

Mr. President, we are once more facing a grave situation. Our organization is now in a position to undertake the task of bringing to independence, through peaceful means, a new nation.

We must urge those who wish to stand in the way of such a noble enterprise to reconsider their decision. The South African Government must realize that its defiance of the will of the international community, particularly when that Government has been so closely involved in a long negotiating process, cannot be tolerated. The new Government of South Africa, which we understand will be formed by the end of this month, would be seriously mistaken if it assumed that its actions in respect of Namibia will have no serious consequences. To those leaders inside Namibia who are being led to believe that they can solve their problems through some sham electoral procedure, I can only say: think of the future of your country. The road you are taking can only lead to a dead-end. Make no mistake: a so-called government chosen through the so-called elections currently envisaged by the Administrator General will never be recognized internationally. Instead of enjoying the benefits of free and close association with the rest of the world, you will only beget more bloodshed and bring about in the long run the destruction of what you hold dear. It is not too late and I sincerely hope that all concerned will reconsider their course of action.

South Africa

The danger signals are clear. In November 1977, the Security Council imposed a mandatory arms embargo on South Africa, the first time the provisions of Chapter VII of the UN Charter had been invoked against a Member State. This step confirmed a policy voluntarily observed by Canada since 1963. The invocation of Chapter VII of the Charter has rightly been regarded as a grave decision, taken only after the most serious consideration and a careful weighing of the implications. This decision therefore reflects our belief that the perpetuation of the apartheid system will result in a continuing deterioration of peace and stability in Southern Africa.

Canada has also expressed its support for a call to governments to review their economic relations with South Africa. Although this element was not incorporated into a