

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
BRIEFING PAPER**

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FACT SHEET: ANGOLA/NAMIBIA NEGOTIATIONS

**I. BACKGROUND**

- o The Angola/Namibia negotiations are at a critical and sensitive stage. The necessary compromises are now fairly clear, and have been framed in the US mediator's proposal.
- o Both sides are faced with necessity of making some painful decisions if they are to achieve the settlement that they all apparently desire.
- o Several elements outside the formal negotiations remain crucial to their successful conclusion and implementation of the agreements.
- o Progress on achieving an internal settlement between the MPLA and UNITA is an essential element to achieving a global solution.
- o A number of African countries are now actively engaged in trying to promote an African solution, including dialogue between the two movements.
- o Implementing the transition to independence in Namibia will not come cheap. The major UN contributors should already be examining how to finance the UN implementation. In addition, advance planning should begin soon, perhaps under the aegis of the World Bank, for development assistance to independent Namibia

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Robert Homme, Senior Reviewer

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