

the actions taken by the United Nations Security Council to promote a peaceful solution, and in particular the most recent resolutions unanimously adopted by the Security Council of December 13, 1974, (366) and January 30, 1976, (385). We urge the Government of South Africa to accept that a solution must be found in the context of the terms laid down in these resolutions. This stand is consistent with our support for, and encouragement of, the eminent role of the United Nations in world affairs generally and its function as a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations.

With respect to the constitutional discussions being held in Windhoek, we note they are being conducted by representatives of various ethnic groups in Namibia. There has been no provision to permit the participation of all concerned Namibian political elements, notably many Africans who are better educated and more conscious politically and who have organized in such bodies as SWAPO, for which we consider there is substantial evidence of popular support. Bearing these factors in mind, and as well the fact that the discussions are being held without reference to the United Nations' actions, the Canadian Government considers that these discussions cannot be representative of all Namibian interests and cannot adequately provide for the constitutional development of an independent and united Namibia through the fully democratic process required by the UN Security Council. We believe that the Turnhalle discussions will ultimately fail to achieve the objective of an internationally acceptable and truly independent and united Namibia.

My Government has watched with increasing concern the growing number of incidents of violence aimed at the South African presence in Namibia. These outbreaks are undoubtedly the end result of South Africa's continued presence and actions in Namibia and are ominous indicators that the prospects for a peaceful resolution of the Namibian issue are becoming increasingly remote. The deterioration in the situation is exemplified by the sentences handed down by the South West Africa Division of the Spring Court of South Africa on four Namibians at Swakopmund in April/May 1976. In our view they were invalid in law, in view of the illegality of the continued South African presence in Namibia. We believe that the sentences can only have a negative effect on the prospects for a peaceful resolution of the Namibian issue and have urged that the sentences not be carried out.

The Canadian Government brought these views to the attention of the South African Government in a *démarche* made in Pretoria on August 9, 1976. We appealed to that Government to reach an accommodation in the shortest possible time with the United Nations on the future of Namibia and indicated that if this accommodation should prove to be unattainable the situation might deteriorate into one which could be justly considered to constitute a threat to international peace and security.

The response which we received to this *démarche* was disappointing. It showed that the insufficient positions which have been revealed to us by the Government of South Africa each time the subject of Namibia has been discussed in the Security Council remain in essence unchanged. Nonetheless, there have been some developments in Southern Africa in recent months which have raised the level of activity at the political and diplomatic level both in regard to Rhodesia and in regard to Namibia. In the first case, while the results are still difficult to predict, we do have in progress a conference whose mandate it is to arrange the transfer of power to the majority by the end of 1978 at the latest. In the case of Namibia, parallel efforts have been undertaken by the American Secretary of State, Mr. Kissinger, to seek a resolution of the question. The efforts have not yet, it appears, evoked a satisfactory response from the South African regime. It is our belief, however, that the situation of Namibia is not one which need remain impervious to efforts towards settlement. If the declarations of the "interested and concerned parties" are taken at full face value and indeed if the international community holds them to declarations which meet with or begin to approach Security Council stipulations, it should not prove impossible through determined diplomacy to bridge the gap and to bring about the objective of fully democratic elections under United Nations supervision.

In the meantime, the United Nations should continue to pursue its collective efforts in favour of Namibian independence and to support in particular those programs designed to prepare Namibians to cope with the challenges of independence. Of particular importance in this sense, we believe, are the UN Educational and Training Program for Southern Africa (UNETPSA) and the Institute for Namibia. On an earlier occasion we have drawn attention to our support for UNETPSA. The declared objectives of the Institute for Namibia militate greatly in favour of a Canadian decision to assist in its financing — namely, the training of young Namibians, preferably by Namibians, in areas which would equip them to contribute to the future of their country. During the difficult period which will follow independence, Namibians with administrative and civil service training will demonstrate the value of the Institute's programs. Thus, even before the budget of the Institute had been finalized, the Canadian representative in this Committee announced, on October 23 of last year, the intention of the Canadian Government to contribute \$100,000 for the establishment of the Institute for Namibia in Lusaka. That contribution was delivered to the Secretary General two weeks later. The Canadian decision was facilitated by the constructive role played by the Commissioner for Namibia in the conversations concerning the role and planning for the Institute which took place during his visit to Ottawa in Spring 1975.