

LuM/008/0057/16

JOINT STATEMENT

PATRIOTIC FRONT

*file Zapr-Patriotic
front*

1. The Malta II Conference between the Patriotic Front and the British and American Governments was held in Dar-es-Salaam on the 14th and 15th April 1978.
2. The British and United States Delegations were led by Dr. David Owen, British Foreign Secretary, and Mr. Cyrus Vance, United States Secretary of State, while the Patriotic Front delegation was led by Presidents Robert Mugabe and Joshua Nkomo.
3. The Conference, whose purpose was to discuss military and related matters arising from the Anglo-American proposals, was held in an atmosphere of candour and seriousness.
4. The Patriotic Front put forward a number of proposals aimed at reaching a settlement within the principles of the Anglo-American plan.
5. There was a large measure of agreement in important areas. In particular:
 - (a) There was agreement on the role of the United Nations military and civilian police forces for the purpose of assisting and supervising the decolonisation process.
 - (b) The Patriotic Front agreed to wide executive powers for the Resident Commissioner subject to agreement being reached on the participation of the Patriotic Front forces during the transitional period.
 - (c) It was agreed that the armed forces during the transitional period would be the Liberation army into which would be incorporated the acceptable elements of the present Rhodesian armed forces.
6. As regards the Governing Council, the Patriotic Front stood firm on its demand that in order to ensure irreversibility of the decolonisation process, the Patriotic Front must play the major role.

In this regard the British and the American delegations maintained the view they put forward at Malta, that representation on the Governing Council should be equally distributed among the delegations that had

attend the Geneva Conference of 1976.

The Patriotic Front however maintained that since Bishop Muzorewa, Ndabaningi Sithole and Jeremiah Chirau had joined the Smith illegal regime, they had become a single entity with it and must be treated as such for the purpose of membership of the Governing Council.

7. It was agreed that a full Constitutional Conference be held as soon as possible.

J.M. NKOMO

(President of ZAPU
and coleader of the
Patriotic Front)

R. MUGABE

(President of ZANU
and coleader of the
Patriotic Front)