



VIII General Assembly,
27 – 29 October 2006,
Taipei, Taiwan

Member Resolution Concerning the Enclave of Cabinda

The UNPO General Assembly;

Considering that Article 73, Chapter XI, of the United Nations Charter recognizes the Right of all peoples to self-determination;

Emphasising that Cabinda was and is a Portuguese protectorate by virtue of the Treaty of Simulambuco in 1885;

Considering that when it was founded in May 1963, the Organisation of African Unity recognised Cabinda as the 39th territory on the African continent to be decolonized, and that this reality has since been ignored;

Regretting that Portugal, former protecting power, has abandoned the territory of Cabinda, its protectorate, without organizing a referendum for self-determination to allow the Cabindan people to choose their future; in violation to all the treaties of Chimfuma (1883), Chicamba (1884), and Simulambuco (1885), instead illegally annexing the Territory of Cabinda to Angola;

Expressing grave concern at the continued violations of human rights in the Territory of Cabinda, including inter alia extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, killings of civilians, torture, arbitrary arrest and detention, deaths in custody, absence of due process of law, severe restrictions on freedoms of opinion, expression, assembly and association, violations of freedom of movement, forced relocation, and the imposition of oppressive measures directed in particular at human rights defenders in Cabinda;

Concerned by the persecution of Cabindan refugees in Congo Brazzaville and Congo Kinshasa (RDC), as well as their forced repatriation without guarantees or security and in spite of the decision taken in January 2004 by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees;

Concerned by the arbitrary imprisonment of Mr. Raul Danda, spokesperson of the Cabindan Civil Association MPALABANDA, as well as other members of this organisation;

Concerned by the recent imprisonment of members of the Catholic Church at the request of the Angolan Bishop Filomeno;

Pleased by the formation of the Forum for Dialogue and Peace, composed of members of the various liberation movements, civil society and the church, and so forming the broadest possible platform for negotiating a peaceful resolution to the Cabinda conflict;

Concerned about the so-called Agreement for Peace and Cessation of Hostility, signed by the Government of Angola and a small group of Cabindan people in the name of the Forum for Dialogue, but without consultation, participation and agreement of its members, nor with the people of Cabinda, and therefore without any legitimacy.

Therefore, we, the UNPO General Assembly:

1. Condemn all human rights abuses committed in Cabinda by the Army of the Republic of Angola;
2. Call upon the Government of the Republic of Angola to Respect the Cabindan Peoples' rights, including their right to self determination;

3. Call upon the conflicting parties, in particular the Government of Angola, to commit themselves to an honest dialogue, aimed at finding a peaceful solution to the conflict through broad-based negotiations and consultations with legitimate interlocutors;
4. Call upon the Republic of Angola to stop all acts of intimidation and forced repatriation of Cabindan refugees whilst there is no peace in the territory;
5. Strongly urge the Government of the Republic of Angola to release immediately and unconditionally detained political leaders, including Raul Danda, as well as all other political prisoners and all other prisoners of conscience;
6. Call once again upon all companies, including multi-national oil companies, operating in Cabinda, to respect the human rights and self-determination of the People of Cabinda, including their right to manage and control the natural resources of their land;
7. Encourage humanitarian organizations and governments to come to the aid of Cabindan refugees in the Democratic Republic of Congo-Kinshasa, Republic of Congo-Brazzaville, and elsewhere, who are living under dire conditions, and without educational opportunities;
8. Request the General Secretary of UNPO to strongly consider despatching a UNPO mission to Cabinda in order to assess the dire conditions of the people and to report these back to UNPO.