

SWAPO MATERNITY & CHILD CARE CLINIC

URGENT!



**YOUR HELP
IS NEEDED
TO RAISE
£6,000**

There are now 55,000 exiled Namibians mostly living as refugees in camps in southern Angola. Many more are daily fleeing there from Namibia because the 100,000-strong South African army and police, who are illegally occupying Namibia, are destroying the people's crops, closing shops, imposing strict curfews with arbitrary arrests and forcing families to live in fenced-in keeps. This is part of the terror campaign being waged by apartheid South Africa to stop Namibians achieving genuine independence and freedom from South African rule. These exiles are being cared for by their liberation movement, SWAPO (the South West Africa People's Organisation), with help from the Angolan Government, the United Nations High Commission for Refugees and other friendly governments and solidarity organisations. However, their scarce resources cannot meet the constantly growing needs. This is particularly true for health-related materials. Your direct assistance is urgently needed. However small, we will guarantee that it will help buy some of the items needed for the Clinic (see list of items overleaf).

SWAPO MATERNITY AND CHILD CARE CLINIC APPEAL

The SWAPO Department of Health has appealed to the Namibia Support Committee's Health Collective to help send out essential drugs and equipment for a 'Maternity and Child Care Clinic' (see list below). You can help us raise funds for these urgently-needed items by filling in the form below and by asking your friends, associates and your organisation to help contribute too. Below we briefly explain the previous work of our Health Collective and give reasons why it is vital that people in Britain in particular support this project.

BRITISH GOVERNMENTS – NOT ON THE NAMIBIANS' SIDE

Successive British governments are guilty of supporting South Africa's annexation of Namibia. They stood aside in the old League of Nations when South Africa took away the Namibians' land and forced Namibians to labour under almost slave conditions. They ignored the United Nations and World Court decisions to impose sanctions against South Africa over 10 years ago after two decades of the UN trying to get the South Africans to withdraw.

British companies are plundering Namibia's natural resources, contrary to international law – without a murmur from British governments. South Africa is imposing bantustan leaders on Namibians and segregating people according to race and ethnic origin. When Namibians resisted, the South African police and army tried to crush them. Namibians asked British governments for assistance but got nothing.

After two decades of trying to achieve independence peacefully, Namibians lost patience with the way Western governments ignored their appeals and continued to support the illegal occupation in the UN and through economic and military links. In 1966, through their main nationalist organisation, SWAPO, the Namibian people launched armed resistance. The South Africans refuse to budge. So the war has escalated. Material support for SWAPO is essential if Namibians are to realise their freedom.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

In order to cope with war casualties – mostly innocent victims of South African air raids into Angola – and to counter diseases, cater for new births, pregnancies, sanitation, family planning, old age, the SWAPO Department of Health desperately need medicines and medical equipment and many other health related items. SWAPO has the doctors and nurses, and are training more, but the shortage of materials is acute.

Recently the SWAPO Deputy Secretary for Health, Dr Libertine Amathila, appealed to the Namibia Support Committee Health Collective in Britain to try and raise money to buy items for a Maternity and Child Care Clinic (see list below). This is essential for SWAPO's expanding health care system – high risk pregnancies, childbirth, infant and post natal care, family planning and community health education will be tackled.

THE WORK OF THE NSC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Already we have sent out, with help from the World Council of Churches (Programme to Combat Racism), nearly £1,000-worth of nursing training manuals and slides to equip the clinic. Last month we helped the WCC (PCR) send a landrover to assist the SWAPO Women's Council in similar work. We have previously sent 50 medical kits (£100 each), several large air consignments of medicines and equipment (£1,500 to £2,000 each), over 9,000 pairs of rubber boots to counter foot diseases, plus contraceptives and clothes.

When the South Africans attacked the Kassinga refugee camp on 4 May 1978 and killed nearly 1,000 children, women and men and wounded many more, we airlifted over £8,000 of relief medicines and supplies. Much of this comes from small donations

Now £6,000 is urgently needed to buy the items for the Clinic. Please send your donations to us as quickly as possible by filling in the form below.

Further details and more leaflets are available from the NSC Office

SWAPO MATERNITY AND CHILD CARE CLINIC APPEAL

A glance at the list of items needed to start the clinic (see below) gives an idea of how it will work:

30-50 children's cots with mattresses, plastic sheets, blankets and hot water bottles
4 cribs for new-born babies
nurses' uniforms
5 paediatric bar scales (in kilos—UNICEF design)
3 adult scales and height rules
3 sphygmomanometers
3 stethoscopes
2 wrigleys forceps
2 delivery beds
2 vacuum extractors
contraceptive devices
simple venereal disease and pregnancy tests
3 TB diagnosis kits (microscopes, stains, wires, cover slips, etc)
10,000 'Road to Health' charts
10,000 record sheets
30,000 out-patient cards

PAEDIATRIC MEDICINES
500 giving sets with butterfly needles
4 drip stands
intravenous fluids
ampicillin injection
procaine penicillin
penicillin V syrup
chloroquine syrup

OTHER MEDICINES
electrosol effervescent tablets
20 plastic 'litre' measuring cylinders
valium injection (for toxemia and epilepsies)
vitamin K injection
syntocinon
syntometrine and ergometrine
nylon 'Namibia Support Committee' Medical Kits
(100 items in each, with extra bandages and plasters)

THE NAMIBIA SUPPORT COMMITTEE IS OFFICIALLY RECOGNISED BY THE UNITED NATIONS COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA
AS A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION IN SUPPORT OF UNITED NATIONS POLICY ON NAMIBIA

Please fill in and return immediately:

NAME

ADDRESS

I enclose cheque/PO/cash

Total £

(I do/do not require a receipt)

Cheques should be made payable to NSC MEDICAL AID. Bankers: Co-operative Bank Ltd, 78/80 Cornhill, London EC3 – A/c No. 50140088

Namibia Support Committee, 188 North Gower Street, London NW1 2NB. Tel: 01-388 5539.