

In its paragraphs calling for increased financial support for SWAPO, the Council's resolution can only raise further accusations as to the ability of the United Nations to administer the transition process in an impartial manner.

The draft resolution calls for the breaking off of all contacts with South Africa, the consequence of which would be the end of negotiations for the implementation of Security Council Resolution 435. Having thus rejected the path of peaceful negotiations, the resolution would have the General Assembly support "the armed struggle of the Namibian people" which we consider to be the least likely avenue toward Namibian independence.

It is the Contact Group's judgement that this resolution, if adopted, would not contribute to the negotiations now under way and may be a hindrance to the achievement of the objective of those negotiations: the independence of Namibia.

In order ourselves not to compromise our role as negotiators we shall, as in the past, abstain when this resolution comes to a vote. We should emphasize that this abstention is purely procedural and does not imply any position on the merits of the resolution.

In order to help maintain the atmosphere of mutual respect necessary to the conduct of the Contact Group negotiations, the Five appeal to all parties, Mr. President, to refrain from all actions which could make the implementation of Security Council Resolution 435 more difficult to achieve.

Thank you, Mr. President.