



CONGRESS resolved that the Mass Democratic Movement should pledge solidarity with the Namibian people as they move towards independence.

Another resolution on international affairs was a delegation of NUM mineworkers will hand over a dossier of discriminatory laws to the governments of Britain, West Germany and the United States in the next few weeks.

According to the resolution taken at the NUM's recent Congress, most Western leaders - including Margaret Thatcher, Helmut Kohl and George Bush - are misinformed about the true nature of apartheid laws.

The dossier will include a list of those detained, arrested and charged under apartheid laws and those executed over the last 10 years.

In handing over the dossier to the three Western leaders, the NUM delegation will seek the assistance of leaders of miners' unions in the three countries.

Earlier in the Congress NUM president comrade James Motlatsi attacked Western imperialists for the sinister role they are playing in defending their economic interests in the sub-continent.

#### Attacks on SWAPO

He said recent attacks on Swapo by members of the South African Security Forces were a well orchestrated attempt by the apartheid regime to galvanise Western support.

The Western media and the United Nations have been quick in accusing Swapo of having "blatantly violated the cease-fire and the terms of UN Resolution 435."

But in the past few weeks overseas newspapers have dramatically changed their perceptions on South Africa's destabilising role in Namibia.

The perceptions have now changed from sharp criticism of Swapo's "incursions" and acknowledgement of the "correctness" of South Africa's position,

# Namibia saluted



NUM President JAMES MOTLATSI called on Congress to pledge solidarity with Namibia

**"Comrades, it is our duty to come to the aid of the Namibian people in their hour of need. There has always been a close historical bond between our struggles. Now more than ever, we must show our solidarity... Their victory is our victory". Motlatsi**

to scathing comments on the behaviour of the security forces.

One newspaper commented that "having been granted licence by the United Nations to go on what one diplomat called a 'turkey shoot' against Swapo guerillas, the military now appears to have convinced themselves that they are the lords and masters of Namibia again."

#### Atrocities

Recently a television documentary programme screened privately to dozens of US politicians and journalists in Washington, claimed that scores

of captured Swapo fighters have been executed at point-blank range by South African security forces.

The film shows grisly footage of bloated and semi-naked bodies of Swapo guerillas buried in mass graves.

The Untag must bear part of the blame for the cowardly murder of the Swapo comrades. They, after all, granted the security forces a licence to kill by allowing them to leave their bases and fight Swapo.

That South Africa has injured Untag's pride and authority is evidenced by the fact that they

have forced the UN body to agree to release the army troops from their bases to fight Swapo.

SA security forces are also maintaining a highly provocative presence around Untag assembly points maintaining constant patrols of these points.

Comrade Murphy Morobe warned that the Western world is known for its vacillating stand. "Suddenly the Western world, with all its self-proclaimed knight-hood for democracy, is ready to jettison Swapo and cuddle-up to the devil that has brought so much misery to Namibia

Comrade Motlatsi called on the congress to salute and congratulate the comrades in Namibia who are on the eve of crossing the threshold from colonial and racist domination to a democratic and non-racial society based on human dignity and regard for the common man.

He also called on the Congress to come to the aid of the Namibian people now that the South African government is bent on installing its puppets, the Turnhalle Alliance, as rulers of a free Namibia.

In response to comrade Motlatsi's call, congress resolved that the Mass Democratic Movement should pledge solidarity with the Namibian people and that trade unions and other mass-based organisations should strengthen links with their counterparts in Namibia with a view of lending support whenever necessary.

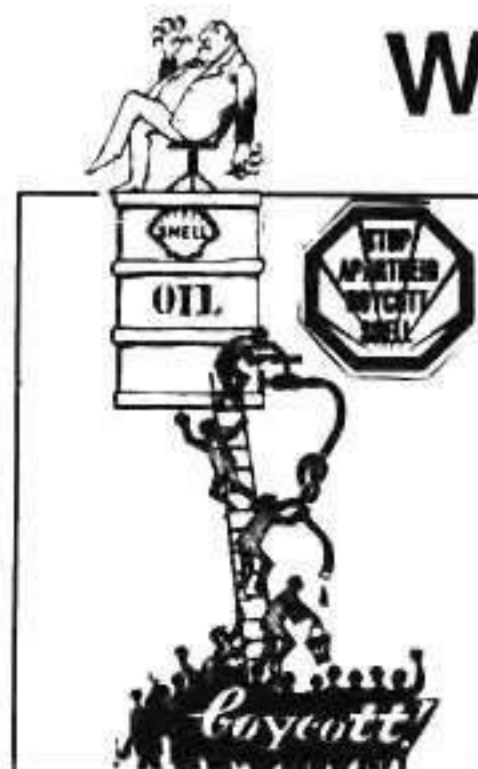
Earlier Comrade Cyril Ramaphosa told Congress the NUM continued to play a major role in international affairs.

"Our union has always been closely associated with the Mineworkers Union of Namibia (MUN) and joins them in all the challenges and joys that they face as they are an integral part of the struggle being led by Swapo towards independence play," he said.

He said the NUM was proud to have assisted the MUN in their struggle against the racist illegal occupiers of their country.

"We have continued to maintain links with several miners' unions and federations throughout the world. This included the Miners International Federation (MIF), the International Miners' Organisation (IMO), the African Federation of Miners Trade Unions (AFMTU) as well as our pioneering role in the Southern African Miners Federation (SAMF)," Comrade Ramaphosa said.

## World mineworkers are proud of NUM



MINERS International Federation (MIF) general secretary, Peter Michalzik, said mineworkers of the world are proud that the NUM, though still a young union, has become the largest single union in Cosatu, on the African continent and within the MIF.

He said the MIF congress held in Harare, Zimbabwe, recently, "reiterated its total rejection of the apartheid regime and condemned the policy of the SA government which seeks to maintain an inhuman, unjust and

reprehensible system."

Michalzik told Congress that the MIF unanimously supported the call by SA trade union movement for mandatory and comprehensive sanctions as a means of bringing about changes that are urgently needed in SA.

He said the MIF would act to achieve a joint ban on South African coal imports by countries belonging to the European Community.

He also told Congress the MIF supported the NUM's decision that Royal Dutch/Shell Group

products be boycotted until the company disinvests from South Africa.

Michalzik said human and trade union rights are not only violated in South Africa but in many parts of the world such as Latin America.

He said whenever mineworkers have raised their voices asking for fair treatment and seeking shelter under the umbrella of unions, an evil alliance of mine bosses and reactionary forces in those countries have tried to crush the workers

organisations.

He called on the NUM to support MIF programmes saying he believes they could strengthen international structures, particularly in the Frontline States and Namibia "where our comrades are in dire need of solidarity support."

The general secretary of the Namibian Union of Mineworkers, Comrade Ben Uulenga, was unable to attend and speak at the congress because of the tense situation in Namibia.