



REF

EXTERNE  
AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES  
OTTAWA  
NOV 7 1977  
LIBRARY / BIBLIOTHÈQUE

# communiqué

No: 97  
No.:

DIFFUSION: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
RELEASE: NOVEMBER 1, 1977

STATEMENT DELIVERED ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON, 28 OCTOBER 1977,  
BY AMBASSADOR WILLIAM H. BARTON,  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CANADA TO THE UNITED NATIONS,  
NEW YORK,  
DURING THE SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON  
THE QUESTION OF SOUTH AFRICA

The Security Council's debate on the question of South Africa and its policy of apartheid has been suspended for several months, but this does not reflect any lack of interest on the part of our Governments in this question; quite to the contrary, it is the result of the intensive international diplomatic efforts which are being directed towards the resolution of the problems of Southern Africa, in which the policy of apartheid of the Government of South Africa plays a central role. Let me summarize them briefly.

At the conclusion of our considerations during the month of March on this subject, the Five Western members joined together in an initiative designed to bring about the independence of Namibia in a manner consistent with the provisions of Resolution 385 of the Security Council. The exploration of the means of bringing about this objective has required a great deal of effort and is continuing. At the same time, the UK and USA have been involved in the elaboration of proposals designed to bring about early independence and majority rule in Zimbabwe. This initiative too has reached a decisive stage.

During the month of August the United Nations in cooperation with the OAU and the Federal Government of Nigeria convened in Lagos a World Conference for Action Against Apartheid. It was the most significant such conference yet held on this subject. It brought together delegations from 112 governments, 12 intergovernmental organizations, 5 liberation movements, 51 non-governmental organizations, and a number of