

- Second, the Council should meet informally to avert potential crises by examining incipient disputes during in camera sessions with the Secretary-General.

- Third, the Secretary-General requires additional personnel and resources for the more effective use of his "good offices" in the resolution of disputes.

These are not revolutionary steps. They can be taken on the basis of existing authority and by reallocating resources. But they would be useful and concrete.

They would, Mr. President, facilitate the tangible progress on specific problems that is so urgently required. The Secretary-General has assumed his responsibilities in exemplary fashion. He does not, however, possess supernatural, nor alas supra-national, powers. We, as member governments, must also assume our responsibilities.

The Secretary-General has just reported on one problem that is crying for a solution - Namibia. It is almost five years to the day since the Security Council adopted resolution 435. The outstanding issues regarding its implementation have, in substance, been resolved. All the parties have made concessions to achieve this result.

There is no excuse for further delay. South Africa's pre-condition to implementation, the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola, cannot legitimize its illegal occupation of Namibia. The question of principle is clear. Namibia should have its independence regardless of what happens or does not happen in Angola.

The Secretary-General has spelled out the political realities very clearly in his report to the Security Council:

- further disastrous consequences will result if we do not quickly reach the stage of implementation; and
- reaching this stage will require a determined effort by all concerned and particularly by those directly concerned.

The first step is clear. South Africa must end its incursions into Angola and its intervention there. It cannot seek unilaterally to reshape the region: boundaries and sovereignties must remain inviolate.