

**PETITION OF THE OVAHERERO PEOPLE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA**

TO

1. The President, Republic of Namibia
2. The President, Africa Union
3. The President, UN General Assembly
4. The President, UN Security Council
5. The Secretary - General, United Nations Organisation

COPIES TO

1. The President, European Union
2. The President, Republic of South Africa
3. The President, Republic of Botswana
4. The President, Republic of Tanzania

Your Excellencies,

1. **WHEREAS** the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) has applied for a permanent veto-wielding membership of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC);
2. **MINDFUL** that membership of the UNSC – and in particular the category of permanent members with veto powers, carries with it onerous responsibilities for the rest of humanity amongst which are:
 - (a) The maintenance of INTERNATIONAL PEACE and SECURITY.
 - (b) The resolution of DISPUTES and CONFLICTS through

PEACEFUL means.

3. **RECALLING** the tragedies caused by the FRG's past jingoistic foreign policies in countries like Tanganyika (née Tanzania) where her troops, under the notorious General Lothar von Trotha, massacred the Wahehe African people and then the Chinese people during the "Boxer Rebellion", and again, when Hitler launched a war against East European countries like Austria, Poland, Russia, etc;
4. **RECALLING** also the FRG's state-sponsored acts of brutality and GENOCIDE against the Jewish people;
5. **FURTHER RECALLING** the infamous "Extermination Order" of General Lothar von Trotha of the German Army which resulted in the state-sanctioned extra-judicial killings and other acts of mass GENOCIDE of the OVAHERERO people of Namibia;
6. **NOTING** that the FRG has compensated the Jewish people for the genocide perpetrated against them;
7. **NOTING FURTHER** the continued arrogant refusal by the FRG to recognize the Ovaherero genocide and to pay compensation/reparation to the Ovaherero people of Namibia whose forebears were exterminated by 80% at the hands of German Colonial Forces;
8. **WHEREAS** the attitude of the FRG in this matter is based entirely on RACIST and CALLOUS considerations of OUTDATED, DISCREDITABLE and INADMISSIBLE interpretations of international humanitarian law as well as applicable customary principles of the Law of Wars – a position that is contrary to numerous relevant UN principles and resolutions;
9. **CONSIDERING** that bestowing the honour of permanent membership of the UNSC to the FRG is tantamount to a gross and insensitive travesty of justice;
10. **DECLARING** that, by virtue of the above and its continued arrogant refusal to accede to the legitimate and well-founded demands of the Ovaherero people in Namibia and in the Diaspora, the FRG must be completely disqualified from permanent membership of the UNSC;

WE, the OVAHERERO PEOPLE, hereby appeal to the United Nations, the Africa Union – the Government of the Republic of Namibia, the European Union, and the governments of South Africa, Botswana and Tanzania to call upon the Federal Republic of Germany to:

- (a) Formalise the apology given by Minister of Cooperation and Development Heidemarie Wieczorek-Zeul by using formal instruments of the Bundestag.
- (b) Honour the spirit of that statement and enter into an immediate, unconditional and sincere dialogue aimed at undoing the historical wrongs to the Ovaherero people.
- (c) Unconditionally recognize the extermination of 80% of the Ovaherero people as genocide and pay compensation/reparations.
- (d) Cease the ongoing and appalling divisive activities of its local agents, aimed at causing confusion and deepening divisions among the Ovaherero people and the Namibian people as a whole, which is tantamount to adding insult to injury – the very injury represented by the open wounds of General von Trotha’s Extermination order!

WE, FURTHER APPEAL to the United Nations, the AU, the EU and the aforesaid governments, as well as the entire international community to reject any and all attempts by the Federal Republic of Germany to be accorded the honour of permanent membership of UNSC, as part of the current moves to enlarge the Security Council until they demonstrate to the international community through their actions that they can protect and honor the rights and lifes of all mankind.

Signed:.....; 24 August 2005

KUAIMA RIRUAKO

PARAMOUNT CHIEF: OF THE OVAHERERO PEOPLE