



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

# communiqué

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COMMUNIQUE ON NAMIBIA ISSUED BY THE  
FOREIGN MINISTERS OF CANADA, FRANCE, THE UNITED KINGDOM,  
THE UNITED STATES AND THE STATE SECRETARY OF THE FOREIGN  
OFFICE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY,  
NEW YORK, OCTOBER 1, 1982

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The Foreign Ministers of Canada, France, the United Kingdom and the United States and the State Secretary of the Foreign Office of the Federal Republic of Germany met in New York on October 1 to take stock of the progress made in the Namibia negotiations since their previous meeting in Luxembourg on May 17.

The Ministers reviewed the consultations which took place during July and August in New York between the Contact Group and representatives of the Front Line States and SWAPO, and the concurrent consultations with South Africa. They expressed satisfaction with the results of these discussions.

The Ministers welcomed the agreement of the parties to the negotiations to the constitutional principles for the Namibian Constituent Assembly. They noted that all parties had agreed that the method to be employed to elect the Constituent Assembly would be decided in accordance with the terms of UNSCR 435, and insisted that the issue should not cause delay in the implementation of UNSCR 435. They expressed appreciation of the constructive and flexible attitude of the parties, which enabled substantial progress to be made on impartiality and the size, composition and deployment of the military component of UNTAG. They noted that, on September 24, representatives of the Front Line States, Nigeria, SWAPO and the Contact Group had reported to the Secretary-General on the results of the consultations which had taken place.

The Ministers reiterated their commitment to the early implementation of SCR 435 in order to enable the people of Namibia to exercise their right to self-determination and to bring peace and security to the region. They paid tribute to the efforts already made by the Secretary-General and his staff and agreed that arrangements for the implementation of the plan were proceeding satisfactorily.

The Ministers agreed that a valuable opportunity now existed to achieve a settlement within the time frame envisaged which would strengthen peace and security and foster economic development in the region. They noted that the objective of achieving such a settlement was shared by all Contact Group governments.