

ment had been signed by Angola, Cuba and South Africa, as had the bilateral agreement between Angola and Cuba, as result of which the arrangements for the establishment of UNAVEM had entered into force. The Secretary-General proposed that UNAVEM be composed of contingents from the following Member States: Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Congo, Czechoslovakia, India, Jordan, Norway, Spain and Yugoslavia. He also informed the President of the Council of his intention to appoint Brigadier-General Péricles Ferreira Comes (Brazil) as Chief Military Observer.

By a letter of 23 December,⁽⁹⁾ the President transmitted to the Secretary-General the Council's approval of his proposals.

SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION

The Security Council met on 20 December 1988, in accordance with an understanding reached in prior consultations. On that date, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 626(1988).

The Security Council,

Noting the decision of Angola and Cuba to conclude a bilateral agreement on 22 December 1988 for the redeployment to the north and the staged and total withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola, according to the agreed timetable,

Considering the request submitted to the Secretary-General by Angola and Cuba in letters dated 17 December 1988,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General dated 17 December 1988,

1. Approves the report of the Secretary-General and the recommendations therein;

2. Decides to establish under its authority a United Nations Angola Verification Mission and requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps to this effect in accordance with his aforementioned report;

3. Also decides that the Mission shall be established for a period of thirty-one months;

4. Further decides that the arrangements for the establishment of the Mission shall enter into force as soon as the tripartite agreement between Angola, Cuba and South Africa on the one hand, and the bilateral agreement between Angola and Cuba on the other, are signed;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Security Council immediately after the signature of the agreements referred to in paragraph 4 and to keep the Council fully informed of further developments.

Security Council resolution 626(1988)

20 December 1988 Meeting 2834 Adopted unanimously

Draft prepared in consultations among Council members (S/20339).

Botswana-South Africa armed incidents

According to a press release issued on 21 June by Botswana⁽¹⁰⁾ and transmitted the following

day, South Africa had violated its territory and carried out two attacks on Botswana nationals in or near the capital city of Gaborone. During the first incident, three unarmed policemen were injured, and in the second, a bomb destroyed a vehicle and damaged a house. Two members of the South African commando unit charged in the attacks were said to have been arrested on the night of 20 June and brought to trial on 22 June, according to a 23 June letter from Botswana.⁽¹¹⁾

A similar incident, during which four persons were killed, had been reported in March.⁽¹²⁾ In previous years, such as in June 1985,⁽¹³⁾ the Security Council condemned a South African attack on Botswana's capital, and in May 1986,⁽¹⁴⁾ the Council considered, but did not act on, charges of further attacks on a village near Gaborone. More allegations against South Africa were brought forward in 1987.⁽¹⁵⁾

Following consultations, the President of the Security Council on 24 June issued the following statement on behalf of the Council members:

"Members of the Security Council have learnt with a profound sense of shock and indignation of South Africa's latest attacks on the territory of Botswana in flagrant violation of the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of that country carried out by the commandos of that régime on the night of 20 June 1988 which resulted in the injury of three unarmed Botswana policemen who were going about their normal duties near the capital city of Gaborone.

"Members of the Security Council further express their grave concern at South Africa's total disregard of the resolutions of the Security Council, in particular Security Council resolution 568(1985) by which the Security Council, *inter alia*, strongly condemned South Africa's attack on Botswana as an act of aggression against that country and a gross violation of its territorial integrity and national sovereignty.

"Members of the Council are also deeply disturbed by the explosion of a bomb in Gaborone West which destroyed a vehicle and damaged a house belonging to a Botswana national on the morning of 21 June 1988. They noted that the Government of Botswana, after a thorough investigation, had reached the conclusion that the two incidents were related.

"They strongly condemn these aggressive acts, provocation and harassment perpetrated by South Africa against the defenceless and peace-loving nation of Botswana in violation of international law.

"They reiterate their call to the South African Government to refrain from any further such aggressive acts and destabilization against Botswana and other front-line and neighbouring States as such acts can only aggravate tensions in southern Africa.

"They further reiterate the fact that peaceful change in southern Africa can only be brought about by the total eradication of apartheid which is the root cause of tension and conflict in both South Africa and the region as a whole."