Office of Public Information Press Section United Nations, New York Special Committee. against Apartheid 5h6th Meeting (PMS GA/AP/680 1 June 1977

APARTHEID COMMITTEE DECIDES ON PLANS FOR IAGOS CONFERENCE;

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HEARS CCMMEETS CN INCURSION INTO MOZAMBEQEE

The Special Committee against Apartheid this afternoon approved arrangements for the World Conference for Action against ggggtheid, to be held in Lagos, Nigeria, from 22 to 26 August.

The Chairman of the Committee, Leslie 0. Harriman (Nigeria), outlining the measures taken so far, said the Lagos Conference would be "a signal for the final assault on the system of slavery which goes by the name of eggytheid". At this afternoon's meeting, the Chairman made reference to the current incursion into Mozambique by forces of the Ian Smith regime in Southern Rhodesia, and called it "a serious act of aggression".

"This aggression is an aggression against Africa and the United Nations", he declared. "The culprit is not only Ian Smith but the Vcrster regime which sustains the racists in Salisbury."

"The international community must take effective steps to defend the front-line States and support the liberation struggle in order to put an end .to the series of aggressions by the racist regimes -- which are desperate acts by dying regimes", he added.

Mr. Harriman said he intended to consult later today with the Chairman of the Special Committee of 2% on decolonization, Salim Ahmed Salim (United Republic of Tanzania), and the President of the United Nations Council for Namibia, Dunstan W. Kamana (Zambia), on "further action to be taken regarding the continuing invasion of Mozambique" as well as recent executions of liberation movement leaders in South Africa.

Statements on the subject of the incursion by forces of the Smith regime into Mozambique were also made by Peter Florin (German Democratic Republic), Abraham Doukoure (Guinea) and David Sibeko, of the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC), one of the South African liberation movements.

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On other matters, the Council this afternoon:
-- Heard a report by the Chairman en the participation of a delegation
from the Committee in the International Conference in Support of the Peoples
of Zimbabwe's and Namibia, held in Maputo, Mozambique, from 16 to 2L May;
-- Heard a report by the Rapporteur, P.J. Rao (India), on recent
dawappnmntsrelating to apartheid and sports;
-- Decided on preliminary measures to be taken for formulation of a
programme in view of the decision of the Economic and Social Council to
recommend that 1978 be designated as International Anti-ggertheid Year;
-- Discussed arrangements for special meetings to be held on the
International Day of Solidarity with the Struggling. People of South Africa
in commemoration of Soweto Day later this month;
-- Heard e report by the Chairman on his conSultatibns with the Director-
General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
(UNESCO), Amadou Mhhtar M'Bow, in Paris on 9 and 10 May;
-- Heapd a report by Ernesto PintoeBazurco (EEIH) on the participation
of a delegation from the Committee in the World Assembly of Builders of Peace,
held in Warsaw from 6 to 11 May; and I
-- Heard a report by Mohan Erased Lohani (Nepal) on his participation,
on behalf of the Committee, in the International Scientific Conference held
in Baku, Soviet Union, from 2h to 27 May. T
Statements on szembigue Incursion
The CHAIRMAN, in his remarks on the incursion of forces of the Smith
regime into Mezambiqqe, said he had received e number of telephone calls
asking Why delegations Were "keeping quiet? abOUt the matter.
He said it was weapons frem the western countries that enabled the
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Smith regime to undertake aggression against the front-line States-which were dedicated to freedom, justiee and equality. Meanwhile, Zimbabwe remained a colonial territory, and its peeple, for whom the international community had some responsibility, were suffering. t  $^{\prime}$   $^{\prime}$  t Mr. FLORIN (German Democratic Republic) said the colonial and racist

regimes in southern Africa cOnStituted a threat to peace and security. And as Mr. Harriman had stated at the Maputo Conference, there was need for action against the agartheid regime, which was the main bastion of colonialism and racism in southern Africa. " (more)

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With regard to the incursion into szambique, he said that, on behalf of the German Democratic Republic, he wanted to "indict in the most sericus terms this new military aggression" and to express his country's complete solidarity with the people of Mozambique.

Today, he said, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the German Democratic Republic had issued a statement condemning the aggression against Mozambique and demanding its immediate cessation. The aggression would have been impossible if Salisbury had not had the support of the illegal regime in Pretoria, which in turn was backed by "certain circles in the imperialist States". At present, Mr. Florin went on, the Western members of the Security Council were holding negotiations with South Africa's Prime Minister Vorster and asserted that they were seeking to exert pressure on him.

But who knew what they were talkingabout at the conference table? Mr. Florin asked. Vorster categorically refused to do away with ggegthegg. The occupation of Namibia continued. Pretoria was extending its sway over Zimbabwe and carrying out aggressive acts against neighbouring States. The Smith regime openly talked of its aim to remain in Mosambique. And yet, said Mr. Florin, the imperialist countries said they could not go along with a mandatory arms embargo against South Africa.

He added that he was reminded of "the Israeli aggression against Iebanon and Uganda", in which the aggressor; had received "tie same kind of peculiar assistance".

Those who genuinely desired peace in southern Africa and the liberation of peoples from racism had little faith in the diplomatic steps of the imperialist States regarding southern Africa, he said. All efforts should be directed towards carrying out the decisions of the Maputo Conference to support the struggle of the peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia and to assist the front-line States.

Mr. DOUKOURE (Guinea) said the Maputo Conference represented "a victory for the forces of progress". The response of the racist minority in Southern Rhodesia had been expressed "through the cowardly and perfidious attack on Mozambique". He urged general mobilization of support for the victims of the aggression.

Mr. SIBEKO, of the PAC, said that, after the historic meeting in Maputo, the South African racist regime had "egged on its client in Salisbury to carry out the aggression", violating the territory of Mozambique and committing "despicable crimes".

South Africa was the bastion of colonialism and racism in southern Africa, and its complicity was implicit in the actions of the Smith regime, he said. Without South Africa's logistic support, Salisbury would never have been able to attack Mozambique. Petrol for armoured cars and planes came through South Africa to the Smith regime, and so did mercenaries from Western countries.

(more)

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Drastic action was needed, Mr. Sibeko said, adding: "The hands of Smith may be stained with blood, and those of Vorster, too, but those who aid and abet them are not without guilt."

He said the freedom fighters would not be intimidated. The PAC was going to strike against "the gyertheid, colonialist structure inside the country" in a way that the Vorster regime would not be able to suppress. He condemned recent summary executions of leading members of the PAC. Lagos Conference

The CHAIRMAN, reporting on the progress made so far regarding the World Conference for Action against ggggtheid, said the Federal Government of Nigeria attached great importance to the Conference and had undertaken various measures to ensure its success.

An inter-ministerial committee had been established for preparatory work, which included leaders of the Eigerian Institute of International Affairs and the National Committee for the Dissemination of Information on gggrtheid, he said. Full-time staff, led by a senior official of the External Affairs Ministry, had been assigned for the Conference, and an office was being established this week.

He said Nigeria's Commissioner for External Affairs, Brigadier Joseph Garba, had accepted the invitation of the Special Committee against Anerthegg that he serve as Chairnmn.of the World Conference.

He noted that Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim had designated Enuga S. Reddy, Director of the Centre against ggartheig, as Executive Secretary of the Conference. Mr. Reddy, he said, would be assiSted and advised by a senior official of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), Dramane Ouattara, Executive Secretary of the OAU to the United Nations, and by a senior Nigerian official.

The secretariat of the Conference would consist of officials from the United Nations Secretariat, the OAU secretariat, Nigerian officials and experts from non-governmental organizations, he said.

Mr. Harriman went on to say that the Conference Would be held in the National Arts Theatre in Lagos. The main conference hall had a capacity of 5,000 and the main conference room could seat more than 1,000. Preliminary consultations and contacts undertaken prior to the fonnal invitations had shown great interest in the Conference.

He informed the Committee that the Prime Minister of Norway, Odvar Nordli, had accepted his invitation to attend, conveyed on behalf of the Committee and the Nigerian Government. (more)

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Olof Palme, former Prime Minister of Sweden, had also accepted his invitation, he said, as had the Rev. Canon L. John Collins, President of the International Defence and Aid Fund for Southern Africa. He listed a number of non-governmental organizations which had indicated a desire to participate.

Mr. Harriman said the availability of accommodations would set limits on the number of requests for participation which could be accepted, as well as the requests by information media from all over the world to cover the Conference, and he urged Governments, organizations and information media to make their requests as soon as possible.

He said this would be "a Conference of conscience and commitmen and "a landmark in the long struggle to eradicate apartheid".

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"The suppression of aparthgig is at the top of the agenda at this midwpoint of the Decade fir Actioe to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination", he said. "We shall not be diverted by any manoeuv"es of the racists and their friends, or of the profiteers from racism, from our firm commitment to the objective of eradicating aggrtheid and thereby seeuring the total emancipation of Africa."

The Committee then approved the arrangements for the Conference and decided that the text of a paper setting out these arrangements be conveyed to the Secretary-General with a request that he send out the invitations -for the Conference as soon as possible. The Committee also decided that the text should be published as a press release in due course.

Maputo Conference

The CHAIRMAN, in his report on participation in the Mhputo Conference, called it "an important landmark in the inevitable advance 0  $\rm Zim$  ahwe and Namibia to freedom and independence".

Enmerous:speakers at the Conference, he noted, had "emphasized that South Africa was the main enemy of freedom and peace in Africa and, indeed, the enemy of the United Nations, and that the international community cannot confine itself to the liberation of Zimbabwe and Namibia in this context". Mr. Harriman declared: "The march of liberation will not end in Salisbury and Windhoek, but will move on inexorably to Pretoria and Cape Town -- to the den of the racists -- to enable the oppressed people of South Africa to break their shackles and destroy the monster of aoartheid". The Conference in Maputo and the forthcoming Conference in Lagos were complementary, he said. At Lagos, the international community would consider "all the ramifications of the policies Ond actions of the agartheid regime,

 $\cdot \_ \_ \_ - \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot \_ -$  not only its oppression of the black people of South Africa, but also its (more)

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organizations.

crimes against the Namibian people; its support to the Ian Smith regime in its war against the people of Zimbabwe; its aggression against independent African States, and its plans for further aggression; and, indeed, its continuousstateof war against the United Nations itself".

At the Chairman's suggestion, the Committee decided to send letters to the Special Committee of 2k and to the united Nations Council for Namibia, congratulating them on their initiative in organizing the Maputo Conference, and also a letter to the Government of szambique for the co-operation it had accorded to the Conference.

In addition, the Committee decided to invite Joaquim Alberto Chissano, Foreign Minister of Mozambique, who had served as President of the Maputo Conference, to attend the Lagos Conference.

Mr. Harriman observed that he had already extended an invitation, while in Maputo, to President Samora Machel of Mozambique. The Chairman described his meetings in Maputo with Stephen Dhlamini, President of the South African Congress of Trade Uhions and a leader of the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC), and with other leaders of liberation movements, as well as with representatives of nonwgovernmentel

Regarding the discussion at the Conference about peaceful settlements in southern Africa, he said: "There is no one who would prefer war to peace -- especially not the liberation movements which have to make supreme sacrifices in armed struggles -- but one cannot be blind to realities. If there is any hope for a negotiated settlement in Rhodesia, the possibilities have been created by the armed struggle of the people and not by those on the sidelines talking about peaceful settlements."

Even while the Maputo Conference was taking place, the Rhodesian racists had launched aggression against Botswana and threatened aggression against Zambia, he said. The South African racists had charged Nelson Mandela with violation of prison regulations, cruelly banished Mrs. Winnie Mandela to a remote village, and persecuted several others. Apartheid and Sports

Mr. RAO (India), Rapporteur, in his statement on developments in the struggle against apartheid in sports, noted that the American Co-ordinating Committee fbr Equality in Sport and Society (ACCESS) had announced on 25 May that there would be vigorous protest activities against the Federation Cup WOmen's matches scheduled to be held at Eastbourne in England in June. Teaha from South Africa, Southern Rhodesia and the United States were reported to be taking part in the tournament, which was described as the women's equivalent of the Davis Cup. (more)

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The Chairman said he had been invited to address the opening meeting of the World Conference against Apartheid, Racism and Colonialism in Southern Africa, a non-governmental (DE?erehEe\_to be held in Lisbon from 16 to 19 June. He had agreed in principle, he said.

The Committee expressed appreciation to Denmark, the Netherlands and Norway for statements made by their representatives at the meeting of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in London on 11 May, to the effect that new measures should be considered for putting pressure on South Africa to abandon its Egartheid policies.