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GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Thirty-ninth session

Items 29, 36 and 44 of the
preliminary list*

QUESTION OF NAMIBIA

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

CONSEQUENCES OF THE PROLONGATION

OF THE ARMED CONFLICT BETWEEN

IRAN AND IRAQ

SECURITY COUNCIL

Thirty-ninth year

Letter dated 2 March 1984 from the Permanent Representative of France
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the ten States members of the European Economic Community, the Presidency of which is currently held by France, I have the honour to send you herewith the text of the declaration adopted on 28 February 1984 at the Ministerial Meeting on European Political Co-operation.

I should be grateful if you would have this declaration circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 29, 36 and 44 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Luc de la BARRE de NANTEUIL

* A/39/50.

ANNEX

Declaration by the Presidency of the European Economic Community,
adopted on 28 February 1984 at the Ministerial Meeting on
European Political Co-operation

I. LEBANON AND THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT

The Ten:

(a) Express concern at the recent events in Lebanon which have been characterized by a renewal of armed confrontation and a struggle between the Lebanese political forces and which threaten to perpetuate the division of the country and the presence of foreign troops in its territory;

(b) Call on all the parties concerned to reach a lasting and effective cease-fire agreement;

(c) Hope that the international community will urgently fulfil its responsibilities in regard to peace-keeping, in particular by installing in the Beirut area, with the agreement of all the parties concerned, a United Nations force which would take up position following the departure of the multinational force on the basis of the mandate to be entrusted to it by the Security Council;

(d) Recall that the re-establishment of the integrity and sovereignty of the Lebanese State requires Lebanese reconciliation as a pre-condition and indicate their firm conviction that the process initiated during the Geneva Conference should be resumed under conditions corresponding to the aspirations of all the political and religious interests;

(e) Note that this objective involves also the withdrawal of all foreign troops except those whose presence is agreed to by the Lebanese Government;

(f) Consider that the various Lebanese movements should be able to agree on a definition of the external status of their country, which would take into account both its position in the Arab world and the desire of its population to no longer be exposed to the consequences of a conflict which has already caused it so much suffering.

The Ten subsequently dealt with the unresolved problems of the Middle East with which the events in Lebanon are closely linked, without prejudice to the discussion of this subject which the European Council could have on 19 and 20 March 1984.

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II. CONFLICT BETWEEN IRAN AND IRAQ

The Ten have noted with great regret and concern the latest developments in the conflict between Iran and Iraq, which are marked by heavy fighting at the front and renewed attacks with rockets, shells and bombs against civilian targets. This situation risks leading to new levels of escalation of the war and to a dangerous crisis in the region.

The Ten therefore appeal to both parties to comply with the relevant resolutions of the Security Council and to renounce all activities which could lead to an escalation of hostilities or endanger the freedom of navigation in the Gulf. They renew their appeal to search for ways to a peaceful solution which would be acceptable and honourable for both sides. They request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to take up again his mission to find a peaceful, just and lasting solution to the conflict. They are prepared to co-operate actively with the means at their disposal.

At the same time, the Ten appeal to the warring parties to observe carefully the international rules and conventions concerning the protection of the civilian populations and the treatment of prisoners of war. They support the efforts of the International Committee of the Red Cross to ease the heavy burden which the war puts on both sides.

III. SOUTHERN AFRICA

The ten States members of the European Community, which have shown for a long time the greatest concern regarding the situation in southern Africa, welcome the recent initiatives aimed at ending the conflicts in that region.

They note with satisfaction the agreement reached at Lusaka on 16 February 1984 on the strengthening and monitoring of the military disengagement in southern Angola and commend the efforts of all parties concerned to bring about increased security and stability in the region. They also welcome the recent understanding between South Africa and Mozambique.

The Ten urge that the parties continue to show restraint and hope that these developments will contribute to the climate of mutual confidence which will facilitate the implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978).

The Ten call upon all concerned to seize this new opportunity to implement without further delay the United Nations settlement plan. They continue to support and encourage all parties, as well as the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in their efforts to reach a just and peaceful solution to the Namibian question and they express their readiness to assist in the development of a free and independent Namibia.
