

CIRCULAR NOTE VERBALE NO. 96/92

The Embassy of the Republic of Zambia presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Italy and to all Diplomatic Missions and International Organisations accredited to the Quirinale and has the honour to attach for information a statement by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Zambia Hon. V.J. Mwaanga, MP., on Thursday 10th November, 1992 in connection with the escalating violence in South Africa.

The Embassy of the Republic of Zambia avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Italy and to all Diplomatic Missions and International Organisations accredited to the Quirinale the assurances of its highest consideration.

15th Decembe; 1992

Rome.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Italy and all Diplomatic Missions and International Organisations accredited to the Quirinale.

STATEMENT BY HON. VERNON J. MWAANGA, MP.,
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, ON THE
ESCALATING VIOLENCE IN SOUTH AFRICA -
THURSDAY, 10TH DECEMBER, 1992

The Government of Zambia is gravely alarmed about the escalation of violence in South Africa which has led to senseless injury and loss of life.

Zambia is committed to dialogue and national reconciliation in South Africa and believes that there must be strict adherence by all the Parties to the National Peace Accord of September, 1991.

Actions and statements by APLA (Azania People's Liberation Army), the Military Wing of the P.A.C., accepting responsibility for the recent attacks on civilians in King Williams Town and Queenstown are unacceptable and seriously jeopardise the peace process in South Africa which we all genuinely desire. It is a matter of utmost regret that innocent people who are trying to live normal lives are always the victims of disciples of Violence.

We remain faithful to the Lusaka manifesto of 1969, on Southern Africa which was subsequently unanimously adopted by both the O.A.U. and the United Nations General Assembly, which states that "... we prefer to negotiate rather than fight...". We wish to make an earnest appeal to all our brothers and sisters in South Africa to put an end to violent confrontation and embrace dialogue. We are disturbed that factional Violence has claimed nearly 9,000 lives since 1990. We are doing our utmost to help bring about a new non-racial, non-sexist and democratic South Africa. However, this new South Africa cannot and will not be born from a political womb which is so pregnant with Violence, mistrust and despair.

We urge the Government of South Africa, the ANC, the PAC and other key political players to speed up the constitutional process in order to ensure that a Government of National Unity is established in South Africa during 1993. In this regard, we appeal to our brothers and sisters in the Inkhata Freedom Party (I.F.P.) led by Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi to rejoin the peace process and abandon its alliance with white extremist elements who are enemies of democracy and who are hell-bent on disrupting the whole constitutional process which appears to be gaining momentum.

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We welcome the direct meeting held-yesterday in Durban between high level ANC and IFP delegations. We consider it imperative that a meeting be held in the very near future between ANC President Dr. Nelson Mandela and IFP President Chief Buthelezi. It is important for the followers of ANC and IFP to see their leaders are talking and shaking hands. This will be an important mechanism which will serve to calm deeply rooted fears and suspicions.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

LUSAKA - ZAMBIA.