

ELECTION WEEK IN NAMIBIA FREEDOM IS AT HAND!

From 7-11 November the first ever democratic elections under UN supervision and control take place in Namibia. This is a cause for celebration: Africa's last colony is finally on the road to independence after years of illegal occupation by apartheid South Africa. The Namibian liberation movement, SWAPO, has led the struggle for independence and now seeks an electoral victory that will rightly reflect its support amongst the people.

However South Africa has sought to sabotage that process. This is why the Anti-Apartheid Movement and Namibia Support Committee have been running a Namibia Emergency Campaign. We have sought to bring pressure to bear on the British government to help ensure the UN Plan for Namibia's independence is properly implemented. SWAPO has faced an uphill task to translate its support into an election victory. There have been many problems:

●The size of the UN military force to control the process and Pretoria's murderous forces was slashed at British insistence

●On 1 April South African forces slaughtered hundreds of SWAPO freedom fighters in northern Namibia they had gathered to report to the UN forces to surrender their arms

●Koevoet, the notorious counterinsurgency unit has continued a reign of terror in Namibia Britain also played a negative role in delaying effective de-mobilisation of such forces

●South Africa has pumped vast sums into the election campaign of tiny parties opposed to SWAPO

●Thousands of South Africans and Angolan nationals have been registered improperly for the election to vote against SWAPO

●SWAPO leaders, organizers and supporters have been attacked, harassed and even assassinated witness the murder of SWAPO leader Anton Lubowski

The UN Secretary General, a Commonwealth mission and numerous independent observers and monitors have all testified to South Africa's efforts to sabotage free and fair elections. The NEC has campaigned for genuinely free and fair elections because we were confident that in these circumstances SWAPO would secure an overwhelming vote at the polls.

**VICTORY TO SWAPO !
FREEDOM FOR NAMIBIA !
THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES !**

WHAT NEXT FOR NAMIBIA?

All the signs are that SWAPO should secure a clear majority at the polls, but there are major problems ahead. The NEC will continue its work until final independence is achieved. Key questions before independence include:

- **Will South Africa hold a veto over Namibia's independence constitution?** The independence elections are to choose a 72 member Constituent Assembly to draw up an independence constitution for Namibia but its adoption will require a two thirds majority. South Africa has been sponsoring and funding client parties, eg the DTA, to give it a blocking one third ie to prevent the people of Namibia achieving genuine independence. We must ensure that the will of the people of Namibia prevails.
- **Who will control the transition to independence?** You would have thought the elected representatives, but Pretoria has other ideas and wants its colonial Administrator General to stay in charge, running the bureaucracy with his people and controlling the purse strings - the UN has yet to sort out this vast problem.
- **Will the UN ensure the withdrawal of South Africa's illegal administration including the murderous forces of Pretoria?** In violation of the UN Plan, many units are stood down on full pay, their command structures still in

place; there are still approximately 1,000 SADF officers in Namibia; and some 6,000 SADF forces are massed in Walvis Bay. The situation is fraught with danger. South Africa's illegal administration is still fully operational and Pretoria shows no sign of preparing to withdraw.

AND AFTER INDEPENDENCE?

Namibia will continue to need all our support:

- **Pretoria will try to saddle the new government with a massive debt from its illegal occupation that must not be allowed**
- **Territorial integrity will have to be fought for Walvis Bay and the off-shore islands are an integral part of Namibia, the UN recognises this, South Africa must be forced to accept this**
- **A massive aid programme must be provided, without pre-conditions, to the new government**
- **Independent Namibia will be born with the threat of the kind of destabilisation suffered by Angola and Mozambique.**
- **SWAPO will still need our financial support the elections were a vast expense, building a new country will be even greater. We must not stop fundraising for SWAPO now!**

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I/We wish to subscribe to the NEC mailings on developments in Namibia and the campaign here. (Minimum donation £3.00 individuals, £5.00 organisations).

Please send details of NEC activists meeting on Sat 27 Jan 1990

I/We enclose a donation of £ towards the work of the NEC.

Name

Organisation

Address

Please make cheques payable to NEC, c/o AAM 13 Mandela St, London NW1 0DW