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The Secretariat

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The Government of Transkei has learnt from its delegation that individual members of SECOSAF are being proposed by the South African Government and certain delegations to serve as rapporteurs in Codesa working groups. SECOSAF was proposed to act as the secretariat for Codesa and was rejected. The Transkei delegation to Codesa in leading argument for rejection advanced various reasons and is prepared to provide further testimony in support of those reasons.

The Government of Transkei further wishes to state that the above moves are in violation and contravention of the spirit and letter of the Multilateral agreement entered into between South Africa, Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei, establishing the Secretariat for Economic Community of Southern Africa (SECOSAF) In particular article 3(1) of the protocol which reads as follows:  
"The Secretariat shall function as an administrative body to support and co-ordinate the multilateral and regional systems of co-operation in the Southern African region as agreed to by the parties and

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further to establish and provide the necessary secretarial and auxiliary services therefor, as well as to perform all such other functions as may be entrusted to it from time to time by the parties jointly," prevents SECOSAF from deviating from its stated mission without the approval of the signatories.

We have mandated our delegation to CODESA to reject the involvement of SECOSAF as an institution or its personnel.

Please circulate to all Working Groups.

  
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INFORMATION