

In addition to this phasing-out of our commercial activities, we shall also withdraw all Export Development Corporation government-account support from any transactions relating to South Africa. This involves, for example, export-credit insurance and loan insurance, as well as foreign-investment insurance. This is a step that is not as complete as what may very well come in time. We are examining the implications and the possibilities for other such actions. After consultation with the Canadian companies concerned, we shall be publishing a code of conduct and ethics for Canadian companies operating in South Africa, designed to govern their employment and similar practices. This will be done as quickly as possible.

The fourth measure is related to South Africa's former membership in the Commonwealth, which we now propose to change. From a date to be announced, we shall require non-immigrant visas from all residents of South Africa coming to Canada. We have asked the appropriate officials to examine the impact and the capacity that is open to us to renounce the British preferential tariff. It is still in effect even though the Commonwealth membership of South Africa has long since ceased to exist.

In addition to all of these measures, we are very much concerned about two other aspects of South Africa and South African operations — namely, the activities of Canadian companies in Namibia. Once again, we have asked the officials of the Department of Finance and others to look as quickly as possible into all the implications of possible tax concessions and the like that these companies may be obtaining, and that are being provided by what is essentially an illegal regime in Namibia, by our standards and by our demonstrated conduct at the United Nations.

We are also establishing possible codes of conduct for further investment by Canadians in Namibia. It may be asked — I am sure it will be — why these measures are not introduced immediately. There are two reasons: first, we want to be very sure that we do not penalize Canadian companies that may have been active in that country under legitimate and perfectly acceptable processes. Nevertheless, there is unquestionably an incongruity in a situation that permits an illegal regime, by world definition, to be benefiting with Canadian companies in the manner I have outlined.

There is a second reason why we are withholding, for the time being, any further action. We continue to hope that a means will be found of ensuring that there is a peaceful and satisfactory solution for Namibia, one that will bring about equality — one man, one vote. We hope this can be done through negotiations and the process in which Canada is participating, which relates to the five Western members of the Security Council talking with the Government of South Africa and the other parties concerned.

In the process of making this statement and of expressing my hope for a peaceful outcome in Namibia, it is also Canada's hope and wish that the black leadership there, as elsewhere in South Africa, will show its own high level of responsibility. We hope it will do everything reasonable and possible to bring about transition by peaceful means, rather than plunge another region on that tragic continent into the kind of bloodshed we have seen repeated over and over again in recent years.

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