

IRISH ANTI - APARTHEID MOVEMENT

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1983MOTIONS1. Motion on Namibia, submitted by the Executive Committee

That this Annual General Meeting

Reaffirms its support for the people of Namibia in their struggle for freedom and independence, for SWAPO as the sole authentic representative of the Namibian people, and for PLAN in its resistance to the brutal and illegal apartheid occupation of Namibia;

Deplores the fact that negotiations for the independence of Namibia are still being dragged out and that the Contact States - the United States, Canada, Britain, France and the Federal Republic of Germany - continue to make greater concessions to the apartheid regime;

Condemns in particular the linking by the United States of Namibian independence to the withdrawal of Cuban forces, stationed in Angola to defend its sovereignty, as intolerable interference in that country's internal affairs;

Requests the U.N. Security Council to assume fully the central role in the implementation of its plan for Namibia's independence;

Calls upon the Irish Government to press for urgent sanctions against South Africa and to exercise its influence to have South Africa end its prevarication;

Expresses its admiration of SWAPO of Namibia for its determination to continue the struggle while at the same time doing all in its power to bring the negotiations to a successful conclusion; and

Instructs the Executive Committee of the IAAM to organise country-wide activities for the UN Week of Solidarity in support of the people of Namibia and their liberation movement, SWAPO, from 27th October to 2nd November, 1983.

2. Motion on Sanctions, submitted by the Executive Committee

That this Annual General Meeting,

Viewing with deep concern the increasing violence of the apartheid regime and the quickening pace of militarisation of the state, which it considers a real and growing threat to peace; and

Recognising apartheid as a crime against humanity;

Reiterates its previous demands that the Irish Government take concrete steps to withdraw all support from apartheid; and

Alarmed by signs that the Government has retreated in its views on sanctions, as witness the remarks made by the Irish Ambassador to France on 27.4.83 to the Namibia Conference when he supported only "certain graduated and carefully chosen measures", not full sanctions;

Calls on all the affiliated organisations and members of the IAAM to bring pressure on the Government to support comprehensive sanctions, and in the absence of a mandatory U.N. ban, to urge the Government to take immediate steps to halt the growing Irish trade with South Africa, to issue a directive to all State-sponsored bodies not to have any contact with South Africa, and to implement the no-visa arrangement pledged by the previous coalition government.

3. Motion on the European Communities, submitted by the Executive Committee

That this Annual General Meeting,

Appalled by the acceptance of apartheid manifest in some recent resolutions on South Africa and Namibia by the European Parliament; and

Concerned at the reports that there are to be regular European Political Cooperation talks with the United States;

Expresses its fears that the joint EEC line on southern Africa may become assimilated to the disastrous American policy of "constructive engagement" with South Africa, or in other words appeasement;

Calls the attention of all Irish MEPs to the necessity of taking a stand on southern African issues in all EEC forums where they are represented, and to press for positive steps to stop trade and investment with South Africa.

4. Motion on moral and humanitarian support for the struggle

That this Annual General Meeting

Condemns the increasingly brutal repression by the apartheid regime of all those struggling for freedom in Namibia and South Africa; and

Calls on the Irish Government and people to give their wholehearted support to:

- a) the United Nations-sponsored campaign for the release of Nelson Mandela and all other South African political prisoners;
- b) the international campaign for the release of Herman Toivo ja Toivo and all other Namibian political prisoners;
- c) the recognition of prisoner-of-war status for all captured freedom fighters and an end to the executions of captured opponents of apartheid, most urgently the proposed executions of David Moise, Johannes Shabangu, Anthony Tsotsobe, Simon Mogoerane, Jerry Mosololi and Marcus Motaung, which must not be carried out;
- d) the recognition of the right of all South Africans and Namibians to be conscientious objectors, condemnation of the repression of those who refuse to fight in defence of apartheid, and the offer of asylum in Ireland to such objectors, in line with UN resolutions;
- e) the condemnation of South African terrorism against the liberation movements, such as Ruth First and other members of the ANC;
- f) the campaign to provide humanitarian aid to the liberation movements in their task of sheltering the refugees from South Africa and Namibia;

Commends other organisations in Ireland, such as Trocaire, for their assistance to SWAPO and the ANC, and urges other organisations to follow their example; and now, 20 years after the opening of the Rivonia Trial,

Pays special tribute to Nelson and Winnie Mandela and their family, who continue to struggle indefatigably for freedom in South Africa despite the efforts of the apartheid regime to silence and destroy them - Nelson Mandela in jail and Winnie Mandela under house arrest and banishment.

5. Motion on the Front Line States, submitted by the Executive Committee

That this Annual General Meeting,

Expresses its grave concern at the recent upsurge in South Africa's aggression in southern Africa, which amounts to an undeclared war;

Condemns the apartheid regime's continuing widespread violence against the Front Line States, which has most affected Angola but which has in the past year been directed even against such small and defenceless countries as Lesotho, where 42 people were brutally murdered in a South African raid in December 1982; and

Condemns the regime's backing and arming of dissidents from Mozambique, Angola, Lesotho, and Zimbabwe;

Calls on the Irish Government to give maximum political and moral support to the Frontline States, and to support the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) of which they are members, so that they can reduce their dependence on racist South Africa.

6. Motion on Student Support for the IAAM

That this Annual General Meeting

Recognising the importance of educating each generation about South Africa and mobilising young people against apartheid;

Regards students as central to this process and accordingly

Applauds the many Anti-Apartheid declarations and actions of the Union of Students in Ireland, college students' unions and other student groups;

Welcomes the decision of the Council of Trinity College Dublin to have no links with South African academic institutions including universities;

Calls on U.S.I. and college student unions to strive for such an undertaking from other academic institutions in Ireland, to work for disinvestment from South Africa where college funds are still invested there, to prevent South African firms from recruiting through college careers agencies, and to ensure a total boycott of the products of apartheid by college catering facilities; and

Resolves to liaise with students campaigning against apartheid and to assist them in their work.