

## DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

## communiqué

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NAMIBIA

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Mark MacGuigan, is pleased to announce that the Governments of the Contact Group have today informed the U.N. Secretary-General in New York of the successful conclusion of the first phase of the negotiations for the implementation of the proposal for a settlement of the Namibian situation in accordance with Security Council Resolution 435.

This action was taken by the Permanent Representatives of the Five in a letter to the Secretary-General.

In that letter, the Five informed the Secretary-General that all parties to the negotiation now accept the principles concerning the Constituent Assembly and the Constitution for an independent Namibia which the Five put forward at the end of last year.

The Five further informed the Secretary-General that a decision on the method to be employed to elect the Constituent Assembly should be made in accordance with provisions of 435. The Five noted that all concerned are agreed that this issue must be settled in accordance with 435 and must not delay the implementation of 435. The Five in consultation with all parties to this end.

In the meantime, the Five are in consultation with all concerned to obtain the resolution of any other outstanding issues to allow progress towards implementation of the settlement plan in the very near future.