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GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
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SECURITY COUNCIL  
Fortieth year

Letter dated 31 December 1985 from the Permanent Representative of  
Afghanistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the unofficial translation of the resolution adopted at the sixteenth Plenum of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, dated 21 November 1985.

I have further the honour to request Your Excellency to arrange for the circulation of the text of the resolution as a document of the General Assembly, under the items entitled "Report of the Economic and Social Council", "Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security", "Implementation of the collective security provisions of the Charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security", "Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance", "Human rights and scientific and technological developments", "Question of a convention on the rights of the child", "International Covenants on Human Rights", "Alternative approaches and ways and means within the United Nations system for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms", "Development and strengthening of good-neighbourliness between States", "Peaceful settlement of disputes between States", "Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Drafting of an International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries" and "Draft standard rules of procedure for United Nations conferences", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) M. Farid ZARIF  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Unofficial translation of the resolution adopted at the sixteenth  
Plenum of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party  
of Afghanistan

A summary of the resolution adopted at the sixteenth Plenum of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan on the expansion of the social pillars of the people's revolutionary power and further measures for the normalization of the situation in the country (Aqrah 30, 1364 HS) (21 November 1985) is as follows:

The Plenum has decided that the instructions and conclusions registered in the speech of Babrak Karmal, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and President of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, delivered at the sixteenth Plenum of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, must be undeviatingly put into practice, and the results of the work of the Plenum should be discussed at the sessions of activists and plenums of party committees of provinces and equivalent to those of city, ward, district and sub-district political organs of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and in all party primary organizations in the months of Qaus and Jadi 1364 HS (22 November 1985-19 January 1986), and the Secretariat of the Central Committee and the departments of the PDPA CC, provincial party committees, the Council of Ministers of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, ministries, departments, and social organizations must adopt concrete measures for implementing the tasks outlined in the Plenum.

The Plenum of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan fully confirmed the theses of Babrak Karmal, set forth in the extraordinary extended session of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan on 9 November 1985 and the declaration of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan dated 14 November 1985 on the national and democratic character of the April Revolution and its undelayable tasks under the present conditions.

The Plenum of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan emphasized that the consolidation and expansion of the social pillars of the people's revolutionary power, attraction of political allies from among all strata of the society, broad, country-wide and national co-operation for the sake of cessation of bloodshed, maintenance of peace and tranquillity on the Afghan soil, are considered the main tasks of the Party and the State.

The Party and State organs and social organizations are assigned to carry out vast work in order to study and explain the documents and materials of the sixteenth Plenum of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the declaration of the Revolutionary Council as well as to mobilize working people for their unconditional implementation.

The new approach towards the formation of leading organs in the interests of expansion of social pillars of the revolutionary power will be implemented. Concrete measures aimed at perfection of their activities have been adopted both in the capital and the localities.

The Plenum of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan advised the party organs to carry out purposeful work aimed at formation and consolidation of the people's revolutionary power in the localities, to expand all around the traditional form of the popular rule, represented by local jirgahs, and render necessary assistance to them for creating peaceful working conditions and improving the socio-economic and cultural services for the population.

The Plenum of the Central Committee endorsed that the process of the elections to the local organs of State power and administration be intensified, and more active use be made from the council of elders. It assigned the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan to study the issue regarding the introduction of necessary amendments to the Law on Local Organs of State Power and Administration for legalizing the council of elders. The representation of the heads of provincial jirgahs in the leading organs of the National Fatherland Front must be anticipated.

The Plenum assigned the Politburo of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, ministries, Party and State organs in the localities to adopt measures on the new approach towards the consolidation of economic and social pillars of the people's power. The work on the implementation of land and water reforms must be accelerated prior to all in the localities which would be purged from the existence of miscreants. Financial and technical assistance should be rendered to small and medium-scale land-holding peasants in order to increase the production and the sale of their surplus products. Special attention should be paid to the maintenance and protection of water resources and irrigation establishments. The activities of peasantry co-operatives in rendering financial loans to peasants, which is supported by the State, should be vastly expanded.

The Plenum assigned the Politburo of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the Council of Ministers of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan to study till the end of 1364 HS (ends 20 March 1986) the process of consolidation and expansion of the results of the historic Loya Jirgah (Grand Assembly) and the High Jirgah of the frontier tribes. The policy of closer cohesion with tribes, ethnic groups and nationalities of the country should be further pursued. The co-operation with tribes and ethnic groups should be extended. Necessary conditions should be created for them in safeguarding the frontiers of the homeland and changing the tribal regions into the peace areas.

The Council of Ministers and the ministries of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan must seriously observe the conditions of protocols signed with the tribes and ethnic groups. Necessary measures should be adopted for the acceleration of the development of industry, agriculture, transport, trade and health services in the frontier provinces. Necessary assistance should be rendered to schools, hospitals and establishments of children in regions inhabited by tribes, the Hazarajat and other backward regions of the country.

Further measures, including material ones, should be adopted for the return of refugees to the homeland.

The Plenum of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan decided that the level of responsibility of the party and State organs both in the capital and the provinces as regards the conditions of the army, the police and KHAD (State information services), first of all, to their perfection, should be elevated. The people should be trained more consistently in the spirit of respect to the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan as the confident protector of the achievements of the national and democratic April Revolution.

Rendering of assistance to the Armed Forces, maintenance of the level of their combat capabilities and their cohesion with the people should be discussed in the sessions of the Politburo and the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the executive bureaux of provincial party committees as well as in the session of Local Organs of State Power and Administration.

The Ministries of Defence, the Interior and the General Department of the State Information Services of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan are assigned to improve, along with the provincial party committees, the work of recruiting and drafting commissions and military commissariats.

The Ministry of Defence of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is assigned to adopt undelayable measures for elevating the level of combat capability of the frontier forces. They should completely be supplied and equipped with weaponry and technical means.

The militia, voluntary battalions and regiments should be broadly drawn to the safeguarding of the frontiers.

The Plenum of the Central Committee also drew the attention of the Ministries of Defence, the Interior and the General Department of the State information services as well as the provincial party committees to the need of confident shielding of the borders of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan with Pakistan and Iran.

The Plenum emphasized that the strengthening of the position and prestige of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in the international arena, disclosure of interference of the United States of America, China, Pakistan, Iran and other countries attached to them into the internal affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan must cover the main aspects in the foreign policy of the Party and State. Active diplomatic work should be carried out against the efforts of the United States of America aimed at intensifying the discussions of the so-called "Afghanistan issue" in the United Nations Organization under international organizations.

In the sphere of foreign policy, special attention should be paid to the support of the new peace initiatives of the Soviet Union, the struggle of the Soviet Union for the cause of consolidation of peace and security of people, proposed at the Geneva talks of the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Comrade M. S. Gorbachev with the President of the United States of America.

The party committees and organizations are assigned to complete and ameliorate the forms and methods of their work in the expansion of social pillars of the revolution, strengthening of the armed forces, growth and development of economy, normalization of situation in the country.

The Politburo, the Secretariat and the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan are assigned to co-ordinate and harmonize the drafting of platform documents with their practical implementation and to encourage the responsiveness of the party committees for the unconditional implementation of the resolutions of the Party and State and their own decisions. Serious attention must be paid to the strengthening of organizational and political power of the Party and the unity of its ranks.

Serious attention should be devoted to the increase in the participation of workers, peasants, artisans, soldiers, non-commissioned officers among those who are admitted to the party, to the expansion of networks of primary party organizations in rural areas, among craftsmen, traders, in the institutions of the private sector and in the frontier regions.

The role of party committees should be elevated as the organs of political leadership. Serious and undeviating observance of the party principles in appointing, selecting and preparing the leading cadres should be ensured. It is necessary for every responsible person to acquire in a serious manner the contemporary methods of leadership.

The sound and constructive criticism and self-criticism should be vastly expanded as the most basic method in tempering and training cadres.

Youth, workers, peasants, women and representatives of national minorities should be more courageously promoted to the posts of Party and State authorities.

Efforts should be made so that the participation of social mass organizations, that is, the National Fatherland Front, trade unions, youth and women's organizations would be increased in the expansion of the social pillars of the revolutionary power and in the attraction of the masses to the process of the development of the revolution and its defence. Necessary measures should be adopted for strengthening these organizations from the viewpoint of cadres and establishing extended cohesion with the people, particularly with tribes, ethnic groups and national minorities, as well as increasing the number of newly enrolled members and expanding the network of their organizations in villages, sub-districts and districts.

The Plenum of the Central Committee has specified tasks in the ideologic sphere.

The Plenum of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan has confidently expressed that all party members and patriots of the country would accept the decisions of this plenum as the only correct programme of their struggle for the cause of peace, tranquillity and national conciliation in our beloved homeland and normalization of the country's situation. The unity of the Party with the overwhelming majority of the people is the guarantor of our victory in accelerating the process of normalization of the situation in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

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