As the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group learned, efforts to promote cooperation are doomed when one of the parties to the dispute is an ideologically-driven revolutionary power.

According to Nye, learning is the third way in which perceptions of national interest may change; the first is through a domestic shift in power. In Southern Africa, third-party efforts should be designed to encourage a domestic shift in power in the revolutionary state in order to create the conditions for a security regime; this is the logic of sanctions. In the interim, third parties can also seek to mitigate the impact of destabilization; this is the logic for economic and political (and military?) support for the SADCC states.