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co-operation from South Africa to establish a timetable for independence. The future of Namibia is a fundamental issue for the United Nations. Its right to independence derives from the very principles on which the UN was founded. The Secretary-General has shown himself to be on this, as on all matters, indefatigable. Let the Council renew the mandate previously entrusted to him, with the added sense that he pursue the attainment of Resolution 435 in a fashion unrelenting. And let us call on South Africa, with quintessential clarity, to live up to its obligations under the Charter.

Those are just some of the considerations which make this debate so important. Our options are narrowing. I have already indicated — as has everyone else — that there is no basis for delay, and that further delay serves no one's interest. Yet unconscionable delay is precisely what we're faced with, and that's why Canada and others will have to consider our range of choices carefully.

Several times in this debate, speakers have referred to the fortieth anniversary year. That leads me to one final observation. I think everyone agrees that nothing would so serve the reputation of the United Nations as a significant breakthrough on some significant aspect of peace and security. It could, with dramatic impact, turn public perceptions around.

The independence of Namibia is the logical focus. It is the issue on which there is virtual international unanimity. Just as the system of *apartheid* has only one defender, so freedom for Namibia has only one obstacle. The prevarications of the last seven years, the contempt for UN resolutions, the perpetual state of strife, the introduction of yet another illegal interim government, the recent revelations in Angola, and above all, the prolonged suffering and oppression of the Namibian people, must surely win from this Council a resolution on which we can all agree, and which will lead to that elusive breakthrough.

The timing could not be better. There is a rising crescendo of impatience with South Africa throughout the world — mirrored in the speeches at this Council table; signalled — as in Canada and other countries — by reviews of government policy; reflected most recently by the votes in the American Congress.

The Security Council is, thus, presented with an opportunity to demonstrate that the nations of the world stand united in condemning the continued illegal occupation of Namibia — and stand united in urging South Africa to proceed immediately with implementation of Resolution 435. We hope that the resolution which this Council adopts will re-enforce such a consensus. It will then represent the most unmistakable, uncompromising, and unambiguous message delivered to date.

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