitimate struggle of the peoples of Southern Africa; the recent convention in Brussels of the first session of the International Inquiry Commission Against the Crimes of Apartheid and racism initiated and supported by AAPSO, the Conference Against Nuclear Collaboration between the FRG and South Africa held in Bonn earlier this year, the decision by the new government of Iran not to supply South Africa with oil, are all clear examples of the concern displayed by the world community and the efforts made, at both governmental and non-governmental levels, to mobilise support and assistance for the liberation movements of Southern Africa.

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In this context the vital role of the U.N., through its Special committee against Apartheid, Decolonisation Committee, Council for Namibia, Human Rights Commission.. etc., and the militant role played by the OAU and the Non-Aligned movement cannot be overemphasised.

This new important role assumed by national, regional and international organisations, both governmental and non-governmental, organisation, , marks a new stage in the liberation struggle of Southern African peoples. Here lies the real reasons of the imperialist, neo-colonialist and racist feverish attempts and manoeuvres, which take the form of a military build up or the so-called internal settlement", and "Turnhalle negotiations" or the repeated racist extensive armed aggressions against the Frontline states to alien them from the struggle of the peoples of South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe, thus depriving these peoples from one of the main prerequisites of their victory.

Nevertheless, all these attempts are doomed to failure. The simple fact that this great number of leaders and representatives of world public opinion is now meeting on the soil of Zambia, a front line state, to discuss support to the Southern African liberation struggle, and on the eve of the pseudo-elections of Ian Smith stands as a firm eloquent proof that these imperialist racist and neo-colonialist solutions whose only aim is to perpetuate the racist neo-colonialist plunder and inhuman practices will never pass or be materialized.

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It is A.N.C. with its sacrifices and armed struggle that will triumph. It is SWAPO with its persistent and heroic fight that will triumph.

It is the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe, with its will to struggle and its firm unity that will triumph.

It is the Frontline states with their resolute determination to defend their independence sovereignty and territorial integrity against the continued imperialist and racist aggressions and machinations, that will come out victorious.

Yet this ever noble and historically inevitable process is underlain by your continuously mounting support and solidarity.

We have assembled to raise high our support and solidarity, and to say it to all the world to hear:

Peoples of South Africa, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Frontline states. We are with you. The whole humanity stands by you. Side by side, forward with the noble struggle.

And let the enemy make no mistake, final victory shall be achieved, what ever the price and the sacrifice be !

The cherished land of Southern Africa, near and dear to all of us, shall be liberated from the hated yoke of racism, apartheid and imperialism...!

Justice shall prevail...!

The dignity of the African people shall be maintained..!

Freedom shall have its way !