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STRENGTHENING OF SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Ngaré KESSELY (Chad)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled "Strengthening of security and co-operation in the Mediterranean region: report of the Secretary-General" was included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 38/189 of 20 December 1983.
2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 1984, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.
3. The general debate and consideration of agenda item 67 took place at the 56th to 62nd meetings, held from 3 to 7 December 1984 (see A/C.1/39/PV.56-62).
4. In connection with item 67, the First Committee had before it the following documents:
 - (a) Report of the Secretary-General (A/39/517 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1);
 - (b) Letter dated 30 July 1984 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/39/366-S/16683);
 - (c) Letter dated 21 September 1984 from the Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, containing the text of

the Final Declaration adopted by the Mediterranean members of the Non-Aligned Movement on 11 September 1984, at the meeting held at the ministerial level at Valletta on 10 and 11 September 1984 (A/39/526-S/16758 and Corr.1);

(d) Letter dated 8 October 1984 from the Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, containing the Final Communiqué of the Meeting of Ministers and Heads of Delegation of the Non-Aligned Countries to the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly, held in New York from 1 to 5 October 1984 (A/39/560-S/16773);

(e) Letter dated 6 December 1984 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/39/808-S/16855).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS A/C.1/39/L.90 AND L.90/Rev.1

5. On 4 December, Algeria, Cyprus, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malta, Romania, Tunisia and Yugoslavia submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/39/L.90) entitled "Strengthening of security and co-operation in the Mediterranean region", which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling resolutions 36/102 of 9 December 1981, 37/118 of 16 December 1982 and 38/189 of 20 December 1983,

"Recognizing the importance of promoting peace and security in the Mediterranean region and of strengthening further the economic, commercial and cultural links in the region,

"Expressing concern over persistent and increasing tension in parts of the Mediterranean region and the consequent threat to peace,

"Considering that the freedom of the high seas in a closed sea like the Mediterranean should be exercised exclusively for the purposes of peace, and that naval deployment, particularly by States outside the region, which directly or indirectly threaten the interests of Mediterranean States, should be excluded,

"Considering in this regard the urgency for all States to conform in their actions with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and with the provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

"Reaffirming the need to promote security and to strengthen co-operation in the region, as provided for in the Mediterranean Chapter of the Helsinki Final Act,

"Recalling the declarations of successive meetings of non-aligned countries concerning the Mediterranean,

"Reaffirming the primary role of Mediterranean countries in the promotion of security and co-operation in the Mediterranean region,

"Welcoming in this connection the successful conclusion of the Meeting of the Mediterranean Members of the Non-Aligned Movement held in Valletta (Malta) on 10-11 September 1984, and the forward-looking decisions contained in the "Valletta Declaration for Mediterranean Peace" adopted on 11 September 1984, as an important contribution to the objective of peace and security in the Mediterranean,

"Taking into account the debate on this item during the various sessions of the General Assembly, and in particular taking note of the Secretary-General's report on this item, as contained in document A/39/517 dated 4 October 1984,

"1. Reaffirms:

"(a) That the security of the Mediterranean is closely linked with European security and with international peace and security;

"(b) That further efforts are necessary for the reduction of tension and of armaments and for the creation of conditions of security and fruitful co-operation in all fields for all countries and peoples of the Mediterranean, on the basis of the principles of sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity, security, non-intervention and non-interference, non-violation of international borders, non-use of threat or use of force, the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, peaceful settlement of disputes, and respect for permanent sovereignty over natural resources;

"(c) The need for just and viable solutions of existing problems and crises in the area on the basis of the provisions of the Charter and of relevant resolutions of the United Nations, the withdrawal of foreign forces of occupation, and the right of people under colonial or foreign domination to self-determination and independence;

"2. Welcomes any further submission, to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, from all States, of proposals, declarations and recommendations on strengthening peace, security and co-operation in the Mediterranean;

"3. Favours the concept of the Mediterranean as a region of peace, security and co-operation;

"4. Urges all States to strive for the achievement of peace and security in the Mediterranean as a contribution to world security, to give effect to the provisions of this resolution and to commitment undertaken in accordance with the declarations referred to therein, and to co-operate with Mediterranean States in the further efforts required to reduce tension and promote security in the region;

"5. Encourages, once again, efforts for intensifying existing and promoting new forms of co-operation in various fields, particularly those aimed at reducing tension and strengthening confidence and security in the region;

"6. Renews the invitation to the Secretary-General to give due attention to the question of peace, security and co-operation in the Mediterranean region and, if requested to do so, to render advice and assistance to concerted efforts by Mediterranean countries in promoting peace, security and co-operation in the region;

"7. Invites the relevant regional organizations to lend support and to submit to the Secretary-General concrete ideas and suggestions on their potential contribution to the strengthening of peace and co-operation in the Mediterranean region;

"8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fortieth session the item entitled 'Strengthening of Security and Co-operation in the Mediterranean Region'."

6. On 6 December, Algeria, Cyprus, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malta, Romania, Tunisia and Yugoslavia submitted a revised draft resolution entitled "Strengthening of security and co-operation in the Mediterranean region" (A/C.1.39/L.90/Rev.1), which was introduced by the representative of Malta at the 62nd meeting, on 7 December.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1.39/L.90/Rev.1 without a vote (see para. 9).

8. Before the Committee adopted the revised draft resolution, the representative of France explained his position. After the Committee adopted the revised draft resolution, the representatives of Turkey, Bulgaria and the United States of America explained their positions.

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

9. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Strengthening of security and co-operation in the Mediterranean region

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 36/102 of 9 December 1981, 37/118 of 16 December 1982 and 38/189 of 20 December 1983,

Recognizing the importance of promoting peace, security and co-operation in the Mediterranean region and of strengthening further the economic, commercial and cultural links in the region,

/...

Expressing concern over persistent and increasing tension in parts of the Mediterranean region and the consequent threat to peace,

Considering, in this regard, the urgency for all States to conform in their actions with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as with the provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, 1/

Reaffirming the need to promote security and to strengthen co-operation in the region, as provided for in the Mediterranean chapter of the Helsinki Final Act,

Recalling the declarations of successive meetings of non-aligned countries concerning the Mediterranean, as well as official declarations on, and contributions to, peace and security in the Mediterranean region made by individual countries,

Reaffirming the primary role of Mediterranean countries in the promotion of security and co-operation in the Mediterranean region,

Taking note in this connection of the conclusion of the Meeting of the Mediterranean members of the Movement of the Non-Aligned Countries, held at Valletta, Malta on 10 and 11 September 1984, and of the commitments assumed by the participants with the objective of contributing to peace and security in the region,

Taking note also of the debate on this item during the various sessions of the General Assembly and, in particular, of the report of the Secretary-General on this item, 2/

1. Reaffirms:

(a) That the security of the Mediterranean is closely linked with European security and with international peace and security;

(b) That further efforts are necessary for the reduction of tension and of armaments and for the creation of conditions of security and fruitful co-operation in all fields for all countries and peoples of the Mediterranean, on the basis of the principles of sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity, security, non-intervention and non-interference, non-violation of international borders, non-use of force or threat of use of force, the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, peaceful settlement of disputes and respect for permanent sovereignty over natural resources;

1/ Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

2/ A/39/517 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1

(c) The need for just and viable solutions of existing problems and crises in the area on the basis of the provisions of the Charter and of relevant resolutions of the United Nations, the withdrawal of foreign forces of occupation and the right of peoples under colonial or foreign domination to self-determination and independence;

2. Welcomes any further communication to the Secretary-General, from all States, of proposals, declarations and recommendations on strengthening peace, security and co-operation in the Mediterranean;

3. Urges all States to co-operate with the Mediterranean States in the further efforts required to reduce tension and promote peace, security and co-operation in the region in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and with the provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

4. Encourages once again efforts for intensifying existing and promoting new forms of co-operation in various fields, particularly those aimed at reducing tension and strengthening confidence and security in the region;

5. Renews the invitation to the Secretary-General to give due attention to the question of peace, security and co-operation in the Mediterranean region and, if requested to do so, to render advice and assistance to concerted efforts by Mediterranean countries in promoting peace, security and co-operation in the region;

6. Invites the member States of the relevant regional organizations to lend support and to submit to the Secretary-General concrete ideas and suggestions on their potential contribution to the strengthening of peace and co-operation in the Mediterranean region;

7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fortieth session the item entitled "Strengthening of security and co-operation in the Mediterranean region".
