

Strengthen Unity and March On

— Hailing the triumphant closing of the O.A.U. Summit Conference

THE 13th Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity (O.A.U.), held in Port Louis, capital of Mauritius, came to a triumphant close on July 6. The conference reviewed the major events in Africa in the past year, discussed Africa's present situation and the tasks confronting the continent, and adopted a series of resolutions. The participants expressed their determination to strengthen the fighting unity of African countries, promote the unity between the African and Arab states as well as of the entire third world, and continue to make big strides forward in the common struggle against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism. The Chinese Government and people extend warm greetings on the new contribution the session has made.

Vigour and vitality mark the excellent situation that prevails in great Africa. In the past year, holding aloft the banner of opposing imperialism, old and new colonialism, big-power hegemonism, white racism and Zionism, the countries and people of Africa, having won independence, continued their heroic and tenacious struggle to safeguard national independence and state sovereignty and to develop their national economies and cultures. They have thus frustrated the

trouble-making and sabotage of the imperialists, social-imperialists and racists, consolidated their solidarity, persisted in making progress and continually made new achievements. Recently, the Republic of Seychelles has solemnly proclaimed independence and formally become a member state of the O.A.U. All this is a great inspiration to the African people struggling for national independence and a vigorous support for the just cause of the people of the entire third world in opposing imperialism and hegemonism, thus drawing universal attention and winning acclamation from the people of the world.

At present, the people of Zimbabwe, Namibia and Azania are carrying out extensive armed struggles and mass movements against white racism and for national liberation. They have dealt continuous and heavy blows at the reactionary Vorster and Smith regimes and laid bare their schemes of resorting to counter-revolutionary double-dealing tactics. The resolutions on southern Africa adopted at this O.A.U. Summit Conference strongly condemn the racist regime of South Africa for its savage massacre of black people in Soweto and point out emphatically that "the only effective guarantee for the African people of South Africa against the repetition of massacres is the launching of armed struggle for

the seizure of power by the people." The conference decided to extend the greatest possible political, economic and military assistance to the liberation movements in South Africa to enable them to wage armed struggle. This is of great significance to the development of the anti-racist struggle of the people in southern Africa. So long as they closely unite and continue to carry out dauntless struggles, the people of Zimbabwe, Namibia and Azania will certainly be able to overthrow the reactionary rule of white racists and win independence and liberation.

Special attention should be paid to the fact that the superpower contention in Africa is daily intensifying. One superpower is trying desperately to protect its vested interests in the continent while the other, flaunting the banner of "supporting national liberation movements," is carrying out conspiracies of aggression, intervention, subversion and division in Africa in a more barefaced and unbridled manner. We are glad to see that the O.A.U. has made unremitting efforts to promote the African countries' unity in struggle against the

enemy and has already gained fruitful results. More and more African countries and people have come to realize that superpower rivalry is the root cause of intransigence in the African continent. The aggression and expansion of that superpower, which claims to be the "natural ally" of the African countries and people, have become the primary threat to the independence and security of the African countries. We are deeply convinced that the great African people will surely win still bigger victories by further strengthening their unity, repulsing the wolf and at the same time guarding against the tiger, and persevering in a protracted struggle.

China is a developing socialist country. Both China and Africa belong to the third world. In the great struggle against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism, the Chinese people, following the teachings of their great leader Chairman Mao, will, as in the past, always stand on the side of the fraternal African people and firmly support their just struggle till final victory.

(*"Renmin Ribao" editorial, July 8*)

Facts on File

O.A.U. Summit: 13th Session

THE Organization of African Unity is a regional organization of independent African states founded on May 25, 1963. Its headquarters is in Addis Ababa, capital of Ethiopia.

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government which is O.A.U.'s highest organ meets at least once a year. The latest session, its 13th, was held in Mauritius from July 2 to 6.

Liquidation of all types of colonialism and complete liberation of the African continent were the main problems discussed at the session. The O.A.U. Council of Ministers, convened earlier, had discussed and adopted the report on decolonization presented by the O.A.U. Secretary-General and a report of the African Liberation Committee. Delegates from over 30 countries and observers from various liberation movements spoke in favour of intensifying the armed struggle against the racist regimes in southern Africa and striving for the total liberation of Africa. Their stand was endorsed by the summit conference.

The freedom fighters on the frontline of the liberation struggle of southern Africa were fully confident that they could rely mainly on their own strength to wage armed struggle and destroy the racist regimes. Leaders of liberation movements attending the conference declared that the fighting slogan of the Zimbabwean people is: "We are our own liberators!" and that the determination of the Azanian people in struggle is: "We will do the job [fighting]!"

The O.A.U. summit adopted a series of resolutions on problems relating to southern Africa.

The resolution on the Soweto massacres in South Africa says: "The massacres of Soweto and elsewhere, like those of Sharpeville, are further evidence of the wanton brutality and recalcitrance of the racist regime of South Africa." It strongly condemns the Vorster regime for these massacres perpetrated against unarmed African people.

The resolution resolves to extend the maximum political, economic and military assistance to the liberation movements of South Africa to enable them to execute the armed struggle.

The resolution on sanctions against South Africa "vigorously condemns once again the odious regime of apartheid which constitutes a great insult to human dignity." It urges the United States, France and other Western countries to stop military and nuclear cooperation with the fascist regime of South Africa. The resolution on non-recognition of South African Bantustans reaffirms O.A.U. condemnation of the Bantustan policy and urges all its member states to commit themselves solemnly to abstain from according recognition to any Bantustan, particularly "Transkei," whose so-called independence is scheduled for October 26, 1976.

The resolution on sanctions of the People's Republic of Mozambique against the racist regime in Rhodesia says that the decision made by Mozambique of integrally applying sanctions against Rhodesia "constitutes an important contribution to the common struggle of the African peoples for the total liberation of Africa." In particular, "it is a concrete and effective measure of support to the struggle of the people of Zimbabwe for their liberation and national independence."

The summit conference also adopted resolutions on the Israeli aggression against Uganda, the Non-Aligned Conference, the question of Palestine, the Middle East and occupied Arab territories, etc.