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LETTER DATED 12 JUNE 1986 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF SOUTH AFRICA

I have given careful thought to your letter of 3 March 1986 (S/17892), in which you conveyed to me in advance the statement on Namibia made by State President Botha in the South African Parliament on 4 March 1986. In that statement it was proposed that 1 August 1986 be set as the date for the commencement of implementation of the Settlement Plan based on United Nations Security Council resolution 435 (1978), provided that a firm and satisfactory agreement could be reached before that date on the withdrawl of Cuban forces from Angola.

Your Excellency will recall that in my letter of 26 November 1985 (S/17658), I proposed to the Government of South Africa that we should establish the earliest possible date for a cease-fire and the implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978). In making that proposal, I emphasized that, fallowing the agreement reached last November on the electoral system, all outstanding issues relevant to the United Nations plan for Namibia had been resolved. I also indicated that I could not accept any linkage between independence for Namibia and the presence of Cuban troops in Angola. Such linkage has been rejected by the Security Council as being incompatible with its resolution 435 (1978). accordingly, I wish to assure the Government of South Africa that I am ready, subject to the co-operation of all concerned, to begin the implementation of the United Nations plan on 1 August 1986, without pre-conditions.

I should point out that President dos Santos of Angola, in his letter to me of 13 March 1906 **(S/17931)**, has also made clear his Government's position on the matters raised in your letter of 3 March. He has since reiterated to me his Government's categorical rejection of linkage and reaffirmed Angola's commitment to its Platform of September 1984 (S/16838), and the subsequent additions thereto, as a basis for a comprehensive agreement which would ensure independence for Namibia and peace and security in the region.

I should like to add that the Front-line States and SWAPO have conveyed to me their support for Angola's position, have reaffirmed their support for my efforts and have urged that Security Council resolution 435 (1978) be implemented without

delay. The President of SWAPO, Mr. Sam Nujoma, has also reaffirmed to me SWAPO's readiness to proceed to a cease-fire with South Africa in Order to commence tha implementat ion Of Security Council resolution 435 (1978) on 1 August 1986.

Taking all these factors into account, I would urve that all concerned now act decisively, within the terms of the relevant decisions of the Security Council, in order to commence the implementation of the United Nations plan for Namibia on the target date of 1 August 1986. May I take this opportunity to express the hope that I can count on the co-operation and support of your Government in finalizing the necessary arrangements for the independence of Namibia, as stipulated in that plan.

(Signed) Javier PEREZ de CUELLAH