



UNITED NATIONS  
GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY



Distr.  
GENERAL

A/32/68  
26 April 1977  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: ARABIC/ENGLISH/  
SPANISH

Thirty-second session  
Item 50 of the preliminary list\*

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF  
INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Letter dated 21 April 1977 from the representatives of  
Cuba and Democratic Yemen to the United Nations addressed  
to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from our Governments, we have the honour to enclose herewith the text of a Joint Communiqué between the Republic of Cuba and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, issued during the official visit of President Fidel Castro, First Secretary of the Cuban Communist Party and President of the Council of State of the Republic of Cuba, to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, from 10 to 12 March 1977, in response to an invitation extended to him by Brothers Abdul Fattah Ismail, Secretary-General of the Central Committee, and Salim Robaye Ali, Assistant Secretary-General and Chairman of the Presidential Council.

We kindly request Your Excellency to distribute this Joint Communiqué as an official document of the General Assembly under item 50 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Ricardo ALARCON DE QUESADA  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative  
of Cuba  
to the United Nations

(Signed) Hamed Muhammad OBADI  
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.  
Permanent Mission of the  
People's Democratic Republic  
of Yemen  
to the United Nations

\* A/32/50/Rev.1.

ANNEX

Joint Communiqué

At the invitation of Comrades Abdul Fatah Ismail, Secretary-General of the Unified Political Organization/National Front (UPONF), Salem Robaya Ali, Assistant Secretary-General and Chairman of the Presidential Council, and Ali Nasser Mohamed, member of the Political Bureau and Prime Minister, Comrade Fidel Castro, First Secretary of the Cuban Communist Party, President of the Council of State and Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, made an official and friendly visit to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen from 10 to 12 March 1977.

During his visit, Comrade Fidel Castro and the persons accompanying him became closely acquainted with the life of the people and of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and with other aspects of the progress and achievements realized at various levels.

Comrade Fidel Castrol placed a floral offering on the Tomb of the Martyrs and visited the second and third provinces, where he held meetings with the workers.

Everywhere they went, Comrade Fidel Castrol and those accompanying him received a very warm welcome that reflected the friendly sentiments of the people of Democratic Yemen towards the Cuban people and their revolutionary leadership.

Comrade Fidel Castro held cordial talks with Comrades Abdul Fatah Ismail, Secretary-General of UPONF, Salem Robaya Ali, Assistant Secretary-General and Chairman of the Presidential Council, and Ali Nasser Mohamed, member of the Political Bureau and Prime Minister, in an atmosphere imbued with a spirit of friendship, mutual confidence and complete understanding, in which they considered their bilateral relations, the means of developing them and international questions of major importance for both parties.

On the Democratic Yemen side the following comrades participated in the talks: Mohamed Salem Motea, member of the Political Bureau and Minister for Foreign Affairs; Saleh Mosleh Kassem, member of the Political Bureau and Minister of the Interior; and Ali Abdul Razak Baddeb, member of the Political Bureau, Minister of Culture and Tourism and Acting Minister of Information.

On the Cuban side the following comrades participated in the talks: Carlos Rafael Rodríguez, member of the Political Bureau, Vice-President of the Council of State and Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers; Osmany Cienfuegos, member of the Central Committee of the Party and Secretary of the Council of Ministers; José Naranjo, member of the Central Committee and Minister for the Food Industry; Raúl Valdés Vivó, member of the Central Committee and Chief of the General Department of External Relations of the Cuban Communist Party; José M. Miyar, Deputy to the National Assembly of Popular Power; and Jacinto Vázquez, Ambassador of the Republic of Cuba to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

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Both sides expressed their satisfaction at the growth of relations between their two countries. They also praised the friendship, co-operation and close solidarity existing between their two peoples. The talks reaffirmed that the position of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen is identical to that of the Republic of Cuba in respect of the most important international questions. Comrade Fidel Castro expressed the admiration of the Cuban people for the outstanding successes which the people of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen has achieved in that country in the course of its struggle to attain national independence and to achieve social progress and build a new life.

The delegation of the Cuban Communist Party and of the Government of the Republic again expressed the sincere feelings of the Cuban people and its Party and Government towards the Democratic Yemen people, UPONF and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

Comrade Abdul Fatah Ismail, Secretary-General of UPONF, speaking on behalf of that organization and of the Government of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, warmly praised the heroic role played by the Republic of Cuba, its Communist Party and its leader, Comrade Fidel Castro, in promoting and strengthening the socialist system in Cuba, and their resolute struggle in the face of reactionary imperialist aggression and conspiracies. He also praised Cuba's admirable position of international solidarity in support of the national liberation movement of the Arab peoples and of the rest of the world. The Democratic Yemen leaders expressed their deep appreciation for the firm support given by the Cuban Revolution in all fields.

The two sides agreed that the strong ties between the peoples of Democratic Yemen and Cuba were in accordance with the fundamental interests of both countries and the interests of all socialist and progressive countries, to which they were linked by a unity of objectives and principles, and accorded with the interests of international peace and security.

Both sides expressed their serious intention to make more active efforts to consolidate full and friendly co-operation between them and to strengthen existing bonds between the two fraternal peoples in order to expand the area of research and the exchange of experts in all fields through the organization of direct meetings between the leaders.

Exchanges of delegations of Parties, Governments and the masses would be arranged with a view to continuing the exchange of opinions and points of view on questions of common interest in both international and bilateral fields.

The Democratic Yemen side informed Comrade Fidel Castrol and the fraternal Cuban delegates of the successes achieved by Democratic Yemen in implementing the decisions and resolutions of the Unification Congress of UPONF, held in October 1975, and in the fulfilment of the five-year economic and social development plan for 1974-1978.

The Cuban side was also informed of the social and political development of

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Democratic Yemen and of the nature of the policy followed by the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen in matters relating to the evolution of the international situation and the Arab question, which are based on the principle of peaceful coexistence between States with different social systems.

For its part, the Cuban side highly commended the social changes in Democratic Yemen and the political positions of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen with regard to both Arab and international questions. It reaffirmed its full support for the struggle of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen to fulfil the tasks of the national democratic revolution.

It expressed its firm support for and solidarity with the struggle of the courageous Omani people, led by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman, for national liberation and the elimination of foreign bases and against the Iranian invasion and all forms of foreign hegemony over its soil.

In discussing the situation in the Middle East, the two sides agreed that it remains dangerous and threatens international peace, owing to the aggressive expansionist policy pursued by Israel and the imperialist and Zionist forces led by the United States of America. The goal of those forces is to break Arab solidarity. Both sides reaffirm their steadfast support for the Palestinian resistance movement led by the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people in its just anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist struggle. They also expressed their conviction that a just and lasting peace could not be achieved in that area without full withdrawal from the occupied Arab lands, elimination of the consequences of Israeli aggression and full establishment of the permanent and legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including its right to self-determination and its right to establish its National State in the liberated lands.

In the course of the discussions the two sides reviewed the evolution of the international situation and strongly condemned the policy of racial discrimination and apartheid in South Africa and Rhodesia, expressing their solidarity with the growing and just struggle of the Namibian, Zimbabwean and South African peoples to free themselves from colonial injustice, segregation and racial discrimination. Both sides praised the great victories of the valiant Angolan people under the leadership of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola. They also highly commended the successes achieved by the Angolan people and their choice of an independent path. Furthermore, they noted with satisfaction the socialist countries' positions of international solidarity with the national liberation movement in Africa and the rest of the world and the support of those countries for the just struggle of the people of Angola to attain national freedom, promote social progress and build a new society.

They also expressed their satisfaction and sympathy with regard to the results so far achieved by the peoples of Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde and Sao Tome and Principe in their efforts to secure national freedom and independence and social and economic progress. Both sides paid tribute to the historic victories of the Vietnamese, Lao and Cambodian peoples and expressed their full solidarity

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with the Chilean people in its courageous struggle in difficult circumstances against the Fascist military régime for the restoration of democratic life.

Both sides expressed their support for the just struggle of the people of Puerto Rico to end foreign domination and imperialist hegemony. They reaffirmed the need for the total elimination of the remnants of the colonial system and called for the immediate implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. They declared that they would continue to support the national liberation movement in Asia, Africa and Latin America and the struggle of all peoples seeking to win independence and national liberation and to put an end to all forms of injustice and oppression. Both sides praised the growing and effective role of the non-aligned movement and the increase in its members, which have heightened the importance of the movement and given it a positive dimension in the international policy of support for the struggle of the peoples that reject aggressive policies and imperialist interference in their internal affairs for their national independence and their right to dispose of their natural resources with a view to establishing a new economic order based on equality in international economic relations.

In discussing the relations of both countries with the socialist countries, they noted with complete satisfaction the development of those relations.

They praised the successes achieved by the socialist countries in all fields, including their prominent role in promoting peace and security on the continent of Europe. They emphasized their determination to continue strengthening their relations with the socialist countries, a determination deriving from the extreme importance of co-operation and unity between the socialist and progressive countries and the forces of national liberation.

Comrade Fidel Castro expressed his appreciation and gratitude for the warm welcome and hospitality which he and the members of the delegation had received during their visit to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and, on behalf of the Cuban Communist Party, the Council of State and the Council of Ministers, invited Comrades Abdul Fatah Ismail, Secretary-General of UPONF, Comrade Salem Robaya Ali, Assistant Secretary-General and Chairman of the Presidential Council, and Comrade Ali Nasser Mohamed, member of the Political Bureau and Prime Minister, to visit the fraternal Republic of Cuba. The invitation was accepted with pleasure, and the date of the visit will be decided subsequently.

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