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The enclosed communication, dated 25 July 1977, is transmitted to the Permanent Missions of the States Members of the United Nations at the request of the representatives of Benin and Portugal to the United Nations.

26 July 1977

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Translated from French

Permanent Mission of Portugal
to the United Nations

Permanent Mission of the People's
Republic of Benin to the
United Nations

New York, 25 July 1977

Sir,

We have the honour to inform you that on 25 July 1977 the Governments of Portugal and of the People's Republic of Benin simultaneously issued a joint communiqué concerning the establishment of diplomatic relations. The text is as follows:

"The Governments of Portugal and of the People's Republic of Benin have agreed to establish bonds of friendship and co-operation on the basis of the principles of equality, reciprocal interests, mutual respect and national sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference in internal affairs.

Desiring to attain this objective, the two Governments have decided to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level."

We also request you to transmit the text of this communiqué to the Permanent Missions of States Members of the United Nations.

We take this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of our highest consideration.

(Signed) Vasco Futscher Pereira
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Portugal
to the United Nations

(Signed) Patrice Houngavou
Counsellor
Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the
People's Republic of Benin to
the United Nations