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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING
OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Alvaro de SOTO (Peru)

1. The item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security: report of the Secretary-General" was included in the provisional agenda of the twenty-eighth session of the General Assembly in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2993 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972.
2. At its 2123rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 1973, the General Assembly decided, upon the recommendation of the General Committee, to include the item in the agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee for consideration and report.
3. The First Committee considered the item at its 1971st to 1976th meetings, from 28 November to 4 December, and at its 1979th, 1983rd and 1984th meetings, on 5 and 10 December.
4. The First Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/9129) submitted in accordance with paragraph 6 of resolution 2993 (XXVII).
5. In connexion with this item, the following documents were also circulated:
 - (a) Letter dated 24 January 1973 from the Permanent Representatives of Pakistan and Romania to the Secretary-General (A/9038);
 - (b) Letters dated 9 April 1973 from the Permanent Representatives of Romania and the Sudan to the Secretary-General (A/9057 and Corr.1);
 - (c) Letters dated 18 June 1973 from the Permanent Representatives of Iran and Romania to the Secretary-General (A/9078);

- (d) Letters dated 22 June 1973 from the Permanent Representatives of Romania and the Upper Volta to the Secretary-General (A/9083);
- (e) Letter dated 16 August 1973 from the Deputy Permanent Representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the Secretary-General (A/9122-S/10999);
- (f) Letters dated 18 October 1973 from the Permanent Representatives of Romania and Venezuela to the Secretary-General (A/C.1/1037);
- (g) Letters dated 31 October 1973 from the Permanent Representatives of Colombia and Romania to the Secretary-General (A/C.1/1040);
- (h) Letters dated 7 November 1973 from the Permanent Representatives of Costa Rica and Romania to the Secretary-General (A/C.1/1041).

6. On 5 December, Afghanistan, Algeria, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Ethiopia, Guinea, India, Kuwait, Liberia, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nigeria, Peru, Poland, Romania, Senegal, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Yugoslavia and Zambia submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/L.670) which, subsequently, was also sponsored by Brazil, Cameroon, Cuba, Guyana, Indonesia, and the Sudan. The draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Algeria at the 1979th meeting, on 5 December.

7. On 10 December, Cyprus, Kenya and Malta submitted a draft resolution (A/C.1/L.672), which read as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Having considered the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security",

"Considering the present stage of awareness regarding the growing dangers from the deterioration of the physical environment and the new threats posed thereby to the life and security of the peoples of all nations,

"Having regard to the connexion of this new danger with the question of international security and its strengthening,

"Realizing that at the time when the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security was adopted there was not sufficient world awareness of the new threats to the life and security of nations from increasing pollution of the environment,

"Having in mind that the international community became aware in more concrete terms of these new threats as a result of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment and the Declaration of that Conference,

/...

"1. Affirms that international security in the present realities of our contemporary world necessarily includes the security of nations and peoples from serious dangers threatening their physical environment - the very source of their life;

"2. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare, with the co-operation of the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, a study on the relation of the environmental aspect of security to the whole problem involved in the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security and submit a relevant report to the General Assembly at its next session."

This draft resolution was introduced by the representative of Cyprus at the 1984th meeting, on 10 December.

8. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the 29-Power draft resolution (A/C.1/L.670) by 69 votes to 2, with 17 abstentions (see paragraph 10 below).

9. At the same meeting, it was agreed that consideration of the three-Power draft resolution (A/C.1/L.672) would be postponed until the next session of the General Assembly.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

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

Implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security",

Bearing in mind the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security, contained in General Assembly resolution 2734 (XXV) of 16 December 1970, and recalling Assembly resolutions 2880 (XXVI) of 21 December 1971 and 2993 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972 concerning the implementation of the Declaration,

Noting the various initiatives that have been taken, in particular on the European continent, with a view to promoting détente and peaceful coexistence and the emergence of encouraging trends in relations between States at the bilateral, regional and multilateral levels,

Noting also, in this regard, that the Security Council held, from 15 to 21 March 1973, a series of meetings to consider measures for the maintenance and the strengthening of international peace and security in Latin America and adopted resolution 330 (1973) of 21 March 1973,

/...

Emphasizing, however, the existence of focal points of war and tension stemming from acts of aggression, the threat or use of force, and alien domination and foreign occupation, interference in internal affairs and the continued existence of colonialism, neo-colonialism, racial discrimination and apartheid,

Emphasizing the close link existing between the strengthening of international security, disarmament, decolonization, economic development and the need for a more intensive international effort to narrow the constantly widening gap between the developed and the developing countries,

Convinced that the United Nations should play a more positive role in promoting improvement of the international situation and a lessening of threats to international peace and security, and that it can become a useful forum of universalization of positive achievements in relations among States,

1. Solemnly reaffirms all the principles and provisions contained in the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security and urgently appeals to all States to implement and adhere to all the provisions of the Declaration unswervingly and without delay, to broaden the scope of détente to cover the entire world and to reaffirm the principles of friendly relations 1/ as the basis of relations between States, irrespective of their political, economic and social systems;

2. Expresses the hope that the favourable trends currently emerging in bilateral, regional and multilateral relations, including the establishment of zones of peace and co-operation in various parts of the world, will be maintained and that efforts along these lines will be pursued and intensified so as to promote the strengthening of international security, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

3. Reaffirms the recommendation that all States should contribute to the efforts to assure peace and security for all nations and to establish, in accordance with the Charter, an effective system of universal collective security without military alliances;

4. Reaffirms that all States have the right to participate on a basis of equality in the settlement of major international problems in accordance with the principles of the Charter so that peace and security will be based on effective respect for the sovereignty and independence of each State and the inalienable right of each people to determine its own destiny freely and without outside interference, coercion or pressure;

5. Reaffirms that any measure or pressure directed against any State while exercising its sovereign right freely to dispose of its natural resources constitutes a flagrant violation of the right of self-determination of peoples and the principle of non-intervention, as set forth in the Charter, which, if pursued, could constitute a threat to international peace and security;

1/ See General Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV).

6. Appeals to all militarily significant States to exert efforts in order to extend the political détente so far achieved to military détente, to stop the arms race as well as to take practical steps to reduce armament, with a view to making available additional resources for economic and social development, particularly to the developing countries;

7. Reaffirms the legitimacy of the struggle of peoples under alien domination to achieve self-determination and independence and appeals to all States to implement the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the other resolutions of the United Nations on the elimination of colonialism, racism and apartheid;

8. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General 2/ and requests him to submit to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security;

9. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its twenty-ninth session the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security".

2/ A/9129.