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Chairman: Mr. ESQUEA GUERRERO (Dominican Republic)

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AGENDA ITEM 112: MEASURES TO PREVENT INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM WHICH ENDANGERS OR TAKES INNOCENT HUMAN LIVES OR JEOPARDIZES FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, AND STUDY OF THE UNDERLYING CAUSES OF THOSE FORMS OF TERRORISM AND ACTS OF VIOLENCE WHICH LIE IN MISERY, FRUSTRATION, GRIEVANCE AND DESPAIR AND WHICH CAUSE SOME PEOPLE TO SACRIFICE HUMAN LIVES, INCLUDING THEIR OWN, IN AN ATTEMPT TO EFFECT RADICAL CHANGES: REPORT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM (continued)

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The meeting was called to order at 3 p.m.

ITEM 112: MEASURES TO PREVENT INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM WHICH ENDANGERS OR TAKES INNOCENT HUMAN LIVES OR JEOPARDIZES FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, AND STUDY OF THE UNDERLYING CAUSES OF THOSE FORMS OF TERRORISM AND ACTS OF VIOLENCE WHICH LIE IN MISERY, FRUSTRATION, GRIEVANCE AND DESPAIR AND WHICH CAUSE SOME PEOPLE TO SACRIFICE HUMAN LIVES, INCLUDING THEIR OWN, IN AN ATTEMPT TO EFFECT RADICAL CHANGES: REPORT OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM (continued) (A/34/37; 403, 429, 435 and 498).

1. Mr. BUDEN (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that his country condemned all acts of international terrorism, whether committed by individuals, groups or States.
2. Given the great number of acts of violence that were being committed in the world, his delegation believed that it was the responsibility of States to take effective steps at the national level to ensure the security of foreign citizens in their territories. That responsibility applied particularly to States in which the headquarters of international organizations were situated. In that connexion, he wished to point out that although the Government of the host country in which United Nations Headquarters was situated, repeatedly promised to take effective measures to avoid that type of violence, acts of terrorism against members of foreign delegations were still being committed in New York.
3. His delegation was not opposed to the elaboration of new international legal instruments to combat terrorism. However, those instruments must take due account of the interests of the peoples fighting for national liberation and against occupation and of the workers defending their rights against the oppression of their exploiters. The struggle of peoples for self-determination and independence conformed to the principles and purposes of the United Nations and therefore the concept of international terrorism could not be applied to any case in which those fighting for national liberation and against colonial and racist régimes had recourse to force.
4. He was pleased to note that at its third session the Ad Hoc Committee on International Terrorism had considered at length the underlying causes of international terrorism, the foremost of which were colonialism, racism, racial discrimination, the policy of apartheid, genocide, hegemony and the existence of an unjust international economic order. With regard to the possibility of taking action against terrorism, his delegation supported the view expressed in the Ad Hoc Committee's report (A/34/37) that the conclusion among States of bilateral and multilateral agreements regarding the extradition of persons who had committed terrorist crimes in countries of which they were not citizens would enhance the effectiveness of the struggle against international terrorism. He also supported the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation that the Security Council and the General Assembly should pay special attention to situations which arose as a result of colonial domination, racism and foreign occupation and which might endanger international peace and security and that, if necessary, they should apply Chapter VII of the Charter concerning sanctions.

5. Mr. NIETO (Argentina) said that although the phenomenon of terrorism was extremely complicated and its causes could be varied, it was necessary to distinguish clearly between indiscriminate violence committed without a flag and struggles for liberty and national independence. Terrorist violence should be unequivocally condemned by the international community, as stated in paragraph 24 of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee.

6. Argentina had suffered and still suffered occasionally from the tragic consequences of that irrational proliferation of violence and, in exercise of their inherent right of self-defence, the Argentine people and Government had striven to restore order and to ensure full security. Unfortunately, other parts of the world did not react properly to terrorist minorities; some countries actually vaunted their protection of persons who had admitted their responsibility for odious crimes. There had been cases of statesmen and government officials who for reasons connected with domestic politics had openly contacted terrorist groups.

7. Subtle methods of infiltrating and destabilizing Governments were constantly being used for perfectly obvious purposes and acts of nihilist violence directed at the destruction of free societies that were incapable of responding were still being committed. That aspect of the problem was linked to the matter of human rights, which Argentina considered to be one of the basic achievements of the entire civilized world and not the patrimony of a particular country or group of countries. Consequently, although Argentina firmly supported measures adopted by the Ad Hoc Committee for making progress in that field, it would reject with equal firmness any attempt to use for political purposes the lofty sentiments inspired by the invocation of human rights. In that connexion, he supported the delegations which had stressed the danger posed to the normal development of relations among States by the existence of terrorist groups.

8. The struggle against terrorist violence should be aimed at ensuring human dignity and should be accepted by all States in order to yield sufficiently constructive results. It was necessary for that purpose to abandon sterile recriminations and ideological debate and to seek common denominators, because there was no State that would not eventually be exposed to the scourge of international terrorism.

9. In his delegation's view, it could not and should not be understood that the Ad Hoc Committee's work was directed against national liberation movements struggling against colonialism, foreign occupation and racial discrimination. Nevertheless, it was essential that those liberation movements should act in such a way that they could not be associated with criminal groups which, in order to improve their image, attempted to imitate those movements.

10. Lastly, he recalled that in September 1979 the Secretary-General of the United Nations had pointed out that some of the worst examples of criminal terrorism seemed to originate in sectors of society in which abundance and content had generated insensitive arrogance; and had observed that the international community should have no difficulty in combating that type of violence. The Ad Hoc Committee should take note of those remarks and, taking a

(Mr. Nieto, Argentina)

broad approach, draw up an acceptable and realistic draft convention with a strong emphasis on prevention.

11. Mr. MAPANGO ma KEMISHANGA (Zaire) said that his country unequivocally condemned international terrorism in all its varied forms. Nevertheless, it would be unacceptable to define as international terrorism the acts of national liberation movements directed against colonialism, racism, apartheid, oppression and foreign domination, which were justified by General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV).

12. Consequently, his delegation considered it essential that the Sixth Committee should define as clearly as possible what was meant by an act of international terrorism. Hijacking of aircraft, bombings, kidnappings and murder should be considered as acts of international terrorism, but in his opinion it was also necessary to regard as terrorist acts the preparation and organization of armed bands in the territory of a State with the sole objective of destabilizing the political régime of another State, the institution of mercenaries, armed intervention by one State against another, the illegal occupation of the territory of a neighboring State, refusal to recognize the inalienable right of a people to self-determination and the practices of racial discrimination and apartheid, together with the policy of economic blackmail and the threat to vie such blackmail.

13. A distinction also had to be made between various types of terrorist acts. On the one hand, there were acts which lacked any valid justification and were attributable to a pathological condition on the part of their perpetrators; on the other hand, there were acts committed voluntarily by well-determined groups. In the latter cases, it was unrealistic to expect coercive or other measures, to put an end to the acts, if their precise causes had not first been ascertained. In that connexion, the General Assembly had correctly determined the course to be followed, by affirming in resolution 32/147 the need first to study the underlying causes of international terrorism and then to recommend practical measures to combat it.

14. On the basis of the foregoing, the Sixth Committee should proceed with the item in three phases. In the first phase, through the Ad Hoc Committee, it should seek to list the acts constituting international terrorism. It should then describe and define more precisely the various underlying causes and, finally, determine appropriate practical measures to combat that scourge of mankind more effectively.

15. In conclusion, his delegation believed that the international community could not take back with one hand what it had already granted with the other. It was fair and humane to recognize the right of the peoples of Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa to self-determination, independence and all the other fundamental rights; it would also be fair for the administering Powers which had succeeded in bringing the Israelis together and granting them a territory and a homeland to do the same for the Palestinians, who, deprived of their land and prompted by frustration, were sometimes obliged to commit acts which some called terrorism without paying attention to the reasons for the acts or the aims of their perpetrators.

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16. Mr. MUJEZINOVIC (Yugoslavia) said that international terrorism was a complex and omnipresent problem, whose solution required detailed study. In order to be effective, the struggle against international terrorism must be waged within the context of endeavours to establish new international relations and abolish all forms of the use of force, domination, subjugation and exploitation. As long as violence constituted an individual or State ideology, as long as inequalities existed between the rich and the poor, as long as fascist and neo-fascist organizations were allowed to pursue their activities freely and as long as the international community failed to take energetic measures to combat international terrorism, the latter would not be uprooted, whatever the legal provisions enacted by the various international forums.

17. Regrettably, States were not merely the targets, but frequently even the protagonists of terrorist acts and practices in the form of threats to the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of small and militarily and economically weaker countries, aggression, foreign intervention and occupation, as well as subversive actions designed to overthrow Governments. Fascism and neo-fascism were dangerous forms of terrorism supported by the forces that opposed co-operation among States and peoples and believed that their interests could be protected only through the use of force. Consequently, it was essential to emphasize that organized resistance to such terror could not be classed as terrorism and that a distinction had to be made between acts of State and individual terrorism and the genuine struggle of oppressed peoples for freedom and equality. All those who tried to equate their terrorist acts with the struggle of liberation movements provided an excuse for the forces of domination to perpetuate and increase their oppression of subjugated peoples.

18. Yugoslavia had always condemned acts of terrorism and had ratified all the international legal instruments relating to that problem. Not a single terrorist act directed against any State or foreign national had ever been organized or committed in Yugoslav territory.

19. His delegation welcomed the results of the recent session of the Ad Hoc Committee on International Terrorism, which had reached agreement on a series of measures that could be taken by the United Nations and individual countries and had adopted by consensus a number of recommendations whose implementation could contribute to a more effective and comprehensive struggle against international terrorism (A/34/37, para. 118). That was indicative of the constructive atmosphere that had prevailed in the Ad Hoc Committee and had enabled it, for the first time, to submit concrete results to the General Assembly.

20. At the current session, the Sixth Committee faced two tasks in the struggle against international terrorism: one the one hand, the completion of work on the draft International Convention against the Taking of Hostages; and on the other, endorsement of the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on International Terrorism in the form of a declaration and ensuring the follow-up of their implementation. In any event, the adoption of international legal instruments represented only one half of the effort to achieve the final objective; the more important part, appropriate implementation of the provisions, rested with the individual States.

(Mr. Mujezinović, Yugoslavia)

21. In that context, his delegation wished to warn of the danger of using double standards in dealing with terrorism. To treat a certain form of terrorism as a crime in one case and, in another case, as a form of political opposition in the struggle for human rights was to act exclusively on the basis of ideological criteria and seek to maintain relationships of domination. That would cast doubts on the good intentions and sincerity of declared positions against terrorism. A resolute struggle against terrorism required the application of the same criteria with respect to all its manifestations.

22. The elimination of the causes of terrorism was a task for the entire international community that required the implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the norms of contemporary international law. That was the only way to inspire mutual confidence and avoid legal chaos.

23. Despite the difficulties and differences of views concerning the definition and causes of international terrorism and the elaboration of an international convention, his delegation was convinced that the international community would reach a consensus in that regard. It was therefore ready to support the extension of the mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee on International Terrorism and the inclusion of the item on international terrorism in the agenda of one of the forthcoming sessions of the General Assembly.

24. Mr. QUATEEN (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) said that in 1972, when the item on international terrorism had first been included in the agenda of the General Assembly, many had interpreted international terrorism to mean exclusively the hijacking of aircraft and the taking of hostages; in fact, those were minor aspects. The international community had currently woken up to the true danger of international terrorism, its scope and its underlying causes, as reflected in General Assembly resolution 32/147, particularly paragraphs 3 and 4.

25. Seven years after the study of international terrorism had begun, an international convention against the taking of hostages was being prepared. His country, as a member of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Drafting of an International Convention against the Taking of Hostages, would spare no effort to ensure that the work of that Committee culminated in a text which could be adopted by the international community. It should be borne in mind, however, that that instrument and the various existing international agreements covered only one aspect of the increasingly complex problem of international terrorism.

26. The question was which form of terrorism was worse: hijacking an aircraft or using aircraft to kill innocent people in southern Lebanon; attacking individuals or attacking an entire people and riding roughshod over their dignity and rights. No one aspect of terrorism was more dangerous than the others; they should all be considered with the same objectivity and in the same spirit.

27. The report of the Ad Hoc Committee on International Terrorism (A/34/37) described at length the magnitude of the problem, particularly in paragraphs 14, 21, 22, 23, 26, 38 and 69. However, the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendations (para. 118) did not adequately reflect the content of the report or comply with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 32/147. Recommendation 11, /...

(Mr. Quateen, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya)

for example, represented a step backwards in relation to the resolution. His delegation suggested that the resolution should serve as the basis for a declaration on international terrorism.

28. Mr. YUSUF (Indonesia) said that the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on International Terrorism (A/34/37) indicated that some progress had been made in the search for practical measures to eliminate the scourge of international terrorism.

29. Serious attention should be given to certain working papers, since they focused attention on the fundamental causes of international terrorism and on those aspects of it which not only endanger innocent human lives, but also threatened peace and security. In particular, the paper reproduced in paragraph 69 of the report could provide a useful framework for discussion, because it contained the elements of compromise.

30. Other working papers called on all States to become parties to existing international conventions relating to various aspects of the problem of international terrorism. Indonesia, as a party to those conventions, believed that wider participation would help to make them more effective and to stem terrorism.

31. A clear distinction must be made between the criminal character of activities related to terrorism and the legitimate acts of peoples in their struggle against colonialism and imperialism. However, Indonesia was strongly opposed to acts of terrorism which endangered human lives as well as the health, property and safety of innocent people.

32. Since the establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee in 1972, the crucial issue had been what approach would effectively prevent further outbreaks of terrorism. During the initial stage, the focus had been on not only preventing but also punishing terrorist activities, and a draft code of offences against the peace and security of mankind and a statute for an international criminal court had been prepared. States had considered that that approach was too ambitious and infringed on their prerogatives.

33. Later, a broader approach had been adopted, ranging from such issues as illegal threats or use of force by States to the underlying causes of terrorism. Discussions on the causes of terrorism had, in effect, prevented consideration of the prevention of terrorist activities and had resulted in a stalemate.

34. For the purpose of achieving a final draft convention on international terrorism, his delegation proposed the adoption of paragraph 118 of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee, which constituted a pragmatic approach and provided the basis for future international co-operation for the speedy elimination of terrorism.

35. The results achieved so far by the Ad Hoc Committee were satisfactory, and it was to be hoped that it would continue to strive to prepare a world-wide agreement on measures to combat terrorism which endangered innocent lives. The United Nations

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(Mr. Yusuf, Indonesia)

must adopt, and Member States must ratify, a convention dealing with the most serious acts of terrorism and containing effective preventive measures.

36. Mr. ROSENSTOCK (United States of America) said that the United Nations, as the institutional representative of international society, must demonstrate its willingness and ability to respond to the scourge of terrorism, or it would invite serious doubts as to its *raison d'être*.

37. Although the problem of international terrorism was not new, the number and nature of acts of international terrorism had increased dramatically in the 1960s as the vulnerability of certain aspects of modern society had become apparent.

38. The United Nations system had responded in a variety of ways to the threat posed by international terrorism. For example, the resolutions on interference with civil aviation adopted by the General Assembly in 1969, 1970 and 1977, and by the Security Council in 1970, had made it clear that the international community condemned such acts and believed that their perpetrators and those who aided or abetted them were engaged in profoundly antisocial behaviour.

39. The International Civil Aviation Organization, the specialized agency with particular responsibility, had elaborated the Tokyo, Hague and Montreal Conventions, whose symbiotic relationship with the decisions of the General Assembly and the Security Council had been a model of constructive interaction. In 1977, when the General Assembly had adopted resolution 32/8 on the safety of international civil aviation, half the international community had not been parties to the ICAO Conventions. Since then, the number of ratifications had reached 99 for the Tokyo Convention, 100 for the Montreal Convention and 106 for the Hague Convention. While that was heartening, efforts must continue to be made until all States were parties to the Conventions. His delegation therefore supported recommendation 5 of the Ad Hoc Committee, which also covered the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents, adopted by the General Assembly in 1973. That Convention was one of the greatest achievements in the history of the Sixth Committee.

40. It would be possible to match that achievement at the current session thanks to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Drafting of an International Convention against the Taking of Hostages. Thus, there was reason to hope that the epidemic of terrorist acts that only a few years before had threatened to engulf the world might be halted, and evidence to show that the international community had reached a clear consensus on the unacceptability of acts of international terrorism. Such acts had been recognized as so heinous that no cause could justify them, just as there were acts so heinous that States, even in the exercise of the inherent right of self-defence, might not resort to them.

41. In 1979, the Ad Hoc Committee had reached the degree of consensus required to produce the list of recommendations contained in paragraph 118 of its report; that was a remarkable success when compared with the complete absence of results at the earlier sessions of the Committee. His delegation believed that the General Assembly should endorse those recommendations, although some of them might have

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(Mr. Rosenstock, United States)

been formulated more clearly. While it was particularly in agreement with recommendations 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 and with the first sentence of recommendation 10, his delegation recognized that a measure of balance had been struck with regard to the list as a whole, which should therefore be endorsed in some appropriate manner.

42. However, the recommendations should not be given any extraordinary prominence or special treatment. They simply marked the end of one stage of the efforts of the United Nations, namely, the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, but they should not signal the end of the international community's concern. Furthermore, recommendation 10 called for future action by the United Nations. As to how the international community could manifest its concern with regard to the problem of international terrorism, it did not seem to him to be prudent to focus on an abstract definition, since experience had shown that at that level it was almost impossible to arrive at a consensus. When, however, attention was focused on specific acts or a series or category of specific acts, it was possible to find common ground.

43. It was significant that the Ad Hoc Committee had not suggested renewal of its mandate. It had, however, requested Assembly consideration of the need for an additional international convention or conventions to fill the gaps indicated in recommendation 10. That could be done in a variety of ways, including the creation of a new ad hoc committee with a mandate geared to recommendation 10; a request for comments by Governments and a report thereon to a future session of the General Assembly, as suggested by the Brazilian delegation at the preceding meeting; the inclusion of an item in the provisional agenda of a future session; or the issuance of a generalized comment on the need for further study, as contained in paragraph 5 of the draft General Assembly resolution submitted to the Ad Hoc Committee by India (A/34/37, para. 116).

44. In view of the continued occurrence of acts of terrorism, the international community could not afford complacency. The issue was not whether efforts should be continued but how they should be continued, now or at an appropriate time.

45. Mr. ORDZHONIKIDZE (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) reiterated his Government's principled opposition to acts of terrorism, which affected, inter alia, diplomatic activities and the safety of international transport. That had been stated in the General Assembly as early as 1972 by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the USSR and had been borne out by the Soviet Union's support for measures adopted in the United Nations and other international forums, and particularly in the Ad Hoc Committee on the Drafting of an International Convention against the Taking of Hostages, the Ad Hoc Committee on International Terrorism and the Committee on Relations with the Host Country.

46. At the twenty-second session of the Assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organization, a resolution against acts of unlawful interference with civil aviation had been adopted on the initiative of the USSR. The USSR was a party to the 1970 Hague Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft, the 1971 Montreal Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against

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(Mr. Ordzhonikidze, USSR)

the Safety of Civil Aviation and the 1973 New York Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents. Acts of international terrorism could be better prevented if most States were parties to those Conventions and complied with their provisions.

47. The USSR had also concluded other bilateral and multilateral agreements on the question, particularly concerning the extradition of persons who had committed crimes against the State of which they were nationals, and it especially welcomed recommendation 8 of the Ad Hoc Committee (A/34/37, para. 118).

48. However, the prime responsibility for effectively preventing acts of international terrorism rested with individual States. Soviet law provided severe penalties for acts of terrorism against representatives of States and made special provision for ensuring the safety of civil air transport. The USSR also guaranteed the safety of representatives of foreign States and staff of diplomatic missions and protected its own citizens against acts of terrorism that were encouraged or instigated from outside its territory.

49. The Soviet Union supported the Ad Hoc Committee in urging States to contribute to the progressive elimination of the causes underlying international terrorism (A/34/37, para. 118, recommendation 3). It also believed that all States had an obligation to prosecute persons committing acts of terrorism and to take measures to prevent such crimes, and it therefore supported recommendation 4 of the Ad Hoc Committee.

50. It was regrettable that, in some States whose representatives expressed concern at acts of international terrorism, no practical measures were taken to deal with them, as demonstrated by the repeated attacks against missions to the United Nations and other international organizations and against members of the secretariats of such organizations. Another cause of great concern was the policy of some Western countries, which, on the pretext of defending human rights, refused to grant extradition of dangerous terrorist criminals, especially in cases of unlawful seizure of aircraft. That cast doubt on their intentions when they declared their concern at acts of international terrorism. Unless that double standard was eliminated, the drafting of international conventions would be a purely academic exercise.

51. The USSR condemned the acts of terrorism committed by Israel in the occupied Arab territories, particularly against the Palestinian people. It also condemned the acts of the racist régimes of southern Africa, which, while maintaining the system of apartheid and flouting the right of self-determination of peoples, tried to accuse the oppressed peoples struggling for their liberation of being terrorists.

52. The Ad Hoc Committee had done extremely useful work in clarifying the causes of international terrorism. The list of underlying causes of international terrorism in paragraph 69 of its report was particularly important and should be borne in mind when the problems of the Israeli-occupied territories and southern Africa, as well as the aggressive incursion into Viet Nam by a State that claimed the right to preach to others, were considered.

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(Mr. Ordzhonikidze, USSR)

53. With regard to recommendation 11 of the Ad Hoc Committee, he drew attention to the proposal put forward by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the USSR at the current session of the General Assembly concerning the inadmissibility of hegemonism in international relations.

54. For its part, the USSR was prepared to consider the adoption of further effective measures for the prevention of acts of international terrorism, and the Committee's decisions in that regard would be of importance if all States were prepared to do likewise.

55. Mr. AL-KAYSI (Iraq) said that the question of international terrorism must be considered in a calm and thoughtful atmosphere, since the solutions adopted would affect both positive international law and domestic law. Whatever measures were taken to put an end to international terrorism must be based on a study of underlying causes and must take into account the political aspects of the problem, since the conflicts caused by disparities in levels of development, by the diversity of social, political and economic conditions and by ideological differences could not be overlooked. Moreover, the right to self-determination and the legitimate struggle of national liberation movements which was an inalienable right and was in keeping with the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter and the resolutions of United Nations organs, must be respected. Lastly, the solutions adopted must be based on acceptance by the majority of States so that they would be effective.

56. A scrutiny of the past efforts of the United Nations in that field showed the need for a definition of international terrorism, since there was no consensus on the scope of the term. Nor was there any agreement on whether the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on International Terrorism should relate to the adoption of preventive and punitive measures or to the study of underlying causes; whether the two questions should be considered separately or whether, on the contrary, the organic relationship between them should be stressed; and whether the Ad Hoc Committee should focus on acts of terrorism or on the motives of those committing them. In his delegation's view, the Ad Hoc Committee should seek compromise solutions and strike a balance between the various legal and political positions in the international community, as it had done in defining aggression in 1974, in formulating the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and in drafting the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents.

57. Moreover, since 1972 there had been many important developments. The national liberation movements had gained new strength; many former colonies had become independent countries and were Members of the United Nations on an equal footing with their former colonizers, and the elimination of the last bastions of racism and colonialism was inevitable. At the juridical level, important multilateral conventions had been concluded, such as the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft, signed at The Hague in 1970, and the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation, signed at Montreal in 1971, in addition to the 1973 New York Convention which he had already mentioned and other similar conventions of a regional character.

(Mr. Al-Kaysi, Iraq)

58. With regard to the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on International Terrorism, he pointed out that, although there had been no consensus on some issues, recommendations for the elimination of international terrorism were for the first time being submitted. His delegation particularly supported recommendations 1, 3, 4, 7, 9 and 11. On the question of the study of underlying causes of international terrorism, it also supported document A/AC.160/WG/R.1, containing the proposal submitted by a group of non-aligned countries (A/34/37, para. 69).

59. Where recommendations 5 and 6 were concerned, he pointed out that Iraq was a party to the 1970 Hague Convention, the 1971 Montreal Convention and the 1973 New York Convention. His delegation had no objection whatever to recommendation 8, although it was of the view that whatever action was taken must be based on respect for the sovereignty of each State. Lastly, his delegation would maintain a flexible attitude towards recommendation 10.

The meeting rose at 4.55 p.m.