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22 January 1980ANTI-APARTHEID COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN MEETS WITH AFRICAN TRADE UNION LEADER

The Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid, B. Akporode Clark (Nigeria), met today with J. Dennis Akumu, the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU), for consultations on the international mobilization against apartheid.

Mr. Akumu assured Mr. Clark of "the unflinching support of all workers and trade unions of Africa in the struggle for the eradication of apartheid and for the liberation of the South African people".

Mr. Akumu invited Mr. Clark to visit the headquarters of the OATUU in Accra to meet trade union leaders of Africa for full consultations on co-operation between the Special Committee and the trade union movement in the present stage of the liberation struggle.

He also invited the Special Committee to send a delegation to the International Trade Union Conference of Solidarity with the Struggling People of South Africa, which will be held in Addis Ababa from 1 to 3 March, under the sponsorship of the OATUU, the Ethiopian trade union federation and the liberation movements of southern Africa.

He informed the Chairman that the OATUU was organizing an African Workers Solidarity Week, beginning on 21 March 1980 (the twentieth anniversary of the Sharpeville massacre) when demonstrations, boycotts and other actions against apartheid would be undertaken.

The Chairman of the Special Committee commended the OATUU for its actions in support of the struggle for liberation in South Africa and for its constant co-operation with the Special Committee and the Centre against Apartheid.

He said that the Special Committee intended to intensify co-operation with the international trade union movement, especially in promoting effective sanctions against South Africa, and planned to organize a special consultation with trade union leaders and others on the situation of labour and trade unions in South Africa. He invited the participation of Mr. Akumu and his colleagues in the consultation.

He also looked forward to continued consultations with the OATUU with a view to promoting effective tripartite action against apartheid by Governments, employers and trade unions. The Special Committee, he said, welcomed the decision of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) to convene a meeting in May with representatives of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the Special Committee for that purpose.

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