

PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT FOR THE
LIBERATION OF ANGOLA
M P L A
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Dar-es-Salaam

D E C L A R A T I O N

The delegations of the MPLA and of the "GRAE" met in Cairo, from the 10th to the 13th of October of 1966, in the presence of the OAU Commission for the Reconciliation of the Angolan Liberation Movements", also called the Committee of Three (UAR, GHANA, and CONGO (Brazzaville)).

The delegation of the MPLA was composed of four members: Luis de Azevedo Jr. and Daniel Julio Chipenda, both members of the Director Committee of the MPLA; by Paulo Jorge and Francisco Barros respectively representatives of the MPLA in Cairo and at Organization for Solidarity with the Afro-Asian Peoples. The "GRAE's" delegation was composed by Nicolau Vieira, the "GRAE's" representative in Cairo and by André Miranda, member of the Central Committee of the FNLA, this one dully accredited to discuss and ratify any decisions commonly agreed at this meeting.

The "Commission of Three" of the OAU was represented by Mr. Naguib El Sadr, Director of the Department of African Affairs of the UAR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, by Mr. J. N. Quashir, Ambassador of the Republic of Ghana in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and by Mr. Albert Elenga, First Secretary of the Embassy of the Republic of the Congo (Brazzaville) in Cairo.

Also present at the meeting were Mr. F. O. Olufolabi, Deputy General Secretary of the Organization of African Unity, and Dr. Samy Sadik, Deputy General Secretary of the African Liberation Committee.

At the end of the discussions the delegates of the two parties, the M.P.L.A. and the "GRAE", particularly those dully empowered by either Movement and also the representatives of the OAU, signed an agreement.

The agreement reads as follows:

"The representatives of the MPLA and of the GRAE, meeting in Cairo on the 13th of October, 1966 before the OAU Committee of Three for the Reconciliation of the two Movements;

Wishing to put an end to the fratricide conflict

between the two Movements;

Conscious of the need to create an harmonious atmosphere conducive to the co-operation between the two liberation forces of Angola;

Convinced that, in the interest of the Angolan people the unification of all the revolutionary forces of Angola is imperative in order to accelerate the process of liberation of the territory from the Portuguese, the common enemy to both groups;

The following was commonly agreed:-

1. Immediate cessation of any form of hostile propaganda and inspection of all the publications by either of the two Parties by an organism of the OAU.
2. Immediate release of the members held by either of the two Movements;
3. Establishment of a Military Commission of inquiry by the OAU aimed at re-evaluate the situation of the Parties in Angola and make recommendations concerning the form of assistance required in order to intensify the common armed struggle and to make it more effective;
4. Immediately after the works of the Military Commission of Inquiry of the OAU, a common Committee, composed of members of the MPLA and of the GRAE shall be set up, under the auspices of the OAU, to study the methods of co-operation between the two Movements, in the military and political fields.

The terms of this agreement come to force immediately after the signature by the delegates of the two Movements."

The MPLA welcomed this agreement signed in Cairo, but was shocked with the diffusion by a certain Press of the "declarations" attributed to the GRAE denouncing this agreement in the same day in which it was signed.

The MPLA appeals to the good sense and to the maturity of all the Angolans and particularly of the members of the "GRAE" in order to avoid making difficult the common action against the Portuguese colonialists.

PAGE THREE

The MPLA solemnly declares that it will respect the terms of the agreement signed with the "GRAE" and reaffirms that this accord signed by the two Parties, without any constraints or pressures, remains valid. The MPLA requests the sincere implementation of this accord by the establishment of the commissions called by it and according to the terms of the agreement.

The MPLA hopes equally that the OAU will intervene in order to make valid and implement the recommendations made by the Conference of the African Heads of State held in Accra, concerning the granting of a total freedom of movement to the MPLA in the territory of those countries that have common border with Angola.

The MPLA appeals to the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and particularly to the President of the Republic, His Excellency General Joseph Desirée Mobutu, requesting their intervention in the affair, in order to secure the rapid liberation of all the members of the MPLA jailed in the Republic. The fact that these are militants and patriots who have given their best to the cause of liberation of our country allows the MPLA to reaffirm that they have not committed any crime or offence which justify their imprisonment for long time.

The MPLA appeals once again to the Government and Parliament of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in order that a total freedom of action, throughout the entire extension of the territory of the Republic, be granted to the MPLA.

Dar-es-Salaam 16/11/1966

THE DIRECTOR COMMITTEE

Reproduced from the Declaration (Doc No. 119) issued by the MPLA Headquarters in Brazzaville.

