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PROTECTION AND SECURITY OF SMALL STATES

Report of the Special Political Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Ehab FAWZY (Egypt)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The item entitled "Protection and security of small States" was included in the provisional agenda of the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 44/51 of 8 December 1989.
2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 20 September 1991, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the Special Political Committee.
3. The Special Political Committee considered the item at its 5th and 6th meetings, on 15 and 17 October (see A/SPC/46/SR.5 and 6).
4. The Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/46/339).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/SPC/46/L.3

5. At the 5th meeting, on 15 October 1991, the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Maldives introduced a draft resolution (A/SPC/46/L.3) sponsored by Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belize, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cyprus, Djibouti, Fiji, the Gambia, Grenada, Guyana, Lesotho, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, the United Arab Emirates

and Vanuatu, subsequently joined by Afghanistan, Bahrain, Barbados, Bhutan, Dominica, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama, the Philippines, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sierra Leone, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Viet Nam and Yemen.

6. At its 6th meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote (see para. 8).

7. The representative of Sweden made a statement in connection with the draft resolution.

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE

8. The Special Political Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Protection and security of small States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 44/51 of 8 December 1989, in which it recognized that small States may be particularly vulnerable to external threats and acts of interference in their internal affairs,

Reaffirming its commitment to international peace and security,

Recalling the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, 1/

Conscious that small States may be particularly vulnerable to external threats and acts of interference in their internal affairs and may have special needs consonant with the right to sovereignty and territorial integrity,

Concerned at the danger that mercenaries and terrorists, as well as drug traffickers, can represent for small States,

Condemning all acts of aggression, including those against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of small States,

1/ Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General 2/ on the implementation of resolution 44/51,

1. Expresses its deep appreciation to the Secretary-General for the report on the implementation of resolution 44/51;
2. Recognizes that small States may be particularly vulnerable to external threats and acts of interference in their internal affairs;
3. Stresses the vital importance for all States of the unconditional respect by all States of all the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, including the principle of sovereign equality, territorial integrity, non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries and the peaceful settlement of disputes, and their consistent application;
4. Stresses also the importance of strengthening the regional security arrangements by increasing interaction, cooperation and consultation;
5. Appeals to the relevant regional and international organizations to provide assistance when requested by small States for the strengthening of their security in accordance with the principles of the Charter;
6. Urges the Secretary-General to continue to pay special attention to monitoring the security situation of small States and to consider making use of the provisions of Article 99 of the Charter;
7. Invites the Secretary-General to continue to explore ways and means, within the United Nations and in accordance with the Charter, of preserving the security of small States;
8. Requests the Secretary-General to continue his consultations with the members of the Security Council and other interested Governments, taking into account the changing international climate and the emergence of new States, and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;
9. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-ninth session the item entitled "Protection and security of small States".
