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Eighth emergency special session

SEP 3 1981

UN/ISA COLLECTION
CONVENING OF THE SESSION

Note by the Secretary-General

1. In a letter dated 12 August 1981 addressed to the Secretary-General (see annex), the Permanent Representative of Zimbabwe to the United Nations requested the convening of an emergency special session of the General Assembly to discuss the question of Namibia.

2. Upon receipt of the aforementioned letter, the Secretary-General, in a note dated 13 August 1981, transmitted the text to Member States requesting them, bearing in mind his responsibilities under rule 9 (b) of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, to inform him whether they concurred in the request for the convening of an emergency special session.

3. In a note dated 2 September, the Secretary-General informed Member States that the majority of Members had concurred in Zimbabwe's request and that, accordingly, the eighth emergency special session would convene at United Nations Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 3 September, at 3 p.m.

4. The provisional agenda of the session will be issued as document A/ES-8/2.

ANNEX

Letter dated 12 August 1981 from the Permanent Representative of Zimbabwe to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to paragraphs 28 and 29 of General Assembly resolution 35/227 A of 6 March 1981, by which the Assembly called upon the Security Council "to act decisively against any dilatory manoeuvres and fraudulent schemes of the illegal occupation régime aimed at frustrating the legitimate struggle of the Namibian people" and "to convene urgently to impose comprehensive mandatory sanctions against South Africa, as provided for under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, in order to ensure South Africa's immediate compliance with the resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to Namibia".

As you know, pursuant to a request of the representative of Uganda acting as Chairman of the African Group, the Security Council convened on 21 April 1981 to respond to the call addressed to it by the General Assembly. At the conclusion of 11 meetings devoted to this subject, the Council considered four resolutions proposed to it to implement the General Assembly's recommendations; however, each of these four resolutions failed of adoption by reason of the negative votes of several permanent members of the Security Council.

Subsequent negotiations have failed to resolve or even to advance towards the resolution of the issues addressed by the General Assembly and the Security Council.

Consequently, I have the honour to request, as the representative of Zimbabwe, and as current Chairman of the African Group at the United Nations, that an emergency special session of the General Assembly be convened pursuant to its resolution 377 A (V) in order to discuss these important questions.

I would therefore be very grateful if you would kindly initiate the procedures for convening an emergency special session.

(Signed) Elleck K. MASHINGAIDZE
Permanent Representative of Zimbabwe
Chairman of the African Group
