

Shevardnadze Sends Letter on Apartheid to UN
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[Text] Moscow May 5 TASS—Follows the full text of a message by Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, to the U.N. Special Committee Against Apartheid:

"The U.N. Special Committee against apartheid is marking the 25th anniversary of its activity, aimed at pooling the efforts of the international community in the struggle for the elimination of the apartheid system in South Africa.

"The stubborn unwillingness of Pretoria rulers to put an end to the policy of racial discrimination, oppression, repressions, and terror against those fighting this inhuman system and to halt the illegal occupation of Namibia—all this turned the situation in southern Africa into a destabilising factor of international significance.

"The apartheid system would long have sunk in the Lethe if not for the aiding and abetting of the racist regime by the more reactionary circles in the West. They seem not to be embarrassed at all by the fact that the policy and actions of the South African regime were condemned by the United Nations as a flagrant violation of the U.N. Charter, of the generally recognised principles and norms of international law, as a threat to peace and security, a crime against humanity.

"An explosive situation persists in southern Africa. To defuse it there is an urgent need to realise the relevant decisions of the U.N. and the Security Council, as well as to impose the all-embracing mandatory sanctions as stipulated under Article 7 of the U.N. Charter.

"A resolute, more concerted position of the international community in the struggle against apartheid is exactly what is needed today to break the deadlock in the course of the political settlement in southern Africa on the basis of balanced interests of all countries involved in the regional conflict here. Underlying the settlement, we see such decisions which would help strengthen independence, freedom and security of all countries of the region.

"The role which the United Nations played in reaching an agreement on the settlement around Afghanistan is a good example and incentive to fresh efforts in achieving the political settlement of international conflicts in various parts of the world.

"The situation in southern Africa makes it incumbent on all members of the United Nations, who cherish the goals and ideals of this organisation, to step up the efforts in defense of the righteous course of the people of South Africa who favour the elimination of the hateful

system of apartheid, in support of the patriots of Namibia fighting for the independence of their country, and to rebuff the policy of aggression and subversion pursued by South African racists against the 'Front-Line' States. The Soviet Union will continue to exert efforts to achieve a just and lasting settlement in southern Africa in the interests of peaceful life and prosperity of the peoples of this part of the world.

"It is my conviction that the U.N. Special Committee against apartheid will continue making a weighty contribution to the world community efforts aimed at eliminating such an anachronism of our time as the apartheid regime in South Africa."