

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

communiqué

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Communiqué on Namibia Issued by the Foreign Ministers of Canada, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States, Brussels, December 10, 1981

The Foreign Ministers of Canada, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America met in Brussels on December 10, 1981 to assess the progress made towards the early independence of Namibia in accordance with Security Council Resolution 435.

They were encouraged by the constructive results of the recent senior officials' mission of the Five to Africa. They noted that the ground is now prepared for achieving final agreement on constitutional principles without delay and decided that appropriate contacts promoting such early agreement will be initiated immediately.

The Ministers reviewed the extensive work done by officials of the contact group in meeting from December 1 to 8, 1981 in Washington and Ottawa on proposals concerning the remaining issues to be resolved in the next phase -- the practical establishment of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group in Namibia and assurances that the transitional process will be carried out in an impartial manner.

The Ministers reiterated the firm commitment of their governments to continued co-operation with the parties concerned and to vigorous action in the search for a peaceful settlement in Namibia, which they see as essential for the stability of southern Africa. They hope that agreement of all concerned can be reached at the earliest possible date thus opening the way for implementation of Security Council Resolution 435 in 1982.