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NORDIC/FRONTLINE STATES

FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING

OSLO 13-14 MAY 1990

CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY

1. The Foreign Ministers of the Frontline States and the Nordic countries held their third meeting in Oslo from 13 to 14 May 1990.

2. Namibia was welcomed as a new participant in the Frontline group of States, as well as the 10th member of the SADCC and the 160th member of the United Nations. The Ministers noted with satisfaction the successful conclusion of the Namibian independence process and commended UNTAG for its contribution. They also urged South Africa to ensure early re-integration of Walvis Bay into Namibia, in accordance with United Nations Security Council resolution 432 (1978). The Ministers stressed the importance of the Namibian independence for a democratic and peaceful development in South Africa to dismantle apartheid.

3. The Foreign Ministers had an extensive exchange of views on the recent developments in South Africa, their implications for the countries in the region and what measures are necessary to achieve the total eradication of apartheid in a peaceful way and the establishment of a true democracy.

4. The Ministers welcomed the promising outcome of the "talks about talks" in South Africa on 2-4 May and expressed their hope that real negotiations could start soon between the South African Government and genuine representatives of the majority population. However, they noted that important obstacles to initiate real negotiations exist, and that the pillars of apartheid are still in place.

5. The Ministers pledged their full support for the democratization process in South Africa through various measures, such as:

- a) continued pressure on the South African Government, including existing economic sanctions, until irreversible and profound changes to eradicate apartheid had taken place;
- b) in this respect, also firm support for the maintenance of an arms embargo against South Africa;
- 0) continued support to the ANC and other organizations and groups working for a democratic, non-racial and united South Africa;

The Nordic Ministers informed their colleagues from the Frontline States of their intentions to update the Nordic Programme of Action against Apartheid with these objectives in mind.

- We recognized that the international community has a particular responsibility to promote dialogue between the South African Government and the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa with a view to achieving a successful outcome of the democratization process and to dismantling apartheid in South Africa. We stressed the urgent need for the South African Government to remove the obstacles standing in the way of negotiations aimed at dismantling apartheid in the framework of the Harare Declaration and the United Nations Declaration on Apartheid adopted by consensus at the United Nations Special Session in December 1989.

- The Nordic countries and the Frontline States agreed to continue their contacts with regard to the developments in South Africa and the consequences for the Frontline States. We reconfirmed our support to alleviate the burden caused by the long-lasting destabilization and the hosting of refugees from South Africa. We reiterated the importance of the Nordic/SADCC initiative which is as valid as ever.

- The serious situation in Angola and in Mocambique was given particular attention, and we expressed our earnest hope that the peace talks under way in these two countries would soon bear fruit.

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- That, I believe, are the main points of our discussion. I should perhaps also tell you that the Frontline States Ministers were informed by the Nordic colleagues of a plan to send a Nordic "monitoring mission" to South Africa in the near future in the context of the UN Declaration on apartheid.

- I might also add in this regard that we from the Norwegian side have suggested that a joint Nordic Programme in support of democratization efforts in South Africa be drawn up as an extension of the Nordic Programme of Action against Apartheid. This is something that we on the Nordic side will revert to in the process of updating the existing Nordic Programme. -

- Finally, I should like to state that we all accepted a generous offer by Zambia to host our next meeting in Lusaka.