

Why the AFRICA Fund will not help to overcome apartheid

by Uwe Friesecke

Among the representatives of the Non-Aligned Nations who recently initiated the AFRICA Fund, there are definitely a number of personalities who are seriously concerned with overcoming the growing conflict in southern Africa. Their intention may very well be to lay the basis for a more just political order based on economic development of the region.

But so far, the design and the publicly stated intentions of the fund show a clear misconception of the underlying dynamic of the conflict and miss the crucial factors which must bring about a positive solution to this conflict.

The exact opposite of what is proposed must be done. South Africa must be induced to get involved in a new continent-wide plan to save Africa. We need the revival of long-existing ideas which see South Africa's future in contributing to the industrialization and agricultural development of the rest of Africa. Only in this context can the Apartheid system be demolished and replaced by a constitutional system of government which is based on the principles of the inalienable rights of man.

Not the number-one problem

World public opinion has been successfully manipulated to create the perception that apartheid is the number-one problem of the continent. In reality, it is not. Of course, the apartheid system in South Africa is contrary to all values of Western civilization and must be overcome. But the question is how to do this without losing the nation of South Africa and the continent.

The initiators of the AFRICA Fund underestimate the determination of political forces in the West and in the Soviet establishment to destroy South Africa and Africa. The real policy of racism vis-à-vis Africa originates in those Western establishment groups who are behind the policy of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. That policy has killed millions of Africans in the last 20 years—many more than ever fell victim to the apartheid policy in South Africa. This is a fact which most of South Africa's representatives are too cowardly to point out.

The very establishment in the West which is organizing the sanctions policy and the support for the African National Congress (ANC) and the Southwest African People's Organization (SWAPO) is the establishment which insists on genocidal IMF conditionalities for all of Africa and thereby is responsible for the human catastrophe on this continent. This is most dramatically expressed in the spread of AIDS, which

is on the road to wiping out the entire population of Africa within the next decade.

South Africa has become a target for the forces controlling the IMF precisely because it is the only industrialized country of Africa. South Africa could easily develop into the Japan of Africa and help solve the problems of the continent. But from the point of view of a Wall Street banker, there is no place for an industrialized nation in Africa. Therefore, in their view, South Africa has to be destroyed no matter what the consequences.

The Soviet interest

The Soviet Union, on the other hand, looks at southern Africa entirely from a geopolitical standpoint. The Soviet aim is to deny the West access to the strategic minerals of the area, and at the same time, build up the Kremlin's own strategic position. Therefore, they have adopted a combination of an arms build-up in the front-line states, especially in Angola, and a policy of scorched earth through deployment of terrorism and tribal warfare.

Because of the willful stupidity of the West, the Soviet Union was capable of building bases in Angola and Mozambique, thereby gaining critical access to the South Atlantic and the Indian Ocean, which is no longer matched by U.S. military presence. The most effective weapon for the Soviets in southern Africa is to sit back and wait while the Western foreign-policy mafia destroys Western political influence in the region.

This is happening right now. The Soviets are laughing at the way Western policy is destroying the region and handing it over to their strategic influence.

It is therefore the worst thing to contribute to that process of political disintegration by supporting the ANC/SWAPO combination, sanctions, and further isolation of the African government. It is furthermore a total illusion that the efforts of the AFRICA Fund could make the front-line states economically independent of South Africa.

Internally, South Africa is going through a most difficult process. As a reaction to the more aversive outside conditions, the white government has tightened up. Right now, there is no perspective for spectacular reforms or lifting of the security measures. The Botha government is digging in. By no means has the full weight of the security forces been deployed yet. South Africa today is not comparable to Rhodesia in the 1970s.

Developing the continent

The key to a peaceful solution to the conflict in southern Africa is to find a way of involving South Africa in the rapid economic development of the continent, especially its immediate neighbors. Such an economic development perspective for South Africa, in turn, must be used to force through the necessary changes in the constitution of the country so that the apartheid system can be abolished altogether. A bold initiative from the Group of Non-Aligned Nations would try to win over South Africa to their side in the fight against the International Monetary Fund.

In turn, a clever South African government would seek a political alliance with other debtor countries, especially in Ibero-America, to destroy the IMF. Destroying the IMF policy structure and replacing it with a new world economic order would free the African continent, and thereby give South Africa an outward-oriented perspective for its future in Africa.

Black African nations must be brought to the point that they admit the white population to be part of Africa as well as everybody else. This security guarantee can only be given if the whites of South Africa make themselves useful for the good of the African continent and if they at the same time agree to the necessary constitutional changes.

We admit: This approach runs contrary to the prejudices of almost all factions involved in the conflict. But it is the only workable solution.

What is the AFRICA Fund?

The AFRICA Fund, an acronym for Action for Resistance to Invasion, Colonialism, and Apartheid, was mandated at the eighth Non-Aligned Summit in Zimbabwe in September 1986. Details were formally hammered out by a group of Non-Aligned Nations which met in New Delhi, India on Jan. 24 at the invitation of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, one of the Fund's initiators (see *EIR*, Feb. 6, 1986, p. 44)

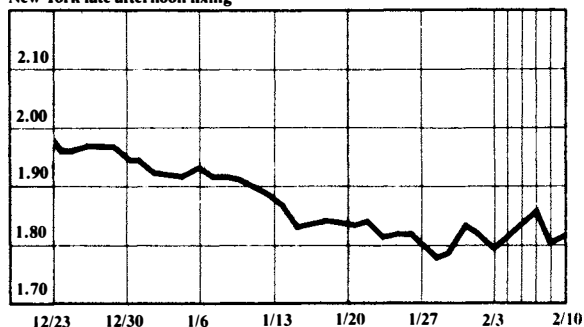
As stated in an 800-word appeal issued from that meeting, "The main purpose is to develop and enhance the self-reliance of the front-line states," Angola, Zimbabwe, Zambia, et al. bordering on South Africa.

The appeal is accompanied by a 50-page plan of action setting forth projects and measures covering seven areas of priority assistance to the front-line states. However, the fund also extends support, political and financial, to the so-called "liberation movements" in South Africa and the region, all Soviet-controlled and terrorist-oriented.

Currency Rates

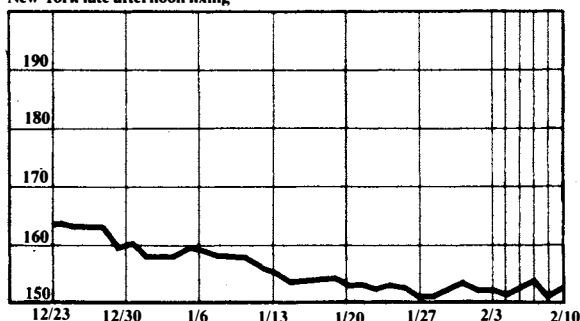
The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



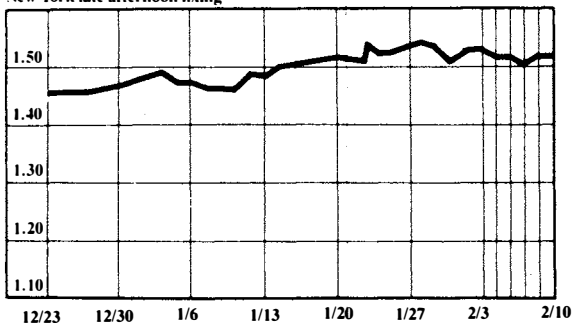
The dollar in yen

New York late afternoon fixing



The British pound in dollars

New York late afternoon fixing



The dollar in Swiss francs

New York late afternoon fixing

