

the anti-Zionist opposition in Israel, saying that he supported the decision to invite them because it is absolutely necessary and correct to integrate everybody in the struggle for the triumph of truth.

The representative of the Union of Palestinian Women's Committees also addressed the final session, and her words were considered as a common platform for future activities. She began by greeting the congress from the masses of the intifada, and continued to say: «Our national struggle is waged in different forms, reflecting the justified will of our people to obtain their rights to return, self-determination and the establishment of an independent state on their national territory under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

The continuation of the intifada until it reaches its goals of freedom and independence, is an expression of our people's rejection of the Zionist occupation. We assure you that we will continue despite all the repression... despite all the political conspiracies by the US administration and its agents in the region, which aim at smashing the intifada so it will not achieve its goals. Our will and national unity have proven stronger than all the repression, destruction and conspiracies...»

She commended the congress as an important demonstration of solidarity with the Palestinian people, and the first of its kind in the FRG, emphasizing that the spirit of the intifada is one of unity and cooperation that should also prevail in Palestine solidarity work. She had three proposals for

work in the coming period: (1) forming a committee to coordinate the solidarity work; (2) efforts to stop the immigration of Soviet Jews to Palestine, since this furthers the Zionist aim of expelling Palestinians from their homeland; and (3) intensified solidarity activities to support the daily struggle of the intifada. This could include pressure to reopen the Palestinian universities, schools and kindergartens, campaigns for political prisoners, exposure of Zionist policies like house demolition and expulsion, and concrete material support, especially to Palestinian families and children who are hardest hit by the repression. She also encouraged more working visits to Palestine as a form of moral support to the intifada, as well as a way to build stronger relations of solidarity. ●

## Namibia Celebrates Independence

Colonialism in Africa was dealt another blow on March 21st when Namibia celebrated its first day of independence. As jubilant Namibians witnessed the raising of their new republic's flag at midnight on Independence Day, over a century of colonial occupation officially came to an end. Sam Nujoma, leader of SWAPO during its 30-year war of liberation against South Africa, was sworn in as Namibia's first president. In his inaugural speech, Nujoma said that a new era of justice had begun for his people. The

country's independence will certainly strengthen the position of the Frontline States vis-a-vis the apartheid regime in South Africa. This sentiment was expressed by the crowd as people shouted, «We're free!» and «South Africa is next!»

This historic event was celebrated as well by progressive forces worldwide as a victory over racism and imperialism. We at *Democratic Palestine* take this opportunity to congratulate the people of Namibia on their establishment of an independent state.

