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ZONE OF PEACE AND CO-OPERATION OF THE SOUTH ATLANTIC

Letter dated 31 July 1990 from the Permanent Representative
of Nigeria to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, in its capacity as host of the second meeting of the States of the Zone of Peace and Co-operation of the South Atlantic held at Abuja, Nigeria, from 25 to 29 June 1990, and Co-ordinator of the Zone of Peace and Co-operation of the South Atlantic, I have the honour to forward herewith the Final Document of the above-mentioned meeting, which represents the substantive agreement reached during the meeting (see annex).

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex were circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 31 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) of Ibrahim A. GAMBARI
Ambassador/Permanent Representative

★ A/45/150 and Corr.1.

ANNEX

Final Document of the second meeting of States of the Zone of
Peace and Co-operation of the South Atlantic

The representatives of States of the Zone of Peace and Co-operation of the South Atlantic, meeting at Abujn, Nigeria, from 25 to 29 June 1990,

1. Recall once again that the United Nations General Assembly, by its resolution 41/11 of 27 October 1986, declarer; the South Atlantic as a Zone of Peace and Co-operation, and that resolutions 42/16 of 10 November 1987, 43/23 of 14 November 1988 and 44/20 of 14 November 1989, urged the States of the region to continue their actions aiming at fulfilling the goals of the declaration, especially through the adoption and implementation of specific programmes for this purpose;

2. Note the significance of the Final Document adopted at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 29 July 1988, at the first meeting of States of the Zone of Peace and Co-operation of the South Atlantic;

3. Acknowledge the historic importance of the second meeting of the States of the Zone of Peace and Co-operation of the South Atlantic, as it represents a significant step towards the consolidation of the Zone;

4. Reaffirm that the questions of peace and security and those of development are interrelated and inseparable, and consider that co-operation among the States of the region for peace and development is essential to promoting the objectives of the Zone of Peace and Co-operation of the South Atlantic;

5. Underscore the special responsibility of the States of the region for the preservation of peace and security in the Zone and renew their commitment to work together towards this end. Further express concern about armed conflicts within individual member States, as well as about crises situations between member States or between any one member State and a neighbouring State outside the region, in view of the grave potential threat that such internal armed conflicts or crises situations pose to peace of the region and its peoples, and therefore urge the speedy and peaceful resolution of all such internal armed conflicts and crises situations, and manifest their resolve to support all initiatives conducive to this end;

6. Express their satisfaction at the relaxation of tensions on the global level, and the reduction of confrontation between the two super-Powers and their allies, and affirm their hope that these trends will have positive reflections on the attainment of the objectives of the Zone;

7. Note the event.; taking place in Europe in the political, social and economic fields and express their hope that this should not adversely affect the co-operation extended to the countries of the region, by the industrialized nations, but that this should enhance their capacity and political will to increase those ties of co-operation;

8. **Condemn** all situations which adversely affect or pose grave threats to the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the States on both sides of the South Atlantic]

9. **Note** that **some** positive developments have taken place inside South Africa which offer prospects for a **movement** away from the current **apartheid** policy of the South African **Government**. These developments include the unbanning of the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC), the Pan Africanist Congress of **Azania** (PAC) and other political organizations; the abolition of media emergency regulations; the rescinding of the restrictions on 33 organisations; the release of **some** political prisoners, including Mr. Nelson Mandela; the **commencement** of dialogue between ANC and the South African Government; the **repeal** of the Separate Amenities Act; and the lifting of the **state of emergency**, except in Natal Province of South Africa. However, they stress that for these changes to have the desirable and lasting impact on the political situation in South Africa, the core legislation which sustains the **apartheid system** should be scrapped forthwith. They, therefore, call on the South African Government to take urgent steps to ensure that abolition of the **apartheid system** is complete and irreversible;

10. **Support** fully, pending the achievement of that goal, the continuation of comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against the South African racist **régime**, and call for **full** compliance with the **arms embargo** under extant United Nations resolutions and decisions and additional **measures as may be necessary** to ensure that these resolutions and decisions of the United Nations are implemented;

11. **Call**, in particular, on the international financial community, whose withdrawal of credit and investment has been a major source of pressure on South Africa, not to resume their credit and investment in South Africa until substantive negotiations on South Africa's political future have been initiated and the dismantling of the **apartheid system** is irreversibly secured;

12. **Express** their determination to work together with a view to monitoring South Africa's nuclear activities, given the threat that those activities pose to the fulfilment of the objectives of the Zone of Peace and Co-operation of the South Atlantic;

13. **Warmly welcome** the Republic of Namibia as a member of the Zone and look forward to its active participation in the future activities of the Zone. Noting the positive contribution of the international community to the evolution of events in Namibia, they urge that continued support should be given to the Namibian Government, particularly in the areas of its defined **needs**, in order to consolidate its independence and sovereignty;

14. **Calls** upon the international community to exert further pressure on South Africa to relinquish its hold on the **strategic** port of Walvis Bay, which is an integral part of the territory of Namibia, in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions and the legitimate aspirations of the Namibian people;

15. **Acknowledge** with satisfaction the positive steps taken towards the establishment of peace and stability in the People's Republic of Angola as a result of the implementation of the New York Agreement;

16. **Regret** that lasting peace in the region is being hindered by constant foreign interference in the internal affairs of Angola;

17. **Recall** with concern that serious obstacles for the full implementation of the goals of the Zone of Peace and Co-operation of the South Atlantic still remain, as the colonial situation existing in the Malvinas Islands and the maintenance of a considerable military build-up within the Zone constitute a source of tension and a potential danger for peace and security in the area;

18. **Take note** with satisfaction of the re-establishment of diplomatic relations between the Governments of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of the agreements contained in the British-Argentine Declarations given at Madrid on 19 October 1989 and 15 February 1990;

19. **Express** the hope that this new process of dialogue and co-operation should lead, as soon as possible, to the resumption of negotiations with a view to finding a just and durable solution to the dispute on sovereignty existing between both States;

20. **Urge** the full implementation of the United Nations General Assembly resolutions related to the question of the Malvinas Islands, that recommend that both States find the means to resolve peacefully and definitively all aspects of the future of the Islands, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

21. **Urge** States of the Zone, particularly those with relevant capabilities, to consider possible co-operation with interested member States towards the establishment of joint monitoring mechanisms in the South Atlantic, including coastal watch, and stress the need for peaceful and legitimate maritime transactions in the South Atlantic Ocean that excludes outside foreign interference, military rivalry and nuclear weapons competition;

22. **Recognize**, in view of the adverse international economic environment, the importance of enhanced co-operation in economic and financial matters among member States, and agree that greater co-ordination of policies at various forums in critical areas like debt, trade flows, market access and investment, would contribute significantly to the realization of the objectives of the Zone. In this connection, they note the decisions contained in the joint communiqué of the First Meeting of the Summit Level Group for South-South Consultations and Co-operation/Group of 15, held at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 1 to 3 June 1990 and urge member States to make every possible effort to ensure their full implementation within the region for peace and development of their countries and peoples;

23. **Recognize** that, in view of the scarcity of resources of member States on both sides of the Atlantic to finance adequately co-operative projects among States of the Zone, it is imperative to have greater access to international funding from development agencies;

24. **State**, in this regard, their determination that technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC) be recognized as activities entitled to financing by the United Nations Development Programme and in this respect instruct their

representatives at the UNDP Governing Council to support the approval of this principle;

25. Call for co-operation and co-ordination of policies on such activities as regular organization of trade fairs, foreign investment promotions, exchanges of commercial and trade intelligence information, exchanges of information on investment opportunities and provision of other relevant basic data for use by member States of the Zone;

26. Agree that increased trade and commercial co-operation would be facilitated through the setting up of ad hoc groups of experts drawn from member States of the Zone and covering key areas of interest;

27. Note the importance of scientific and technical co-operation in furthering the principles and objectives of the Zone, and in this respect, urging member States to take steps to develop the resources of the region, request them to propose, through the Co-ordinator, suggestions for effective co-operation with a view to attaining the objectives of the Zone;

28. Take note of the progress report of the First Technical Seminar of Experts of the Zone of Peace and Co-operation of the South Atlantic of the Law of the Sea, held at Brazzaville from 12 to 15 June 1990 and express their confidence that the second Seminar, scheduled to be held in Uruguay in 1991, will indicate specific areas for co-operation on all common marine programmes;

29. Reiterate that the South Atlantic marine environment should remain free from pollution and, in this context, commending member States that have maintained the Dump Watch, decide to strengthen this mechanism recommended by the First Meeting with the aim of closely monitoring, collating and disseminating information and data on the movement in the region of vessels suspected of carrying hazardous, toxic and nuclear wastes. Considering the integral link of the South Atlantic environment to that of the neighbouring southern continent of Antarctica, further reiterate their preoccupation that Antarctica be safeguarded from environmental pollution, because this may spill over into the South Atlantic ocean;

30. Note the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal and call for an international convention with effective and appropriate penalties which will eradicate traffic of hazardous wastes in the region;

31. Express their concern over the continued deterioration of the environment and reaffirm their support for a global approach that recognizes the development of member States;

32. Note that the forthcoming United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development, scheduled for Brazil in 1992, will present an important opportunity to achieve the objectives of the Zone and address the problem of environment in all its ramifications and urge member States to co-ordinate their position to ensure a positive outcome of the Conference;

33. **Emphasize**, as a means of achieving peace and co-operation in the **region**, the need to enhance further the mutual knowledge of the peoples of the Zone by strengthening the links existing among them in the fields of culture, education and public information, as well as **by** promoting tourism within the region. To this end, urge member States to propose through the Co-ordinator practical steps to develop and strengthen such cultural contacts between their peoples;

34. **Express** the hope that the Zone would continue to **be** an active instrument for fostering human rights, fundamental freedoms, racial equality, justice and liberty as integral **elements** of peace, development and co-operation at national and regional levels;

35. **Emphasize** the importance of an early exchange of information between member States, as well as with all pertinent international organizations, about ongoing or planned research that could have a bearing on the achievement of the aims **of** the Zone, in order to promote better co-ordination of **efforts** and **minimize** wasteful duplication;

36. **Agree** to request all pertinent international organizations to indicate to member States what kind of information or support they can provide, **particularly** statistical **data**, **that** would facilitate the achievement of the objectives of the **Zone**. In this regard, the Co-ordinator has an important role to play and whenever necessary and feasible, should use as subsidiary focal points, member States' Permanent Missions to the United Nations in New York **or** at Geneva, as the **case** may be.
