

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
P.O. Box 9000,
DAR ES SALAAM.

SPEECH BY NDUGU SALIM AHMED SALIM - THE MINISTER
FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF
TANZANIA GIVEN AT THE OFFICIAL DINNER ON 7TH
FEBRUARY, 1983 IN HONOUR OF H. E. DR. JAVIER
PEREZ DE CUELLAR, THE SECRETARY - GENERAL
OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

Your Excellency, Mr. Secretary General,
Madam de Cuellar,
Ndugu Ministers,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is a great pleasure and honour for me to welcome you, Mrs De Cuellar and the delegation which is accompanying you to Tanzania. I do so both in my official and personal capacities. The Government and people of Tanzania in whose name I have the privilege to welcome you are delighted that despite your understandably busy schedule it has been possible for you to visit our region and our country. On a personal level I am equally happy to welcome Your Excellency- an eminent son of Latin America, a world statesman and a friend of long standing. Short though

.../your visit



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your visit is, it is our sincere hope that the three days that you will be spending in Tanzania will provide you with an opportunity to know more about our country, our problems, our developmental efforts, and the aspirations of our people which in a nutshell are fully in keeping with the principles and objectives of the Organization which you so ably serve. In this context we are glad that in addition to the discussions we held this afternoon and the discussion that you will have with our President tomorrow, you will also be able to visit places outside our capital. Your visit to Zanzibar will also afford you an opportunity to see some of the projects undertaken in our country with UN assistance while the visit to the Ngorongoro Crater will enable you to see the richness of our wild life which we in this country consider as a common heritage to mankind and thus are doing our utmost to preserve.

Mr. Secretary General,

We are particularly gratified that your official visit to our part of the Continent and to Tanzania comes at the early stages of your term of office. Indeed we recall with satisfaction that but for the Falkland Islands/Malvinas Crisis you would have paid an official visit to Tanzania in the middle of last year. We believe that these visits are important in at least two significant ways. First, they enable the peoples of the world to have a closer identification with the Secretary General and through him the World Organization. Second, they provide the Secretary General with a unique opportunity

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to learn and appreciate on first hand basis the problems of the different countries and regions. The value of such on the spot assessment cannot be substituted. In this context we recall that your illustrious predecessor, Dr. Kurt Waldheim, also made an official visit to Tanzania in 1973.

Yet your visit to Tanzania and the other African states in your itinerary this time assumes more than an ordinary significance. For it comes at a time of mounting concern over the deteriorating international situation. The East-West tensions, the scandalous and dangerous escalation of the arms race, the growing inequity in the international economic relations and their attendant repercussions are all part of the disturbing global agenda. Because of the constraint of time, it is not my intention to dwell on these issues. Nor do I intend to catalogue the many serious conflict situations which are of concern to my government. The brutal invasion of Lebanon and the attempt to physically liquidate the Palestinian people, the continued denial of these people of their right to self-determination and independence are issues which the World Community is very much seized of though regrettably thus far very little has been done to see to it that the seeds of injustice are eliminated. The continuing sad Iran/Iraq war with its colossal loss in both human and material terms, the problems relating to Afghanistan and Kampuchea as well as the situation in Central America are all of legitimate concern to us. May I also mention the importance which the

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Government of Tanzania attaches to the on going negotiations in Geneva between the USSR and the USA on the Intermediate Nuclear Force. The success of these negotiations is pivotal in the whole range of efforts by the World Community of at least arresting the madness of the nuclear arms race. These and many other issues on the global agenda are of interest and serious concern to my government. In mentioning them I do so merely to underscore that concern as well as to reiterate our own committment to cooperate fully with the United Nations in search of just and lasting solutions.

Mr. Secretary General,

The United Nations is in one way or another concerned and involved in all these issues. We in Tanzania applaud your own commendable efforts in promoting conflict resolution and creating conditions for a more just and peaceful world order.

We recognize that your current visit to our region in addition to familiarizing yourself is intended to promote the collective efforts of the World Community in search for a resolution of the growing conflict in Southern Africa brought about by the aggressiveness and intransigence of the regime in Pretoria. We note that in your current visit you have visited all the Frontline States. I am confident that in your discussion with the leaders

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and senior officials of Angola, Zambia, Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Botswana they would have fully apprised you of their and our concern at the explosive situation in Southern Africa. They would have above all expressed their and our collective frustration over the current impasse on Namibia. And here permit me to add our own serious concern over this.

In doing so I wish at the very outset to underscore the United Nations special responsibility over that international territory. Since 1966 the United Nations terminated South Africa's Mandate to rule Namibia and set up the UN Council for Namibia as an interim administration under its own authority to administer Namibia until it was able to exercise its right of self-determination. The refusal and intransigence of South Africa to relinquish the territory and the consequence of such defiance and non compliance constitutes a serious threat to international peace and security. The people of Namibia, through their liberation movement SWAPO, continue to fight to liberate their country. Many efforts have been made to bring about a negotiated settlement to the question of the independence of Namibia. Negotiations have been going on for many years through the intermediary of the Contact Group of Five - with a view to reaching an agreement to enable the people of Namibia to exercise their sovereign right to self-determination and independence.

It is a matter of grave concern to my government that despite all the strenuous and commendable efforts made by SWAPO supported by the OAU through the Frontline States and notwithstanding the considerable concessions made by SWAPO in order to facilitate the implementation of the UN Plan,

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Security Council Resolution 435 (1978) remains unimplemented due to the defiance of the South African regime. It is even more regrettable that instead of exerting pressure on the South African regime some efforts are being made to provide that regime with an alibi for its defiance by introducing totally alien elements in the negotiating process. Here I refer to the insistence of the United States to link the independence of Namibia with the presence of the Cuban forces in Angola and thus hold the freedom and independence of the people of Namibia hostage to the issue totally unrelated to the decolonization process.

We reject this linkage not only because it is irrelevant to the struggle of the Namibian people, we reject it not only because it is immoral; and we reject it not only because it provides confort and pretext to the apartheid regime; we reject it also because it undermines the collective efforts of many years by all concerned in a genuine search for the independence of Namibia. We reject it also because it has encouraged the authorities in Pretoria not only in their defiance of the United Nations objectives in Namibian but also in the increasing policies of aggression, terror and destabilisation against the independent states of Southern Africa. We are in this connection encouraged by the clear and consistent position that you Mr. Secretary General, has taken in rejecting such linkage even if it is now given a dubious name of parallelism. We wish to reiterate that Namibia is a colonial territory illegally occupied by South Africa. It is a territory which the United Nations has

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special responsibility. Angola on the other hand is a sovereign independent African state which in exercise of its full Sovereignty has invited the Cuban forces to assist in its defence against South Africa's aggression. To link the two is to do injustice to the Namibian people as well as to attempt at circumscribing the Sovereignty of the Peoples Republic of Angola.

We believe that the time has come to put an end to this deviation and instead to focuss on the legitimate concern of the World Community namely to work for the scrupulous implementation of Security Council Resolution 435 (1978). And in this connection my government looks forward to the United Nations leadership. For, above all, the Central Role of the United Nations over Namibia need not be over emphasized. At the same time we look forward to a continued and indeed more active support and solidarity of the United Nations in confronting the menace of South Africa's aggression and expansionism in the region. The continued occupation of Southern Angola, the campaigns of destabilisation mounted against Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Zambia, the harassment against Botswana and Swaziland and the recent brutal and cowardly invasion of Lesotho constitute a continuing affront to the United Nations besides escalating the confrontation in Southern Africa with its attendant serious threat to international peace and security. This challenge is part of the greater challenge that is embodied in the anachronistic system of apartheid itself which the World Community can ignore only at our collective peril.

.../Mr. Secretary



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Mr. Secretary General

Your visit to Africa also comes at a time when our continent and the Third World as a whole is facing unprecedented economic problems of grave dimensions. As you know the majority of countries in the United Nations category of the least developed countries belong to Africa. These countries have been hit hardest by the present world wide economic slump. Their fragile economies are now at crisis point. The prices of the raw agricultural products and minerals they export have sharply dropped while the price of their essential imports of energy, manufactured products and machinery have continued to rise. Imported inflation has wrecked havoc to their development efforts. The resource gap has widened and many have of late been forced to abandon their modest effort at development and concentrate instead on survival.

That is why Tanzania and Africa as a whole are all the more concerned at the failure to launch the Global Round of Negotiations under the auspices of the United Nations. The malfunctioning of the present economic order necessitate concerted global effort at finding long lasting and equitable solutions. In view of the interrelated nature of economic problems afflicting the world, the search for solutions should be approached with the participation of all. Unilateral measures or partial solutions can only aggravate the already deteriorating situation. We would therefore like to lend support to your efforts as you continue to work hard so that the United Nations may soon be able to launch the Global Round of Negotiations which would bring about the establishment

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of The New International Economic Order in the nearest future. For such negotiations are not only necessary but are imperative for our survival.

Your Excellency, I would be remiss if I did not make reference to the relations between the United Nations Organization and the United Republic of Tanzania. Several specialized agencies of the United Nations, with the UNDP as their co-ordinator, offer assistance to Tanzania in several fields. These fields include rural development, agriculture, fisheries, development planning, human resources, industry, energy, minerals, transport and communications. There are also some organisations that give humanitarian and relief assistance. The United Republic of Tanzania is most grateful for all these types of assistance. The assistance offered closely follows short-term and long-term objectives of our National Development Plans. The results achieved in the implementation of various projects and programmes have been possible mainly because of the hard work, devotion and dedication of the UN officials in these specialized Agencies. May I, therefore, take this opportunity to pay tribute to the UNDP resident representative and all staff members of the United Nations system resident in Tanzania for their valuable service to this country.

Mr. Secretary General,

Permit me at this juncture to emphasize the obvious. This is the total commitment of the government and people of Tanzania to the principles and purposes of the United Nations. Implied in this commitment is our complete dedication to

.../ the cause



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the cause of peace, justice and development. Tanzania, which firmly believes in the friendship and understanding with all the peoples of the world will always endeavour to play its modest role in the United Nations' quest for international cooperation, understanding and harmony - elements which are crucial in the maintenance of international peace and security - which as you perfectly know Mr. Secretary General is the *raison d'être* of our great organization.

I cannot conclude my remarks without paying well deserved tribute for your efforts in the resolution of international disputes. Your report to the 37th Session of the General Assembly is an eloquent testimony to your determined desire to fully involve the Organization in the quest for peace in the world. Your recommendation for maximization of the use of the Security Council in conflict resolution and indeed conflict prevention deserve serious consideration by member states. In these endeavours you can count on the unflinching cooperation and support of the Tanzania government. I have no doubt that with your rich experience and commitment to the cause of peace you will spare no effort to encourage member states to make maximum use of the Organization in arresting international tensions and finding resolutions to conflict situations leading to the restoration of lasting international harmony and understanding in the world.

Once again, Mr. Secretary General, Madam De Cuellar and your party
KARIBUNI TANZANIA

.../ Excellencies,

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Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Please join me in proposing a toast;

to the Secretary General of the United Nations and Mrs De Cuellar; and
to International Cooperation, peace and Security !