

"I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 21 June 1991<sup>144</sup> concerning the appointment of the Force Commander of the Military Unit of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and that your proposal meets with their approval."

In a letter dated 8 July 1991<sup>146</sup> addressed to the President of the Security Council, the Secretary-General referred to his report of 18 June 1990 to the Security Council on the situation concerning Western Sahara<sup>142</sup> and stated that in accordance with paragraph 12 of that report, he had addressed identical letters on 24 May 1991 to Morocco and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Río de Oro proposing a specific date and hour for the formal cease-fire to begin. In letters dated 11 June 1991 and 10 June 1991, respectively, Morocco and the Frente Popular had informed the Secretary-General of their acceptance of his proposal that the formal cease-fire should begin at 0600 GMT on 6 September 1991.

In a letter dated 3 September 1991<sup>147</sup> addressed to the President of the Security Council, the Secretary-General, in accordance with the United Nations plan for the referendum in Western Sahara as described in his report of 18 June 1990<sup>142</sup> and amplified in his report of 19 April 1991,<sup>143</sup> and with resolution 690 (1991) of 29 April 1991, transmitted to the President of the Security Council a note regarding the implementation of the cease-fire. The Secretary-General stated that, concerned at recent developments along the international frontier, he had decided that United Nations efforts should be concentrated, at this stage, in the areas referred to in the note, that is Aguenit, Awsard, Bir Lahlou, Mahbes, Meharrize, Mijek, Oum Dreyga, Smara, Tifariti and Zug. In this context, he recalled that paragraph 20 of his report of 18 June 1990 stipulated that the establishment and functioning of the observer group would be in accordance with the general principles applicable to United Nations peace-keeping operations.

In a letter dated 4 September 1991,<sup>148</sup> the President of the Security Council informed the Secretary-General as follows:

"I have the honour to inform you that I have brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council your letter dated 3 September 1991<sup>147</sup> concerning the situation in Western Sahara.

"The members of the Council endorse your action and continue to support your efforts."

In a letter dated 13 September 1991<sup>149</sup> addressed to the President of the Security Council, the Secretary-General referred to the United Nations plan for the referendum in Western Sahara as described in his report of 18 June 1990<sup>142</sup> and amplified in his report of 19 April 1991<sup>143</sup> and resolution 690 (1991) of 29 April 1991, and further to his letter dated 3 September 1991,<sup>147</sup> he informed the President of the Council

that in the context of the deployment of military observers to verify the cease-fire and the cessation of hostilities in the areas referred to in that letter, he had decided to deploy about one hundred additional military observers and the staff necessary for command and control functions, logistical support, communications, air transport and medical support.

In a letter dated 17 September 1991,<sup>150</sup> the President of the Security Council informed the Secretary-General as follows:

"I have transmitted to the members of the Security Council your letter of 13 September 1991<sup>149</sup> concerning the United Nations plan for the referendum in Western Sahara.

"The members of the Council have asked me to thank you for the information contained in that letter and to inform you that they endorse your action."

At its 3025th meeting, on 31 December 1991, the Council discussed the item entitled "The situation concerning Western Sahara: report of the Secretary-General (S/23299)".<sup>27</sup>

**Resolution 725 (1991)**  
of 31 December 1991

*The Security Council,*

*Reaffirming* its resolutions 621 (1988) of 20 September 1988, 658 (1990) of 22 June 1990 and 690 (1991) of 29 April 1991,

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General of 19 December 1991 on the situation concerning Western Sahara,<sup>151</sup>

*Noting with concern* the difficulties and delays encountered in the implementation of the settlement plan regarding the question of Western Sahara, as adopted by resolutions 658 (1990) and 690 (1991),

1. *Approves* the efforts of the Secretary-General for the organization and the supervision, by the United Nations in cooperation with the Organization of African Unity, of a referendum for self-determination of the people of Western Sahara, and therefore welcomes the report of the Secretary-General of 19 December 1991 on the situation concerning Western Sahara;<sup>151</sup>

2. *Reiterates its support* for further efforts by the Secretary-General for the organization and the supervision, by the United Nations in cooperation with the Organization of African Unity, of a referendum for self-determination of the people of Western Sahara in conformity with resolutions 658 (1990) and 690 (1991), by which the Council adopted the settlement plan for Western Sahara;

3. *Calls upon* the two parties to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General in the implementation of the settlement plan, which has been accepted by them;

4. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit a further report to the Security Council as soon as possible, but in any event within two months of the date of passage of this resolution.

*Adopted unanimously at the 3025th meeting*

**LETTER DATED 17 MAY 1991 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF ANGOLA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL**

**REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE UNITED NATIONS ANGOLA VERIFICATION MISSION**

**Decision**

At its 2991st meeting, on 30 May 1991, the Council decided to invite the representatives of Angola and Portugal to participate, without vote, in the discussion of the item entitled:

"Letter dated 17 May 1991 from the Charge d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Angola to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/22609);<sup>7</sup>

"Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (S/22627 and Add.1)".<sup>7</sup>

**Resolution 696 (1991)**  
of 30 May 1991

*The Security Council,*

*Welcoming* the decision of the Government of the People's Republic of Angola and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola to conclude the Peace Accords for Angola,

*Stressing* the importance it attaches to the signing of the Peace Accords and to the fulfilment by the parties in good faith of the obligations contained therein,

*Stressing also* the importance of all States refraining from taking any actions which could undermine the agreements mentioned above and contributing to their implementation, as well as respecting fully the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Angola.

*Noting with satisfaction* the decision taken by the Government of the People's Republic of Angola and the Government of the Republic of Cuba to complete the withdrawal, ahead of schedule, of all Cuban troops from Angola by 25 May 1991,<sup>152</sup>

*Considering* the request submitted to the Secretary-General by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Angola in his letter dated 8 May 1991,<sup>153</sup>

*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General of 20 and 29 May 1991,<sup>154</sup>

*Taking into account* that the mandate of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission established by Council resolution 626 (1988) of 20 December 1988 expires on 22 July 1991,

1. *Approves* the report of the Secretary-General of 20 and 29 May 1991<sup>154</sup> and the recommendations therein;

2. *Decides accordingly* to entrust a new mandate to the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (henceforth United Nations Angola Verification Mission II) as proposed by the Secretary-General in line with the Peace Accords for Angola, and requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary steps to this effect;

3. *Also decides* to establish the United Nations Angola Verification Mission II for a period of seventeen months from the date of adoption of the present resolution in order to accomplish the objectives stated in the report of the Secretary-General;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Security Council immediately after the signature of the Peace Accords and to keep the Council fully informed of further developments.

*Adopted unanimously at the 2991st meeting*

**Decisions**

In a letter dated 13 June 1991<sup>155</sup> addressed to the President of the Security Council for the attention of the members of the Council, the Secretary-General referred to resolution 696