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URGENT NEED FOR SUSPENSION OF NUCLEAR AND THERMONUCLEAR TESTS

Letter dated 10 July 1972 to the Secretary-General from the Permanent
Representative of Peru to the United Nations

I have the honour to convey to you herewith the text of the Declaration of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the countries that are parties to the Cartagena Agreement on nuclear explosions in the Pacific, signed at Lima on 21 June 1972.

I would be grateful if you could have this Declaration circulated to all Member States of the United Nations as a document of the General Assembly, under the item "Urgent need for suspension of nuclear and thermonuclear tests".

(Signed) Javier PEREZ DE CUELLAR
Permanent Representative

^{*} A/8700.

DECLARATION OF THE MINISTERS FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE COUNTRIES THAT ARE PARTIES TO THE CARTAGENA AGREEMENT ON NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS IN THE PACIFIC

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Bolivia, Chile, Columbia, Ecuador and Peru, assembled at Lima for the Third Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Andean Group, noted that the French Government has declared an area of the South Pacific dangerous for shipping and aircraft, thereby clearly indicating that nuclear tests will be carried out in the Mururoa atoll.

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Andean Group condemn such tests for they pose a threat to human life today and to the health of future generations, as well as to the normal development of the animal and vegetable species of the Earth and particularly of that region, and introduce elements of environmental contamination that disturb the ecological balance of the South Pacific.

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Andean Group consider that these experiments do not contribute in any way toward the strengthening of international peace but require vast expenditures which should be spent instead on the enormous task of development, which is the most positive way to bring about peace and the well-being of mankind. The resolutions adopted in that connexion by the United Nations General Assembly, together with the outcome of the recent United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, confirm this declaration and place on the Ministers the responsibility for demanding the immediate suspension of these nuclear tests.

Lima, 21 June 1972

Mario Gutiérrez Gutiérrez, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bolivia

Clodomiro Almeyda Medina, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Chile Alfredo Vásquez Carrizosa, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Columbia

Antonio José Lucio Paredes, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ecuador

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