



WORLD CONFERENCE OF SOLIDARITY

General Declaration

The World Conference against Apartheid, Racism and Colonialism in Southern Africa was held in Lisbon June 16-19, 1977, with the participation of around 203 national, UN and other international organizations. This was a period when the forces for change in the world had turned decisively toward united action to eliminate racism, exploitation, colonialism and apartheid, ills that are the scourge of mankind in the present period.

At this time, the international activity of the progressive forces is characterized by activities of solidarity with the liberation movements carried out by national and international groups. These activities include both direct support and conferences — of which this World Conference against Apartheid, Racism and Colonialism in Southern Africa is one.

The Conference has been held in the atmosphere created by a new Portugal, because the struggle of the Portuguese people, combined with the struggles of the revolu-

tionary movements of the former Portuguese colonies, led to the overthrow of fascism on April 25, 1974. The Conference was also held as a sequel to the anniversary of Soweto, an event that awakened world awareness to the urgency of eliminating racism and apartheid, which are upheld by the South African regime.

The independence of Angola and Mozambique broke the chains of colonialism and racism in Southern Africa and effected a decisive change in the balance of forces, in favor of the liberation movements of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa. Under the sponsorship of the OAU, the independent states of Angola, Botswana, Zambia, Tanzania and Mozambique have joined together in a vanguard of the African and international struggles against apartheid, racism and colonialism in southern Africa.

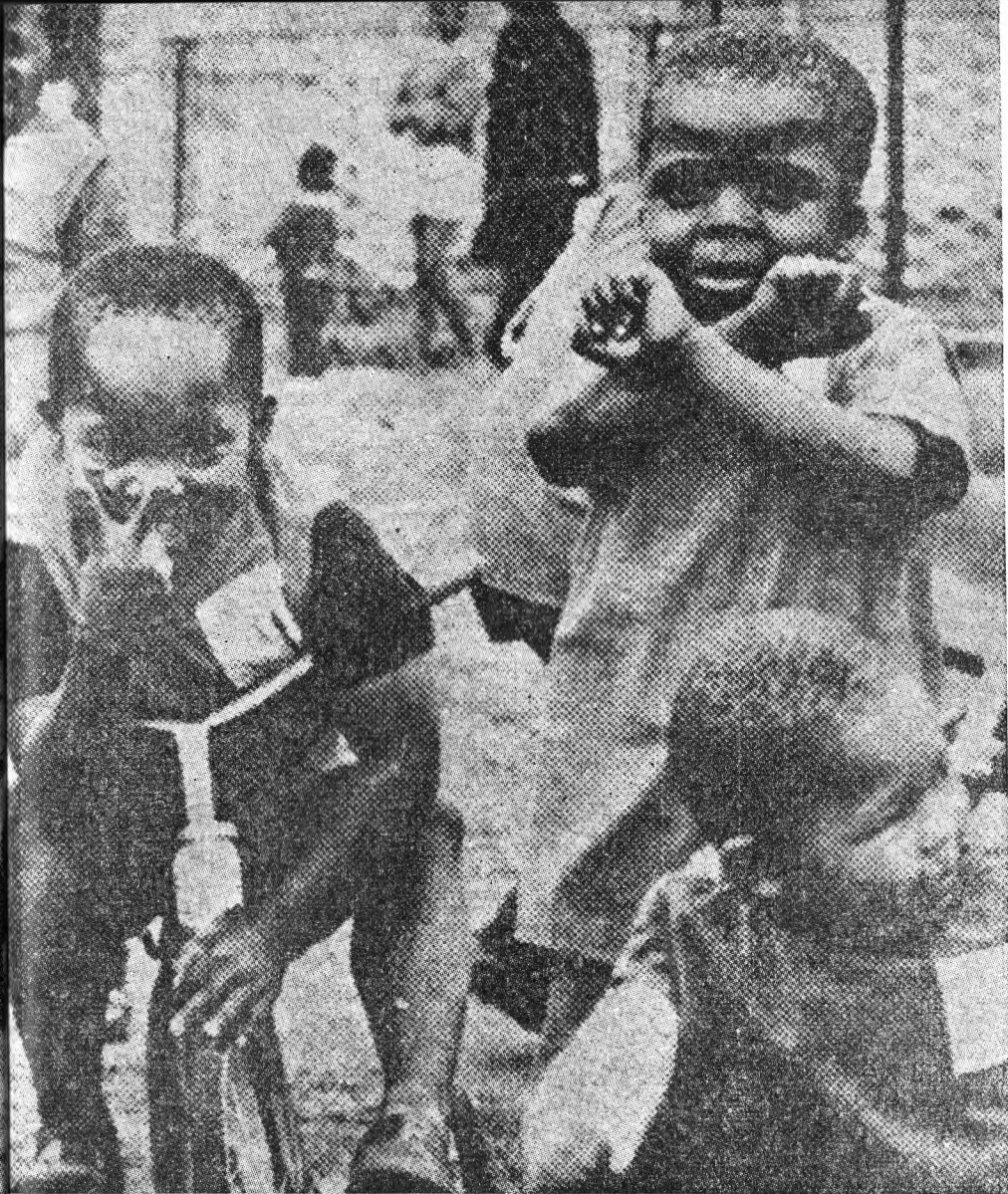
The liberation movements in southern Africa, the ANC in South Africa, SWAPO in Namibia and the Patriotic Front in Zimbabwe, have scored great successes in their armed struggle against the racist



regimes in South Africa and Rhodesia. They have resounding victories to their credit and are moving "ever forward, never retreating." Even though victory is certain, the struggle in southern Afri-

ca is confronting counterattacks and countermoves by the racists and their patrons, all aimed at keeping racism alive.

The Vorster regime is setting up bantustans and using the stamp of



independence in an effort to Balkanize South Africa and make apartheid permanent.

In Namibia, the Vorster regime is struggling to impose "multiethnic

democracy," one more form of institutionalized apartheid.

In Rhodesia, the Smith regime, using the "scheme of internal settlement," is trying to achieve legitimacy by coming up with black col-

laborators who will work for the continued existence of racist domination.

Both racist regimes have resorted to genocide against the African population as a policy of extermination to guarantee the survival of white racism.

The Anglo-US "constitutional efforts" in Rhodesia and Namibia constitute a new phenomenon that has arisen as an apology for racism in southern Africa. These maneuvers are not based on compliance with the UN resolutions but try to give credibility and legitimacy to the Vorster regime through "changes" in those countries. As a result, the racist regimes have felt so well supported that they think themselves free to carry out acts of aggression with impunity against the "front line" states.

The World Conference resolves to fight to the death against apartheid, racism and colonialism in southern Africa and any other part of the world.

The Conference expresses its special concern with regard to the churches and missions that operate in South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe. For a long time, they took the side of the oppressing powers, and, as a result, the oppressed people of southern Africa consider a large part of the Christian world guilty.

There is a pressing need, in the present situation, for the Christian churches to reevaluate their responsibilities and cooperate actively with those who, in progressive movements, are fulfilling their hu-

manitarian objectives and struggling to achieve justice.

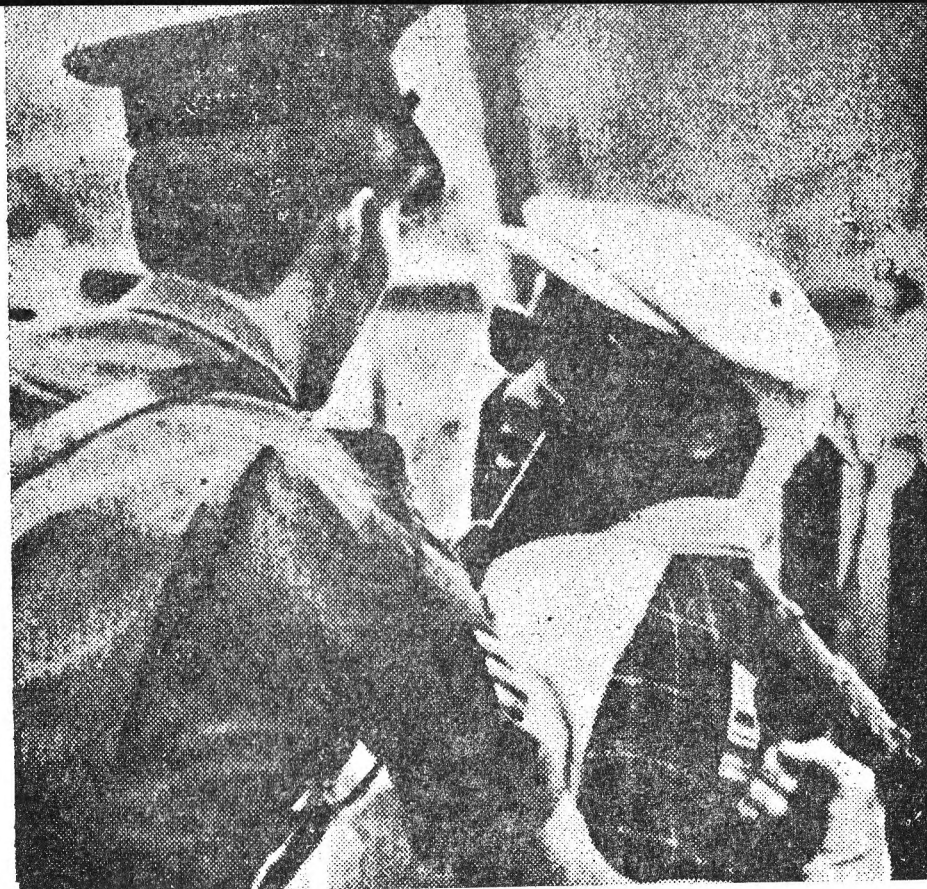
The Conference considers that the struggle of the national liberation movements and their success strengthen international peace and security.

The Conference expresses its all-out support for the role played by the socialist countries — especially the Soviet Union — and the progressive African countries in coming to the defense of the "front line" states and calls on them to redouble their efforts as a part of progressive mankind's duty to help crush racism wherever it raises its ugly head.

The case of South Africa

The international community considers apartheid to be a crime against humanity. In addition, the community of the United Nations condemns it as a threat to international peace and security. It springs from colonial domination and is manifested as an institutionalized racism, used as an arm for ruthless pillage, exploitation and unparalleled social privations imposed on the native population for the benefit of the white ruling class and international imperialism.

The international legal status enjoyed by this regime, that denies the political and fundamental human rights of the majority of the native population, is, in itself, eloquent testimony to the ascendancy of the imperialist powers at the time when South Africa was recognized as an independent, sovereign



state. The Conference supports the position of the African National Congress in stating that the people of South Africa, like those of Namibia and Zimbabwe, are colonized. The Conference also approves the position taken by the United Nations when it declared the Pretoria regime illegitimate. In doing this, it observes with satisfaction that the African National Congress, the vanguard movement that is found at the head of a broad alliance of the native population and other oppressed peoples, including white democrats, recog-

nizes the fact that the whites in South Africa have broken their ties with their respective metropolises and recognize South Africa as their homeland. Therefore, the Conference fully supports and salutes the position of the ANC as reflected in the Charter of Liberty, in which it is declared that South Africa belongs to all those who live in it, blacks and whites alike, and that no government can, in justice, claim authority over it, unless it does so in response to the wishes of the majority of the people. On this basis, the Conference reaffirms



firms the legitimacy of the people's struggle to overthrow the apartheid regime and seize power, a position adopted recently by the United Nations. We view the struggle for a democratic state in South Africa in which the right to nationality is guaranteed for all national groups and individuals as a just struggle that demands all-out, timely support by all peace- and justice-loving forces in the world.

The Conference observes with satisfaction that the struggle in South Africa has entered a decisive phase. The selfless determination shown by the students, workers and peasants doubtless marks the beginning of the end for the white supremacy government. Now, thanks to the victories of the peoples of Mozambique and Angola, the balance of forces has shifted drastically in favor of the liberation movement of southern Africa, and there is no longer any doubt about

the victory of the South African people.

After having heard the leaders of the African National Congress, the Patriotic Front, SWAPO and the "front line" states and the heads of countries' and organizations' delegations that support the liberation movements, the Conference delegates have come to the conclusion that the Vorster and Smith regimes, acting in collusion with the imperialist powers, have embarked on frenetic, desperate maneuvers in a vain attempt to stave off the revolution in southern Africa.

The Conference energetically denounces the imperialist countries that continue to supply genocidal arms to the Vorster regime in order to increase its repressive, aggressive capacity.

The Conference especially denounces the United States, France, the Federal Republic of Germany,



Great Britain, Israel, Italy and Park Chung Hee's clique in South Korea for their military collaboration with the apartheid regime. It declares that these countries have become active accomplices in the atrocities and massacres committed by the Pretoria regime against innocent children, workers and peasants in South Africa and in the invasion directed against neighboring African states.

The Conference also denounces France, the Federal Republic of Germany, the United States and Israel for their nuclear collaboration with South Africa, which is deliberately aimed at helping the fascist regime achieve its ambition of producing nuclear weapons as a part of its aggression against the other African countries.

The Conference observes that the Vorster regime and its traditional allies, the imperialist countries, have embarked on new strategies for fooling the people. At the same time, the days of the Pretoria regime are numbered, thanks to the heroic efforts of the South African people, headed by the African National Congress, actively supported by the socialist countries, the "front line" states, the OAU, the non-aligned countries and the progressive forces in the capitalist countries.

The diplomatic offensive of the five western members of the Security Council, aimed at saving the Vorster regime from isolation, projecting it as the liberator of Zimbabwe, was energetically denounced, as was the neocolonialist

solution proposed by the Carter Administration, whose first step is the installation of puppet regimes in Zimbabwe and Namibia, with the aim of serving as neutralizing elements to protect imperialist interests and gain time so the Vorster regime can develop its program of bantustans.

In reaffirming its denunciation of the bantustans, the Conference observes that the creation of these puppet tribal enclaves is a part of the strategy directed against the liberation struggle.

The Conference reaffirms its opposition to "independent Transkei" and pledges to wage a campaign against any recognition of this puppet creation, as also against that of Bophuthatswana, whose "independence" is programmed for December 6, 1977.

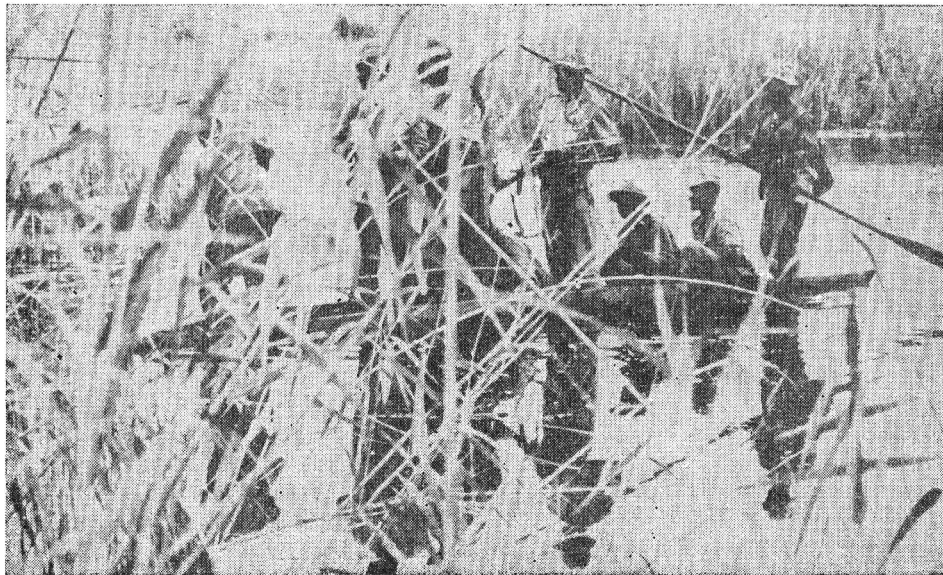
The Conference affirms that Zionism and apartheid are twin features of racism.

The Conference pledges to wage a world campaign to provide ever greater financial and material support for the African National Congress and to work to get it recognized as the sole authentic liberation movement in South Africa.

The case of Namibia

The Conference declares that

1. The illegal occupation of Namibia by South Africa, in a betrayal of the desires expressed by the Namibian people and a broad sector of international public opinion, constitutes a serious threat to international peace and security.
2. In spite of the efforts of South Africa and its western adherents to create a false image of the political reality in Namibia, stating that there are many political groups in the country, the



delegates are convinced that SWAPO is the only authentic liberation movement in Namibia and that it should be given all possible material, political and moral support.

3. The present national liberation struggle waged by the Namibian people, led by their vanguard organization, SWAPO, is as just as it is imperative, in view of South Africa's stubborn refusal to remove its troops from Namibia, as called upon to do so in UN resolutions.
4. The "Constitutional Conference" in Turnhalle and other, similar maneuvers are dangerous frauds aimed at effecting the unilateral transformation of Namibia from a classical colony of South Africa's into a neocolony pertaining to the same metropolis. Hence, the pressing need for its complete repudiation. All member states of the UN have the moral and legal obligation to contribute to the

true and total independence of Namibia in the shortest possible time.

5. The territory of Namibia has been used as a springboard by the South African racist army for a series of acts of military aggression against the independent states in Africa, especially the People's Republic of Angola and Zambia, and appropriate measures should be taken to put an end to these acts of aggression.
6. In view of the fact that SWAPO is the only vanguard organization in the struggle in Namibia, diplomatic action by one or more nations aimed at obliging South Africa to hand over power to the Namibian people should only be carried out following consultation with SWAPO and after receiving its approval. Otherwise, this will lead to an intensification of the war.
7. After listening to the most recent confidential reports given



by the SWAPO delegation concerning the "contacts" between the five western envoys — present members of the Security Council — and South Africa on the subject of independence for Namibia, the delegates to the Conference consider that:

- a) South Africa is not ready to peacefully hand over all political power to the Namibian people, and
 - b) South Africa is using these "contacts" to gain time and consolidate its political-military position in Namibia.
8. The entire Conference approves of and supports the correct position taken by SWAPO in negotiating with South Africa strictly on the mechanism of the transferral of political power to the Namibian people, expecting South Africa to comply unconditionally with the prerequisites laid down by SWAPO, that include the unconditional freeing of all political prisoners and South Africa's firm pledge to withdraw its army and police force from Namibia.

The case of Zimbabwe

In Zimbabwe, the national liberation struggle has reached a crucial stage, since the revolutionary forces of the Patriotic Front are putting pressure on the racist forces from all angles. The Rhodesian racists, who are face to face with final defeat, are engaging in acts of desperation every day. They

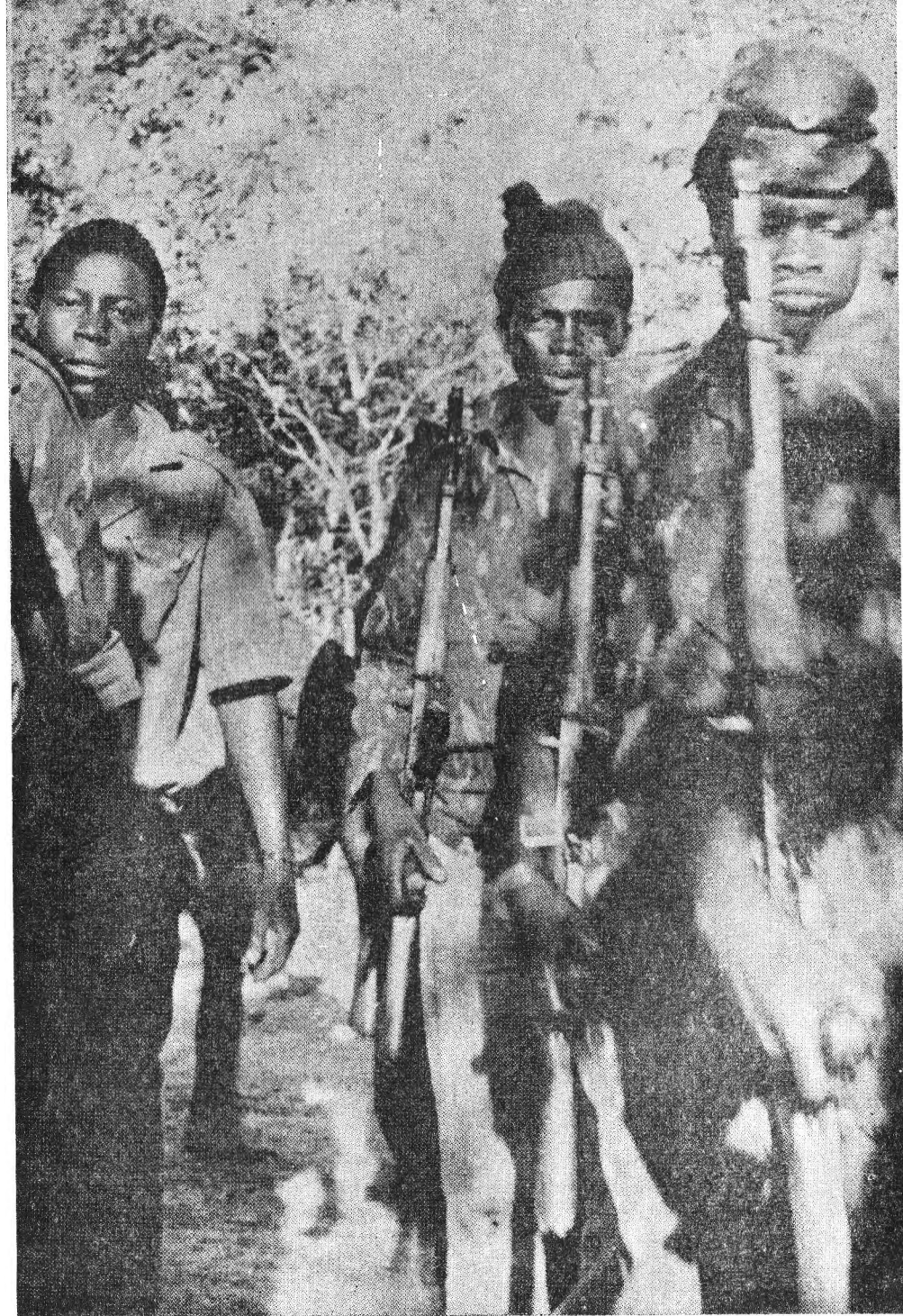
are carrying out inexcusable, bloody attacks against neighboring countries in the hope of extinguishing the patriotic flame of liberation.

The World Conference against Apartheid, Racism and Colonialism in Southern Africa is very concerned about the growing number of mercenaries who swell the ranks of the racist army of Rhodesia — mercenaries who, strangely, come from countries that pretend to be carrying out initiatives aimed at achieving a peaceful solution to the problem in Rhodesia: Great Britain, the United States, West Germany, France. . . .

The Conference also observes that the survival of the racist regime of Rhodesia is based on the military machinery and economic institutions of those countries.

The World Conference considers that, as long as there are violations of the UN sanctions against Rhodesia, taking place under the noses of the governments of those countries, the Anglo-US "initiatives" on Rhodesia can never have any credibility and are, to say the least, pretentious.

The World Conference considers that the armed liberation struggle waged by the Patriotic Front is the surest method to eliminate racism and colonialism in Zimbabwe. Therefore, the Conference gives its all-out support to the Patriotic Front as the sole true representative of the fighting people of Zimbabwe. In this regard, the Conference calls on all national and international forces that are opposed to apartheid, racism and colonialism in southern





Africa to give the Patriotic Front their complete moral and political support.

The Conference reaffirms the position of the Patriotic Front to the effect that the situation in Zimbabwe is one of war and that its only

possible solution is a solution through war among the forces engaged in combat — that is, the British Government on one side and the Patriotic Front on the other. Such a solution should consist of the direct transfer of complete

power to the fighting people of Zimbabwe.

The Conference calls on the international community to mobilize all its political, moral and practical support for the liberation of the people of southern Africa.

Whereas

1. imperialism is developing an offensive against the national liberation movements and especially against the progressive African states in an attempt to maintain the racist status quo in southern Africa;
2. this offensive is manifested through a planned policy of destabilization and aggression directed against the progressive states in Africa that constitute the strongest rearguard at all levels for fighters for southern Africa's freedom, and this policy of destabilization recently had to resort to aggression against the People's Republic of Benin; the murder of the Congo's President Ngouabi; Manque's putsch in the People's Republic of Angola; Ian Smith's regime's systematic aggression against the People's Republic of Mozambique, Botswana, Zambia and Angola; and flagrant threats against the Republic of Guinea;
3. these subversive maneuvers against the national liberation movements have now been redoubled through shameless campaigns against the progressive states launched through the mass media controlled by the imperialist powers and their satellites ("private organizations

for the defense of human rights"), campaigns that have served as a cover for armed attacks on the progressive states; and

4. the imperialist states have lined up services to recruit mercenaries to fight against the progressive states and the national liberation movements in Africa,
- the World Conference of solidarity with the peoples of southern Africa
1. considers that the existence and necessary consolidation of the progressive states constitute one of the fundamental conditions for the triumph of the armed struggle in southern Africa;
 2. feels that the "front line" states and other African states that are threatened by imperialism have the right and sacred duty to defend their sovereignty and their progressive achievements and to support the struggle for liberation in southern Africa;
 3. vigorously denounces the global offensive mounted by the imperialist powers and their satellites against the bastions of freedom in the African continent; and
 4. calls on all progressive forces in the world to develop a mass movement of solidarity with the African states that are giving their firm, all-out support to the liberation movements of southern Africa and are struggling against international racism, colonialism and imperialism.