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New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 10th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. SOMAVIA (Chile)

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The meeting was called to order at 6.15 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 88: ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES FOR THE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS OF POLITICAL, MILITARY, ECONOMIC AND OTHER FORMS OF ASSISTANCE GIVEN TO THE RACIST AND COLONIALIST REGIME OF SOUTH AFRICA (continued) (A/45/552)

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1. Mr. SEZAKI (Japan) speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the statement made on the previous Friday by the Special Rapporteur might have caused certain misapprehensions regarding Japan's policy toward South Africa. Although the Japanese Government believed that the economic prosperity of the world was best served by a free trade system, its abhorrence of apartheid ensured its strict adherence to the various resolutions adopted against that policy. It had accordingly implemented several trade control measures, in addition to those already applied to diplomacy, investment, sport, and cultural and educational exchange. Japan had consistently complied with the United Nations arms embargo against South Africa and had banned the export of computers and the import of iron and steel.

2. Following the Japanese Government's appeals to its business community to exercise restraint towards South Africa, trade with that country had decreased significantly between 1987 and 1989, in the context of a general increase in Japan's total trade, and currently constituted a mere 0.77 per cent of Japan's total trade volume.

3. Mr. WARADI (Fiji), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the comments by the representative of India constituted an unwarranted interference in the internal affairs of his country. Fiji had made excellent progress in the complex task of reconciling the different groups in its society without bloodshed, in stark contrast to India, with its unenviable record of violence and human rights violations. The President of Fiji, when promulgating Fiji's Constitution earlier in the year, had noted the problems the country faced in striking a balance between the two major groups in its multiracial society. The indigenous inhabitants were in the minority and it was therefore necessary to protect their culture and even their very existence. For that reason, the new Constitution emphasized the protection of all rights and freedoms, regardless of race, colour, sex, place of origin or political and religious persuasion. The record of the last three years

(Mr. Waradi, Fiji)

showed that Fiji was working out its differences and did not therefore need to be admonished by States whose record of human rights abuses filled many volumes.

4. Mr. AL SAUD (Saudi Arabia), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the representative of Iraq had had the audacity to describe the presence of an international force in the Gulf area as an occupation of sacred lands. Those lands were in fact in the hands of people responsible to God, namely, the Saudi Government, which had been forced by Iraq's aggression to have recourse to assistance from the multinational force. That force was stationed thousands of kilometres from the holy places and its mandate was to preserve peace and security in the region.

5. The participation of 26 countries in the peace-keeping force was a clear indication of the unswerving commitment of the international community to side with Kuwait. All attempts by Iraq to assert its own righteousness and to put others in the wrong must be seen as diversionary tactics, aimed at covering up its own criminal actions. He insisted that Iraq must accept immediate withdrawal, in order that Kuwait could recover its sovereignty and dignity as a nation.

6. Mr. MARKS (United States of America), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that there was some truth in the allegation by the representative of Iraq that his country was the victim of a world-wide conspiracy led by the United States. There was indeed a world-wide effort to force Iraq to rescind its occupation of Kuwait, exemplified by the world-wide embargo of Iraq. The solution to Iraq's problem was simple: it must end its aggression against Kuwait and withdraw its troops. That was the position of the United States Government and of the international community.

7. Mr. GVIR (Israel), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the inflammatory defamations concerning Israel made by the representative of Libya had not come as a surprise, for Libya advocated the destruction of Israel and its President had repeatedly incited the Arab world to slaughter and deport all Jews from the territory of Israel. In statements made earlier in the year, the Libyan President had said the liberation of Palestine was merely a matter of time and that Palestine would be a grave for the Jews. The Libyan leader had called for the abolition of Israel, warning that Palestine would be another oven for the Jews if they did not leave it in time. He had even proposed Alaska, Estonia or Lithuania as good places for the Jews to settle.

8. It was clear, therefore, that the Libyan concepts of peace, diplomacy and human relations differed markedly from those of enlightened nations. The essence of the Qaddafi régime consisted in its pursuit of power, the practice of coercion, threats, swaggering and aggression, the destabilization of neighbouring States, the stockpiling of chemical arms and nerve gas, the kidnapping of foreign nationals and the use of assassination squads. Libya had become the powerhouse and focal point of international terrorism, with responsibility for terrorist acts perpetrated throughout the world. Terrorist crimes were the hallmark of Libyan diplomacy and Libya was the very embodiment of evil in the eyes of the world.

(Mr. Gvir, Israel)

9. He wondered if the representative of Libya could explain the need to stockpile 1,000 tons of plastic explosives, sufficient to destroy all the airliners ever made. If those materials were intended for pharmaceutical purposes, it was to be wondered whether their customers might include such organizations as the Irish Republican Army, the Red Brigade or the Palestinian terrorist factions.
10. Mr. ZAFIR-UL-HAQ (Pakistan), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the Indian allegations that Pakistan was interfering in Kashmir, and therefore in the internal affairs of India, were utterly baseless. Pakistan supported the establishment of an impartial international observer group in the region to investigate such allegations but India had opposed it. He regretted that the issue of Kashmir remained very timely and that a large number of people had been killed in the conflict over the past 10 months.
11. In view of the bloodshed in the region, the Indian Government had been exhorted to redouble its efforts to establish political dialogue and Indian allegations of interference were merely an effort to sidestep the issue.
12. Despite efforts by India to persuade the world to the contrary, Pakistan had always maintained that Kashmir was not an integral part of India. India had brought the Kashmir issue to the United Nations as long ago as 1947 but had rejected all the relevant United Nations resolutions. The matter could have been resolved long ago, if the General Assembly and Security Council mechanisms, which had proved successful in India and Pakistan, had been allowed to bring Kashmir to self-determination. India, however, had refused to co-operate and to abide by its solemn commitments to the United Nations and to the world.
13. Pakistan had repeatedly drawn the attention of the Indian delegation to the provisions of the General Assembly and Security Council resolutions calling for the demilitarization of the entire Kashmir region.
14. Mr. ALLAFI (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the response to the Zionist representative's stereotyped speech could be found in thousands of pages of United Nations documents which showed who was being slanderous. The Zionist representative's comments regarding statements made by Mr. Qaddafi were totally incorrect. Unless a solution was found to the problem which the Jews themselves had created, the result would be a catastrophe for the Jews.
15. Israeli laws discriminated against the Palestinians in the occupied territories. Zionism perpetrated institutionalized Israeli racism, in particular, through the law of return of 1955 and the law on nationality of 1952, which applied different rules to Jewish and non-Jewish immigrants with respect to citizenship.
16. Mr. JOUSHAN (Afghanistan), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said, with reference to the statement by the representative of Pakistan, that any interference in Afghanistan was contrary to the Geneva Agreements on the Settlement of the Situation Relating to Afghanistan, of which Pakistan was a signatory. The Government of his country had notified the Office of the Representative of the

(Mr. Joushan, Afghanistan)

Secretary-General in Afghanistan and Pakistan of over 1500 violations by Pakistan. He failed to see how the military circles of Pakistan, which had again sabotaged the will of the people of Pakistan by dissolving the civilian Government, could claim to speak on behalf of the Afghan people.

17. Mr. MENON (India), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that selective references by the representative of Pakistan in support of false arguments did not make them true. Pakistan persisted in stoking the fires of confrontation and hostility in the region, and the fact that the representative of Pakistan had just referred to other parts of India betrayed his country's motives. He urged Pakistan to listen to reason and abandon its misguided attempts to secure short-term gains through its interference in Jammu and Kashmir. Pakistan should join his own country in building relationships based on confidence and co-operation in a changing world.

18. In reply to the statement by the representative of Fiji, he said that his delegation had referred to State-inspired discrimination in that country against one of its own communities. The events in India's open society, in which all human rights were constitutionally ensured, were simply an expression of those rights and bore no resemblance whatsoever to the selective promotion and corresponding suppression of human rights by the authorities concerned in Fiji.

19. Mr. MOHAMMED (Iraq), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the United States representative had sought to accuse others in an effort to falsify reality. United States forces had occupied sacred Arab lands with a view to realizing an old dream of bringing the Arab nation under the United States yoke in order to protect zionism and allow the Zionists to perpetrate the genocide of the Palestinians and achieve their expansionist dreams by conquering Palestine. The United States occupation was protecting those who sold oil and had delivered the Islamic holy lands to foreigners. The United States was also trampling on the human rights and the right to self-determination of the Palestinian peoples.

20. Moreover, the United States had sought to remove all substance from the Security Council resolution condemning the recent Israeli aggression against Palestinians in the occupied territories, and the United States was endeavouring to use the Security Council as a shield to hide its true designs. The United States had enforced an embargo against Iraq even before the Security Council had adopted the relevant resolution, thus depriving the population of food. The United States administration was opposing all positive efforts to achieve peace.

21. Mr. Gvir (Israel), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the Iraqi representative's slanderous defamation of Israel had nothing to do with the Committee's agenda and could easily be refuted. However, he preferred to leave the task of quarrelling with the representative of Iraq to the representative of Kuwait, whose very moving statement showed how Iraq had systematically violated the national sovereignty and territorial integrity of Kuwait and trampled upon every human right of that brotherly Arab people. He extended his most sincere congratulations to the representative of Kuwait for having so masterfully discharged himself of his duties.

22. Mr. ZAFAR-UL-HAQ (Pakistan), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, assured the representative of India that Pakistan sincerely desired to normalize relations with India; however, that would happen only if India did not seek a military solution to the Kashmir dispute.

23. With regard to the remarks by the Kabul representative, he said that that speaker's reference to so-called military circles in Pakistan indicated that he was ignorant of the situation in his country. Pakistan had an elected president and an elected government. As to the comments concerning the dismissal of an elected government, the steps taken to lead to new elections were fully in accord with the Pakistan Constitution and had been upheld as such by the judiciary. The civilian government was functioning.

24. The fundamental cause of the conflict in Afghanistan was the failure of the Kabul régime to come to terms with the fact that that régime was not acceptable to any segment of the Afghan nation except the coterie of party followers. Peace and stability could be restored in Afghanistan only if power was transferred to a broad-based government acceptable to the Afghan people, as called for in General Assembly resolution 44/15. His country would continue consistently to support the right of the Afghan people to self-determination, free from any outside intervention or coercion.

25. Mr. AL SAUD (Saudi Arabia), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that his earlier reply to the representative of the Iraqi régime was sufficient. He urged that representative to show respect for the members of the Committee and refrain from diatribes and falsifications.

26. Mr. RAZZOQKI (Kuwait), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that he would not dignify the representative of Iraq with a reply to the lies he had stated. Addressing himself to the Chairman, he emphasized that the heart of the issue was the occupation and pillaging of Kuwait, and he called for the implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions. Citing a statement by the British Foreign Secretary, Mr. Douglas Hurd, he emphasized that the Iraqis must be made to realize that they must leave Kuwait and that it would be better if they did so peacefully.

27. Mr. WARADI (Fiji), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that he had not been surprised at the statement of the representative of India. Mutual respect, tolerance and understanding had characterized the happy co-existence of the people of Fiji for over 100 years. The people of Fiji would continue to work together for a prosperous, united and peaceful nation. His country had made good progress towards that goal and its record spoke for itself.

28. The CHAIRMAN said that the Committee had now concluded its general discussion of the first cluster of agenda items.

The meeting rose at 7.10 p.m.