



ORGANIZATION OF
AFRICAN UNITY

Secretariat
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ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE
AFRICAINNE

Secretariat
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COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
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FEBRUARY 1981
ADDIS ABABA

CM/1086(XXXVI)

APPLICATION FOR SUBVENTION BY
PERMANENT SECRETARIAT OF THE AFRICAN
COMMITTEE OF TRADE UNION COORDINATION
AND ACTION AGAINST APARTHEID AND COLONIALISM



CM-1086

MICROFICHE

The Secretary General
Organization of African Unity
P. O. Box 3243
Addis Ababa (ETHIOPIA).

African Committee of Trade
Union Coordination & Action,
Against Apartheid & Colonialism
Permanent Secretariat
P. O. Box 380
Kinshasa.

17th June, 1980.

Dear Sir:

We have the honour to remind you that during our talks in Addis Ababa we expressed our concerns over the difficulties that the African Committee against Apartheid faces in the performance of its duty due to inadequate funds.

In this connection we also spoke about the agreement reached during the 26th regular session of the Council of Ministers held in Addis Ababa from 23 February to 1 March 1976 on the preference that OAU should give the committee against Apartheid when granting subsidies.

The Council of Ministers in plenary session rejected the recommendations of Committee B and asked the Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters to redistribute the subsidies bearing in mind the declarations made by the majority of Ministers on the increase in the subsidy to be granted to the Committee against Apartheid.

Some Governments are not encouraged by our activities with regard to the application of sanctions and consequently make no voluntary contributions. It is therefore, up to the OAU Secretariat to examine this aspect of the problem and grant us substantial subsidies to enable us carry out our activities in accordance with the task that our committee has been assigned.

The Committee will be able to work effectively only when its subsidy amounts to or exceeds US\$100,000.

We are confident that with your intervention particular attention will be paid to increasing the subsidy of the Committee against Apartheid in line with the recommendations of the Council of Ministers (Committee B report, paragraph 29, 26th Ordinary Session).

The following documents are attached to this request:

- progress report covering the period 1979-1980;
- programme of action for 1980-81;
- report of the audited account.

Thanking you in advance, accept, Sir, the assurances of our highest consideration.

S I G N E D

GILBERT PONCAULT
SECRETARY GENERAL

PROGRESS REPORT
OF THE PERMANENT GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF AFRICAN
COMMITTEE OF TRADE UNION COORDINATION AND ACTION
AGAINST APARTHEID AND COLONIALISM.

This report summarizes the various activities carried out by the Permanent General Secretariat during the period 1979/1980. It traces briefly the tasks to which we addressed ourselves and which we carried out in conjunction with Governments, trade unions and international organizations in Africa and in the world. It will not overlook those projects that could not be implemented, either because of inadequate funds or simply because the goodwill and openness was not forthcoming from our partners.

Secondly, we shall lay emphasis on our programme of action for the coming months.

I. ACTIVITIES WITH GOVERNMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Our policy in this field has been and still is to bring pressure to bear on Governments that do not comply with the decisions taken by OAU and UN to strengthen sanctions against South Africa.

In the economic field we have repeatedly denounced the policy of multinational companies who indirectly bring South African goods into African markets. Worse still, it is common to find these days, especially in some Central African countries goods made in South Africa even though such countries are economically viable and geographically remote from South Africa. We know that for the sake of its propaganda South Africa is taking advantage of the difficult economic situation that African countries are experiencing to bring its food products into these countries even under conditions that are apparently unfavourable to it. In actual fact, South Africa's long term aim is to make some African countries economically dependent on her.

This situation must not be allowed to continue. On our part we have continually protested to the Governments concerned, demanding that they put a stop to the practice. Some countries informed us that they had realized the problem and were going to put an end to it. Others have preferred the refuge of incriminating silence.

This is the time to reconsider the role that should be assigned the OAU Committee on the application of sanctions. In our previous report we made concrete proposals regarding the composition of the committee and the working methods that it should adopt. Indeed we feel that it will be impossible for the representatives of countries that make up this committee to denounce their own Governments. To get round these difficulties therefore we suggested that a working committee made up of representatives of African people's organizations recognized by OAU should be attached to this committee. The role of the committee will be to collect concrete information on the progress being made on the application of sanctions in the various countries, bring pressure to bear on Governments and make a report to the OAU Secretary General on the situation. For more details we refer you to paragraphs 8 to 16 of our previous report.

Even though we must condemn in no uncertain terms any form of economic relations between South Africa and independent African countries, we must be careful in our judgement when dealing with certain independent African countries or land-locks with which the racist Republic shares common borders. While waiting for concrete proposals that the OAU Committee on the application of sanctions might make on the subject, we feel that OAU should have been helping these countries politically and above all materially so that they can gradually free themselves from the grip of their powerful neighbour. We also feel that the creation of a vast African common market as advocated by the Lagos Summit could be a final solution to this problem.

On the question of diplomatic relations between South Africa and independent African countries OAU recommendations are almost completely complied with. Unfortunately this is not the case with regard to air relations.

One of the first actions of our Committee when it was created was to send to OAU and African Governments copies of a detailed study in which we denounced air relations between South Africa and some independent African countries.

Following our stand some Governments put a stop to such relations. Others promised to consider the feasibility of cancelling transit rights of planes proceeding from or bound for South Africa, claiming that their planes also enjoyed similar privileges in the European and American countries whose planes fly to South Africa transiting through some independent African capitals.

Still as part of this action, it will be recalled that in Mauritius the Committee against Apartheid succeeded through a Government in having an OAU relation on the convening of a conference of civil aviation experts in Africa approved.

In implementing this resolution OAU wrote to all Governments to convene this meeting during the first-quarter of 1977. Unfortunately, the meeting failed to take place because only a few countries expressed their readiness to attend. It was then postponed to April 1979 but it never took place. We fear that this idea may be shelved indefinitely. The Committee is planning to inform the OAU Secretariat of this matter at its next session so that timely action be taken on it.

Lastly in 1979 a vigorous action by the Committee against Apartheid prevented the implementation of an agreement concluded between a group of South African industrialists and the Government of a Central African country on the supply of inland water navigation.

II. ACTIVITIES WITH TRADE UNION ORGANIZATIONS

Featuring prominently among the activities that we carried out in 1979, was the Brazzaville anti-apartheid seminar, the second of its kind after the one held in Lome in February 1977. All the informed participants and observers at this seminar unanimously agreed that it was a success. About fifteen delegates from such Central African countries as the Congo, Zaire, Gabon, Burundi, Rwanda and Cameroon participated in the seminar.

For three days running Central African Trade Unionists studied ways and means to combat effectively the shameless policy of racial discrimination practised by the South African white minority. The debate was at times sharp and heated because it often laid bare the policy of one African country or the other. However, to the satisfaction of all participants in the seminar managed to overcome all these difficulties. They were guided by only one thought - Service to Africa.

In a document entitled the "Brazzaville Declaration and Programme of Action", participants in the seminar approved the recommendations and conclusions summarized as follows:

- 1) strong condemnation of any military, political, economic, social and cultural co-operation between the great powers and the obnoxious Pretoria regime;
- 2) effective application of sanctions taken against South Africa by the United Nations and OAU;
- 3) immediate liberation of all political detainees in South Africa;
- 4) an immediate end to any collaboration with South Africa in the Nuclear field;
- 5) scrupulous observance of the arms embargo on Pretoria and prohibition to Western countries to allow South Africa to manufacture arms under licence;

- 6) promotion of the campaign aimed at compelling employers to put an end to, and withdraw, all investments in South Africa;
- 7) increase in the assistance that the International Community should give directly to the Liberation Movements recognized by OAU;
- 8) Questioning of the legitimacy of the minority and racist Government in Pretoria;
- 9) admission of representatives of Liberation Movements as authentic and legitimate delegates of their countries to intergovernmental and non-governmental conferences;
- 10) rejection of Bantoustan homelands and any organizations that co-operate with the criminal regime of Pretoria;
- 11) Welcoming of the setting up by OAU of a permanent committee for the application of sanctions against racist regimes in Southern Africa;
- 12) a call by Africans on all multinational companies operating in South Africa to sign an undertaking that raw materials from independent African countries shall not, under any circumstances, be sold to South Africa;
- 13) convening, under the aegis of OAU, of a conference of civil aviation experts to examine the technical problems posed by air links between South Africa and some independent African States;
- 14) working out preventive and military solutions that can put an end to repeated attacks carried out by the racist regimes in Southern Africa against the Front Line States;
- 15) blockade in the harbours by African Trade Unionists of any ship carrying goods from or to South Africa;
- 16) disruption of all telephone or telegraph links between South Africa and independent African countries;

III. PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCES

During this year our Secretariat within the limits of its means attended most conferences on the question of apartheid and measures taken to resolve it.

Our Secretary General participated actively in the work of sub-committee entrusted with the preparation of the next international conference on the application of sanctions against South Africa. The meeting which was attended by the most representative of the world's anti-apartheid movements, OAU and the UN reached the following conclusions after fruitful debates in which our Secretary General participated actively to make known the position of African workers.

- a) An international conference of non-governmental organizations will be held in Geneva towards the end of June 1980. Political Parties, Trade Union Organizations, Youth and Women's Movements will also attend. The mission of the Geneva Conference will be to inform the world of the next joint UN/OAU Conference to be held in Paris in September 1980 on the application of sanctions against South Africa.
- b) A strongly worded telegram denouncing the way the Rhodesian talks were conducted was sent to the British Government by the participants.
- c) Lastly the participants drew the attention of the world to the trial of 12 ANC activists accused of so-called treason and threatened with capital punishment. The international community was invited to take urgent measures to save the lives of these patriots by requesting that they should be treated as prisoners of war.

Taking advantage of his stay in Geneva our Secretary General went to ILO Head-quarters on several occasions to help finalize several decisions taken by ILO with a view to exploring new forms of action to be taken for the complete elimination of apartheid.

Our long term objective is to set-up within ILO a machinery to make Member States apply UN sanctions against South Africa. ILO can play a very decisive role in this field in view of its tripartite structure. This is why we should welcome the action taken by African countries currently

... serving on ILO Board of Directors which aims at holding a tripartite consultative meeting to evaluate ILO stand on the problem of apartheid. This action must be supported and followed by Liberation Movements, OAU as well as the UN Special Committee on Apartheid.

From Geneva our Secretary General went to Paris where he had important working sessions with CGT and CFDT Trade Union Leaders with a view to fostering the idea of holding an International Trade Union Symposium to be attended by representatives of African Trade Union Organizations and those from highly industrialized countries which have economic links with South Africa.

The French Trade Unionists showed great interest in this initiative and wished that consultations should continue in order to determine the date, where the symposium should take place, the mode of participation and the objectives to be achieved.

From Paris our Secretary General went to Addis Ababa. His visit coincided with the meeting of the OAU Advisory Committee on Budgetary and Financial Matters.

With OAU Secretary General and his deputies he expressed his concern over the application of sanctions by Member States and the financial difficulties of the Organization.

Lastly in February 1980 he participated in the 34th regular session of the OAU Council of Ministers in Addis Ababa.

IV. ACTIVITIES PLANNED

The African Committee against Apartheid is planning to carry-out the following activities during the period 1980-81.

a) International Trade Union Symposium on the Application of Sanctions:

The aim of the symposium will be to evaluate the anti-South African activities and work out a common strategy that will abstract economic relations between South Africa and its partners.

b) Meeting of the Countries, Members of the Committee

For some years now the 13 Member Committee has not held any meeting for lack of funds. Nevertheless, we are determined to hold one in the coming months at the Committee's Head-quarters in Kinshasa. All African Trade Union Organizations wishing to attend will be welcome.

c) Participation in the various Conferences and Meetings on Apartheid

The Committee's Secretariat will seize these opportunities to reaffirm the position of African workers on the problem of Apartheid.

d) Pressure will be brought to bear on African Governments which fail to apply UN and OAU Sanctions against South Africa

e) Action Seminar of Workers in Southern and Eastern Africa on the Elimination of Apartheid

This Seminar, the third in the series after those held in Lome and Kinshasa will be organized in solidarity with workers in Southern and Eastern Africa.

V. CONCLUSION

In spite of the financial difficulties facing the African Committee against Apartheid its Secretariat was able, during the period that is drawing to a close, to carry out various activities

as part of its anti-apartheid programme.

The coming year (1980-81) should certainly be marked by the intensification of its activities. However, the problem of the necessary financial resources to carry out these activities remains the main concern of the Committee.

We hope that African Trade Union Organizations, African Governments and OAU which are conscious of the scope of the problem will continue to contribute effectively to the financing of the programme of action of the African Committee against Apartheid.

Schedule of the activities of the African Committee of Trade Union Co-ordination and Action against Apartheid and Colonialism.

- Organization of an international symposium on the application of sanctions against South Africa.
- Meeting of States, Members of the Anti-Apartheid Committee.
- Organization of an anti-apartheid action Seminar with workers of Southern and Eastern Africa on the boycott of South Africa.
- Participation in the various conferences and meetings on apartheid.
- Pressure will be brought to bear on African Governments which fail to apply UN and OAU sanctions against South Africa.

FIFTH REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMISSION OF THE
AFRICAN COMMITTEE OF TRADE UNION COORDINATION AND ACTION
AGAINST APARTHEID AND COLONIALISM.

1. The Finance Commission of the African Committee of Trade Union Co-ordination and Action Against Apartheid and Colonialism made up of representatives from the People's Republic of Congo, the Republic of Senegal, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the Republic of Zaire met in Kinshasa from 2 to 4 June, 1980 to audit the accounts of the 1979 Financial Year, discuss and approve the budget for 1980.
2. Present at the meeting were:
 - Comarade Koulimaya, representative from the People's Republic of Congo, accompanied by Comarade Toma Emmanuel, coordinator of CSC external relations department;
 - Mr. Moustapha Dieng, Representative from the Republic of Senegal;
 - Comarade Katalay, representative from the Republic of Zaire;
3. Excused: the representative from Libyan Arab Jamahiriya;
4. After forming the quorum the Commission elected Comarade Katalay, the representative from Zaire as Chairman.
5. The work of the Commission included the following 6 items:
 - 1) Adoption of the Agenda,
 - 2) Adoption of the minutes of the previous meeting,
 - 3) Auditing of the Accounts of the 1979 Financial Year,
 - 4) Examination of the 1980 Budget Proposal,
 - 5) Date and Place of the next Meeting;
 - 6) Other matters.
6. Agenda items 1 and 2 were adopted after exchange of views. After a brief introduction of the records by the Secretary General the Commission then tackled item 3 which deals with

the examination of the accounts of the previous Financial Year.

7. To make the accounts clear, the Chairman suggested that the records should be examined one after the other. This was accepted by the members of the Commission who immediately proceeded to a systematic examination of all the accounting records to ascertain the regularity and legality of the operations.
8. Thus, the Commission noted that from January 1 to December 31, 220 payments were made all accompanied with supporting documents. The Commission was happy to note that the Secretariat complied with the instructions it gave at the previous meeting.
9. The Commission arrived at the following conclusions after auditing the accounts:
 - The Statement of Finances as reflected in the Financial Report tallies with the supporting documents.
 - The income and expenditure operations are accompanied with supporting documents.
 - The budget appropriations tally with the budget headings.
 - The balance of account in the accounting record is in line with the balance of the Bank Account Statement and the certificate given by the Bank.The Financial Report of the Permanent Secretary General also tallies with the various accounting records examined.
10. The consideration of the 1980 Financial Year brought out the difficulties in recording income. However, the Commission officially asked the Secretariat to amend the article on missions, meetings, seminars and conferences to enable the Committee to intensify its activities in these fields.

11. Even though income remained virtually static, the Commission believed that it was its duty to provide for funds to enable the Committee to work under better conditions.
12. The budget proposal drawn up in terms of income and expenditure to the tune of US\$ 195,000 was increased to US\$ 247,875 by the Commission.
13. This increase is based on the vital need to organize in 1980 a symposium to be attended by representatives of organizations highly industrialized countries and African Trade Unionists with a view to studying ways and means of effectively boycotting South African interests. The Commission believes that African Trade Union Organizations, Governments and OAU should effectively support the activities of the Committee.
14. Lastly the Commission corroborated the observations contained in paragraphs 24, 25, 25, 26 and 27 of its first report with regard to budget performance.

Done at Kinshasa on 4 June, 1980.

FOR THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CONGO

S I G N E D

KOULIMAYA

THE REPUBLIC OF ZAIRE

S I G N E D

KATALAY

FOR THE REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL

S I G N E D

M. D I E N G.



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