

## **Our Solidarities**

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In international politics, the CONCP stands for a policy of non-alignment. This is the policy which is most compatible with the interests of our peoples in the present stage of our history. We are certain of it. But for us non-alignment does not mean turning our back on the fundamental problems concerning humanity and justice. For us, non-alignment means not to be drawn into blocs, not to follow the lines drawn by others. We reserve for ourselves the right to make our own decisions, and if by chance our options, or decisions, coincide with those of others, this is not our responsibility.

We support the policy of non-alignment but we also consider ourselves deeply committed to our people and to every just cause in the world. We consider ourselves as part of a broad front of struggle for the good of humanity. You will understand that we fight first of all for our peoples. This is our task in this common struggle. And that has implications in terms of solidarity. We in the CONCP are strongly committed to every just cause. This is why we from FRELIMO, MPLA, PAIGC, CLSTP, or from any mass movement affiliated to the CONCP, beat our hearts in unison with those of our brothers from Viet Nam who give us a unique example in fighting the most scandalous, the most unjustifiable imperialist aggression of the United States of America against the peaceful Vietnamese people. Our hearts beat also with those of our brothers from the Congo who, in the jungles of such a vast and rich country, seek to resolve their own problems but are faced with imperialist aggression and imperialist manoeuvres via puppets. Thus, we from the CONCP, loudly and strongly proclaim that we are against Tshombe, against all the Tshombes of Africa. Our hearts beat just as strongly with our brothers in Cuba who have also shown how a people, even surrounded by the sea can victoriously defend its fundamental interests with arms, and decide its own destiny. We are with the Blacks from America, we are with them in the streets of Los Angeles, and when they are denied any possibility of a decent life, we suffer with them.

We are with the refugees, the martyred refugees of Palestine who have been ridiculed, and expelled from their homeland by imperialist manoeuvres. We stand with the Palestinian refugees and we support everything that the children of Palestine do in order to free their country, and we support with all our might all that the Arab and African countries do to aid the Palestinian people to recover its dignity, its independence, and its right to life. We are also with the peoples of South Arabia, of so-called French Somaliland (Somali Coast), of so-called Spanish Guinea, and we side with understanding and sorrow with our brothers from South Africa who confront the most barbaric of racial discriminations. We are absolutely positive that the development of struggle in the Portuguese colonies and the victory which we are attaining every day

against Portuguese colonialism is a significant contribution towards the liquidation of that shameful and vile regime of racial discrimination in South Africa, *apartheid*. We are also sure that peoples such as those of Angola, Mozambique, and we ourselves in Guinea and Cape Verde though distant from South Africa, will one day be able to play a very important role in the final liquidation of the last bastion of colonialism, imperialism and racism in Africa, which is South Africa.

Our solidarity goes to every just cause in the world, but we also derive strength from the solidarity of others. We have concrete help from many people, many friends, many brothers. I would only like to tell you that we, in the CONCP, have a fundamental principle which consists in counting above all on our own efforts, our own sacrifices. But, in the objective framework of Portuguese colonization, dear friends, we are also aware that our struggle is not solely ours in the present stage of man's history. It is one which comprises all of Africa, all of progressive humanity. This is why we from the CONCP, confronting the peculiar difficulties of our struggle, and in the context of current history, have realized the need for concrete help in what concerns Africa, of concrete help from every progressive force in the world. We accept all help, regardless of where it may come from, but we never ask for help just from anybody. We expect only that aid which each is able to offer to our struggle. This is our *ethic* of help.

We wish to tell you that it is a duty for us to say here clearly and loudly that we do have solid allies in the socialist countries. We all know that the African peoples are our brothers. Our struggle is theirs. Every drop of blood that we shed falls also from the body and heart of these African peoples, our African brothers. But we also know that since the Socialist Revolution and the events following World War II, the world has definitely changed. A socialist camp has emerged in the world. This has completely changed the balance of forces, and this socialist camp is today quite aware of its international duties, its historic moral duties, not moral ones because the peoples of the socialist countries have never exploited the colonial peoples. They have shown themselves to be conscious of their duty and it is for this reason that it is an honour to tell you here openly that we receive substantial effective aid from these countries, which reinforces that which we receive from our African friends. If there are people who will be unhappy to hear me say this, may they come also to help us in our struggle. But may they be sure that we are proud of our sovereignty.

We will maintain our position: we take help from anyone. And we will take help from the socialist countries because they show today the path which serves man, the path of justice. In this room there are representatives from socialist countries who have come here as friends. I would like to take advantage of this opportunity to tell the representatives of the Soviet Union and of China, those of Yugoslavia and of the German Democratic Republic, who are here as the representatives of the socialist countries, to please convey our gratitude for the concrete aid which their peoples give us in our struggle.

And those who do not like to hear us talk of the aid of socialist countries,

**what have they been helping us do? They aid Portugal, the fascist and colonialist government of Salazar. It is no longer a secret to anyone that Portugal, the Portuguese government, would not be able to lead a struggle against us if it did not or could not have access to the help from its allies in NATO.**