



communiqué

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NAMIBIA

The Right Honourable Joe Clark, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, today issued the following statement on Namibia:

"The Government of Canada notes with concern the Government of South Africa's announcement with respect to new constitutional arrangements within Namibia and the establishment of an interim government.

We regard unilateral measures taken by the South African Government in relation to the establishment of constitutional bodies and the transfer of power in Namibia to be null and void. Arrangements that may be established as a result of such measures cannot have any status whatsoever under the UN Settlement Plan.

The only agreed basis for internationally recognized independence for Namibia is UN Security Council Resolution 435, to which Canada is firmly committed. Under Resolution 435 the constitution for an independent Namibia is to be drafted by representatives of the Namibian people chosen in a free and fair election. The Government of Canada considers that any actions taken by a so-called interim government for Namibia to be without effect.

Canada deplores this step as it suggests that South Africa does not intend to proceed promptly with the implementation of Resolution 435.

We join other concerned members of the United Nations in urging South Africa to proceed with the implementation of Resolution 435."