



ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY
PERMANENT OFFICE OF THE O.A.U.
IN BRUSSELS

With the compliments of the

ORGANISATIE VAN AFRIKAANSE EENHEID

Telex : 64464 OAU BRU B

Director a.i.

Mr. N. DODOO, Please find herewith the french translation
ACP Secretariat of the Memorandum addressed to Sir. G. HOWE,
M.P. on sanctions against South Africa.

Best regards GIDEON KANNAMUKA 2/10/86.
Avenue de Cortenberg, 66 (Bte 2) Tel. 734.96.03
1040 Brussels (Belgium) 2/10/1986 Telex 64464 ouabrub

MEMORANDUM DU PRESIDENT DU GROUPE OUA DES AMBASSADEURS
ACCREDITES AUPRES DE LA CEE SUR LA NECESSITE D'IMPOSER
DES SANCTIONS GLOBALES ET OBLIGATOIRES CONTRE L'AFRIQUE
DU SUD

ADRESSE A

S.E. Sir Geoffrey HOWE M.P.
SECRETAIRE AU FOREIGN OFFICE DU ROYAUME
UNI ET PRESIDENT DU CONSEIL DES MINISTRES
EUROPEEN



منظمة الوحدة الافريقية

ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

ORGANISATION DE L'UNITÉ AFRICAINE

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REF. OAU/BRU/A.20/4.386 ✓

Brussels, 19th September, 1986

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To : S.E. M. Idé Oumarou, Secrétaire général de l'OUA

From : *G.K. Kainamura* Gideon Kainamura, Director a.i., OAU Office in Brussels

Subject : Recent activities of the OAU Office in Brussels in the area of sanctions (August-September, 1986).

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to submit to you, under cover of this letter, a report on the activities of this Office during the months of August and September and to inform you of the kinds of actions which were undertaken by the Office in collaboration with the OAU Group of Ambassadors in Brussels during the period in the area of sanctions.

In an attempt to contribute to the implementation of the Declaration of the Twenty Second Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU Ref. AHG/ST.5 (XXII) (28-30 July, 1986) on the situation in Southern Africa, I called for an urgent meeting of the Bureau of the OAU Group of Ambassadors accredited to the EEC on 20/8/1986 in order to exchange views on the course of action to be taken. In this regard, I have enclosed a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Bureau and you will find decisions of the Bureau in paragraph 9 (a-b) of Document OAU/BRU/Bur.Mtg. (XIII) SR. ^{1/}

^{1/} Minutes of the Bureau of the OAU Group of Ambassadors held on 28/8/1986.

Following these discussions, I made arrangements for the Bureau of the OAU Group to meet the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom and Chairman of the Permanent Representatives' Committee of the Council of the European Communities, H.E. Sir David H.A. HANNAY. Thus, a meeting was held on 11 September in the Chambers of the Presidency of the European Communities. Representatives of the European Council also attended the meeting.

The composition of the OAU Delegation was as follows : H.E. Mr. Seydina Oumar SY (Ambassador of Senegal and Chairman of the OAU Group in Brussels), H.E. Mr. Ahmed GHOZALI (Ambassador of Algeria), H.E. Mr. B.R. KUWANI (Ambassador of Zambia), the Chargés d'Affaires of Kenya, Rwanda and Sierra Leone, Mr. Gideon KAINAMURA and Mr. J.B. FELLI (OAU General Secretariat).

In the discussions that ensued, the Chairman of the OAU Group of Ambassadors accredited to the EEC re-iterated Africa's call for the imposition of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against racist South Africa. He emphasized that by imposing sanctions against the Pretoria regime, Member States of the European Community will be making a contribution to the early eradication of the scourge of apartheid. After an exchange of views on the situation in Southern Africa, Ambassador Seydina O. SY submitted a Memorandum ^{2/} which was prepared by this Office (enclosed) on behalf of the OAU Group of Ambassadors to H.E. Sir Geoffrey HOWE, Foreign Secretary of the United Kingdom and current Chairman of the European Council of Ministers. This Memorandum was relayed to all Foreign Ministers of the Twelve EEC Member States.

2/ Memorandum to H.E. Sir Geoffrey HOWE, Foreign Secretary of the United Kingdom and Chairman of the European Council of Ministers.

After this meeting, a press release^{3/} was made by the Chairman on behalf of the OAU Group. I relayed the Press Release to PANA for purposes of further informing the African media and public. In addition to the above mentioned memorandum, I also made arrangements for members of the Bureau of the OAU Group in Brussels to meet individually each Permanent Representative of the Twelve EEC Member States in Brussels in order to further sensitise individual Governments of the European Community about the urgency of imposing sanctions.

OBSERVATIONS

1. In hurrying to make preparations for the sensitisation of European Governments for the imposition of sanctions, I thought the timing should be such that our sensitisation campaign should be launched just before the holding of the meeting of the Council of Ministers of the European Community (15th September, 1986). Our intention was that the Memorandum of the OAU Group should reach all of the twelve EEC Member States before the meeting of their Council of Ministers, 15th and 16th September, 1986. Since the presentation of the Memorandum, through its Chairman, the Council has since met and discussed various issues including especially the question of sanctions. It will be recalled that at the Hague Summit of the EEC (15-16 June 1986), no decision was reached on sanctions. The Pretoria regime had been given three months within which it would effect fundamental changes with a view to dismantling Apartheid so as to avoid shedding blood. The Hague Summit had especially called on the Both regime to release Mr. Nelson Mandela together with other political prisoners

^{3/} Copy of the Press Release sent to PANA.

without conditions and, to lift the ban on the African National Congress (ANC), the Pan African Congress (PAC) and other political parties.

2. Unfortunately, by the time the European Council of Ministers met again on 15th September, 1986 in Brussels, the Botha regime had not only intensified its oppression against blacks in South Africa but had also increased acts of sabotage against independent neighbouring African States.

3. The EEC Council of Ministers while generally opposed to Apartheid, could not come to a unified position on the imposition of sanctions. The German, British and Portuguese Governments continued to persistently and consistently obstruct any moves by the rest of the Group towards the imposition of sanctions.

4. Their arguments have always been based on an apparent vision of suffering on the part of the blacks and neighbouring OAU Member States in Southern Africa. It is our considered view that this kind of reasoning is only a pretext on the part of the three Governments mentioned above to give South Africa some breathing space and credibility while ensuring that their short term economic, political and strategic interests are safeguarded in the whole of Southern Africa. This and other related points were made clear both in our Memorandum and in the meetings with the Permanent Representatives of the Twelve EEC Member States in Brussels.

5. In the circumstances and in light of the British, Portuguese and German actions, the Council has adopted a Statement on South Africa ^{4/}. In our view, these measures

^{4/} Statement by the Council of Ministers of the European Community on South Africa. Brussels, 15th September, 1986.

will have little or no effect at all on the Pretoria economy. These measures will affect imports worth only US \$ 585 million per year.

6. Your Excellency, this Office will continue to apply pressures on EEC Member States for the imposition of sanctions as well as the campaign for the eradication of apartheid which constitutes a scourge as well as an affront to human dignity. We believe that such campaign could also be launched in other European capitals where the concentration of African Diplomatic representations requires a co-ordinated and united front for pressurising especially those EEC countries which continue to obstruct the imposition of sanctions. The experience of this Office in this matter shows that this exercise is worthwhile and feasible but would require Your Excellency's approval.

7. Finally, I would like to thank Mr. J.B. FELLI of the OAU General Secretariat who happened to be in Brussels on another official mission and whose assistance in this exercise was most valuable.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

cc : - H.E. Amb. Allouane,
Assistant Secretary-General (EDECO)

- H.E. Amb. B. Dede,
Assistant Secretary-General (Political Dpt).
Organisation of African Unity,
P.O.Box 3243,
Addis-Ababa, Ethiopia

1986-09-11

Memorandum du president du groupe OAU des Ambassadeurs accredités aupres de la CEE sur la necessite d'imposer des sanctions globales et obligatoires contre l'Afrique du sud

Howe, Sir Geoffrey

Bureau Permanent de l'OAU a Bruxelles

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