

# The Harare Declaration 1989 - (Extracts)

## STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

14. We believe that a conjuncture of circumstances exists which, if there is a demonstrable readiness on the part of the Pretoria regime to engage in negotiations genuinely and seriously, could create the possibility to end apartheid through negotiations. Such an eventuality would be an expression of the long standing preference of the majority of the people of South Africa to arrive at a political settlement.
15. We would therefore encourage the people of South Africa as part of their overall struggle to get together to negotiate an end to the apartheid system and agree on all the measures that are necessary to transform their country into a non racial democracy. We support the position held by the majority of the people of South Africa that these objectives and not the amendment or reform of the apartheid system should be the aims of the negotiations.
16. We are at one with them that the outcome of such a process should be a new constitutional order based on the following principles among others:
  - 16.1 South Africa shall become a united, democratic and non-racial state.
  - 16.2 All its people shall enjoy common and equal citizenship and nationality regardless of race , colour sex, or creed.
  - 16.3 All its people have the right to participate in the government and administration of the country on the basis of a universal suffrage, exercised through one person one vote, under a common voters' roll.
  - 16.4 All shall have the right to form and join any political party of their choice provided that this is not in furtherance of racism.
  - 16.5 All shall enjoy universally recognised human rights, freedoms and civil liberties, protected under an entrenched Bill of Rights.
  - 16.6 South Africa shall have a new legal system which shall guarantee equality of all before the law.
  - 16.7 South Africa shall have an independent and non-racial judiciary.
  - 16.8 There shall be created an economic order which shall promote and advance the well being of all South Africa.
  - 16.9 A democratic South Africa shall respect the rights, sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries and pursue a policy of peace, friendship and mutually beneficial co-operation with all people.
17. We believe that agreement on the above principles shall constitute the foundation for an internationally acceptable solution which shall enable South Africa to take its rightful place as an equal partner among the African and world community of nations.

## III CLIMATE FOR NEGOTIATIONS

18. Together with the rest of the world we believe that it is essential, before any negotiations can take place, that the necessary climate for negotiations be created. The apartheid regime has the urgent responsibility to respond positively to this universally acclaimed demand and thus create this climate.
19. Accordingly the present regime should at the very least:

- 19.1 Release all political prisoners and detainees unconditionally and refrain from imposing any restrictions on them.
  - 19.2 Lift all bans and restrictions on all proscribed and restricted organisations and person.
  - 19.3 Remove all troops from the townships
  - 19.4 End State of Emergency and repeal all legislation, such as and including the Internal Security Act, designed to circumscribe political activity; and
  - 19.5 Cease all political trials and political executions.
20. These measures are necessary to produce the conditions in which free political discussion can take place - an essential condition to ensure that the people themselves participate in the process of remaking their country. The measures listed above should therefore precede negotiations.

## **GUIDELINES TO THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATION**

21. We support the view of the South Africa liberation movement that upon the creation of this climate, the process of negotiation should commence along the following lines:
- 21.1 Discussions should take place between the liberation movement and the South African regime to achieve the suspension of hostilities on both sides by agreeing to a mutually binding cease-fire.
  - 21.2 Negotiations should then proceed to establish the basis for the adoption of a new Constitution by agreeing on among others the Principles enunciated above.
  - 21.3 Having agreed on these principles, the parties should then negotiate the necessary mechanism for drawing up the new Constitution.
  - 21.4 The parties shall define and agree on the role to be played by the international community in ensuring a successful transition to democratic order.
  - 21.5 The parties shall agree on the formation of an interim government to supervise the process of the drawing up and adoption of new Constitution govern and administer the country, as well as effect the transition to a democratic order including the holding of election.
  - 21.6 After the adoption of the new Constitution, all armed hostilities will be deemed to have formally terminated.
  - 21.7 For its part, the International community would lift the sanctions that have been imposed against apartheid South Africa.
22. The new South Africa shall qualify for membership of the Organisation of African Unity.

## **PROGRAMME OF ACTION**

23. In pursuance of the objectives stated in this document, the organisation of African Unity hereby commits itself to:
- 23.1 Inform governments and inter governmental organisations throughout the world, including the Non-Aligned Movement, the Commonwealth and others of these perspectives, and solicit their support.
  - 23.2 Mandate the OAU Ad-Hoc Committee on Southern Africa, acting as the representative of the OAU and assisted by the Front-line States, to remain seized of the issues of a political resolution of the South Africa question.

- 23.3 Step up all around support for the South African liberation movement and campaign in the rest of the world in pursuance of this objective.
  - 23.4 Intensify the campaign for mandatory and comprehensive sanctions against apartheid South Africa; in this regard, immediately mobilise against the rescheduling of Pretoria's foreign debt; work for the imposition of a mandatory oil embargo and the full observance by all countries of the arms embargo.
  - 23.5 Ensure that the African continent does not relax existing measures of the total isolation of apartheid South Africa.
  - 23.6 Continue to monitor the situation in Namibia and extend all necessary support to SWAPO in its struggle for a genuinely independent Namibia.
  - 23.7 Extend such assistance as the Governments of Angola and Mozambique may request in order to secure peace for their peoples; and
  - 23.8 Render all possible assistance to the Front-line States to enable them to withstand Pretoria's campaign of aggression and destabilisation and enable them to continue to give their all round support to the people of Namibia and South Africa.
24. We appeal to all people of goodwill throughout the world to support their Programme of Action as a necessary measure to secure the earliest liquidation of the apartheid system and the transformation of South Africa into a united, democratic and non-racial country."

