

by a State, by a group of States, by the United Nations directly or through a representative, by the OAU, or by some combination of these. There were various possibilities for exercising the United Nations supervisory responsibility, such as the General Assembly itself, the Security Council, the Trusteeship Council, the Secretary-General or a corporate body set up for this purpose.

For the United Nations to establish what steps might most effectively help the people of South West Africa attain self-determination, it seemed to my delegation essential to obtain access to the Territory, and to make contact with their representatives in order to learn their wishes; this in turn necessitated conducting a dialogue with the de facto administration. At the same time, my delegation believed that if they were to be effectively implemented, the means decided on by the Assembly would have to have overwhelming support, including that of all Permanent Members of the Security Council.

It was against these criteria that at the Fifth Special Session my delegation gave its careful consideration to the 79 - power proposal for the direct and immediate administration of the Territory by the United Nations; we were forced to conclude that the proposed United Nations Council for South West Africa would not, within the terms of its mandate, be in a position to contribute significantly to a solution of the problem. Accordingly, my delegation was not among those which felt able to support Resolution 2248.

The General Assembly now has before it the Report of the United Nations Council for South West Africa contained in Document A/6897. The Council has not-as we foresaw it would not - been able to carry out the task which was given to it and has reported that in the circumstances it has found it impossible to discharge the functions and responsibilities entrusted to it by this Assembly. Annexed to this report is a letter addressed to the Secretary-General by the South African Foreign Minister. My delegation regrets that in this letter the South African Government, while professing that South Africa's objective in South West Africa is self-determination, did not seize the opportunity to offer to co-operate with the United Nations in this respect.

My delegation is moreover disturbed by a number of recent developments in South African policy towards South West Africa.

In March the South African Government announced that it proposed to establish a "Homeland" for the Ovambo people in South West Africa. Both the Ad Hoc Committee for South West Africa and the Committee of 24 endorsed the view that the proposals of the South African Government were contrary to General Assembly Resolution 2145 (XXI) and were therefore illegal. Nevertheless,