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Thirty-fifth session

REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ITEM IN THE PROVISIONAL
AGENDA OF THE THIRTY-FIFTH SESSION

THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR
INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

Letter dated 16 July 1980 from the representatives of Bangladesh, Colombia, Costa Rica, Egypt, Fiji, the Gambia, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Nepal, the Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Qatar, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, the Sudan, Suriname, Thailand, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates and Uruguay to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the Governments of Bangladesh, Colombia, Costa Rica, Egypt, Fiji, the Gambia, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Nepal, the Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Qatar, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, the Sudan, Suriname, Thailand, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates and Uruguay, we have the honour to request the inclusion in the provisional agenda of the thirty-fifth session of the General Assembly of an item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security".

In accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, an explanatory memorandum is attached.

(Signed) Khwaja Mohammed KAISER (Bangladesh)

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ANNEX

Explanatory memorandum

1. In the wake of foreign armed intervention in Afghanistan in December 1979, 52 Member States of the United Nations requested an urgent meeting of the Security Council to consider the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security. In response to this request, the Security Council met from 5 to 9 January 1980. At its 2190th meeting on 9 January 1980, the Security Council, taking into account that the lack of unanimity of its permanent members had prevented it from exercising its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, decided to call an emergency special session of the General Assembly to examine the situation in Afghanistan (resolution 462 (1980)).
2. Accordingly, the sixth emergency special session of the General Assembly was held from 11 to 14 January 1980. On 14 January, the Assembly adopted resolution ES-6/2 entitled "The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security".
3. Resolution ES-6/2, inter alia, called for the immediate, unconditional and total withdrawal of the foreign troops from Afghanistan in order to enable its people to determine their own form of government and choose their economic, political and social systems free from outside intervention, subversion, coercion or constraint of any kind whatsoever. It also urged all parties concerned to assist in bringing about, speedily and in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter, conditions necessary for the voluntary return of the Afghan refugees to their homes. The General Assembly specifically requested the Secretary-General to keep Member States and the Security Council promptly and concurrently informed on the progress towards the implementation of the resolution.
4. Since the adoption of resolution ES-6/2 last January, the situation in Afghanistan has been a principal concern at the subsidiary bodies of the United Nations as well as other important international forums. A number of proposals have also been made with a view to finding a political solution to the Afghanistan crisis, notably an important initiative taken by the Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers held at Islamabad from 17 to 22 May 1980 to set up a Standing Committee with the mandate to find a just and honourable solution to the problem.
5. The continued presence of the foreign armed forces in Afghanistan and the continued exodus of Afghan nationals from Afghanistan to take refuge in Pakistan remain a grave threat to regional as well as international peace and security. Keeping in view the serious implications for international peace and security, it is imperative that the General Assembly remain seized of the matter and the Member States give full consideration to the situation in Afghanistan at the thirty-fifth session of the Assembly.
