

More specifically, our Secretary of State for External Affairs announced on July 6 that Canada had decided to terminate all toll-processing of Namibian uranium imported from South Africa. This action was taken in accordance with Security Council Resolution 283, which had recommended that countries end commercial activities related to Namibia, carried out by agencies under government control. I might note that this measure was adopted notwithstanding the economic costs to Canada which could approximate \$5 million. The processing had been carried out under contracts between Eldorado Nuclear, a crown corporation, and commercial parties in third countries. We hope that those countries — and others — will also re-examine their policies in light of Resolution 283.

Canada did more. Following the adoption of Resolution 566, a ban on *Krugerrand* gold coin sales was introduced in co-operation with Canadian banks. In addition, the question of transportation was reviewed. As a result, an embargo on air transport between Canada and South Africa was instituted. It covers both cargo and passenger flights. It will end all charters, and rule out any prospect of concluding a bilateral air services agreement. We think these actions demonstrate that Canada takes the recommendations of this Council seriously.

But quite apart from such specific initiatives, we also recognize that Namibia continues to be an issue involving self-determination, regional peace and security, regional economic development, and the role of the United Nations. As we said in June, Namibia's right to independence is rooted, inextricably, in the very principles on which the UN was founded.

At the recent Commonwealth heads of government meeting in Nassau, Canada's prime minister, the Right Honourable Brian Mulroney, joined other leaders from all continents, representing 49 countries with one quarter of the world's population, in declaring grave concern over the continued delays in achieving Namibian independence. As you know, Commonwealth leaders categorically rejected South Africa's attempts to link Namibia's independence to extraneous issues. They reaffirmed resolution 435 as the only acceptable basis for an independent Namibia. Finally, they agreed that action directed against *apartheid* should be directed equally towards ensuring South Africa's compliance with the wishes of the international community on the question of Namibia.

In other words, Namibia remains front and centre for the Commonwealth, and the Commonwealth conveyed to South Africa, with unmistakable clarity, that independence is an immediate imperative. This Council, too, has a crucial role to play — the crucial role to play — in reminding South Africa that its previous commitments to Namibian independence under UN auspices must be honoured. That would best be done by a strong resolution, reinforcing measures already recommended. It should also be a unanimous resolution. This is no time to send a mixed signal to Pretoria.

The Council must continue to reject the implausible security considerations invoked by the government of South Africa. By rough calculation, it is at least 900 kilometres at the nearest point between South Africa's northern border and the northern border of Namibia. What takes place or does not take place 900 kilometres from South Africa's borders can hardly be considered a direct security threat. The linkage argument will not wash.