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

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-second year

Letter dated 7 December 1987 from the Permanent Representative of
Denmark to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a declaration on Afghanistan by the Heads of States and Governments of the twelve States members of the European Community, of which Denmark is currently the President, which was issued after the meeting of the European Council at Copenhagen on 4 and 5 December 1987 (see annex).

I would appreciate the circulation of the text of this letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 31, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ole BIERRING
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Denmark
to the United Nations

ANNEX

Declaration on Afghanistan issued by the Heads of States and Governments of the twelve States members of the European Community meeting in the European Council at Copenhagen on 4 and 5 December 1987

The European Council examined the situation in Afghanistan, which remains an important source of international tension eight years after the invasion by Soviet troops. The Twelve pay tribute to the Afghan people's spirit of independence. They also acknowledge the courage of the people of Pakistan, which has suffered so much as a result of this conflict, and the generous assistance provided by that country to more than three million Afghan refugees.

The Twelve support the persistent efforts of the Secretary-General and his personal representative to find a negotiated solution that would put an end to the tragic human suffering and the continuing violations of human rights in Afghanistan, allow the refugees to return and restore Afghanistan as a genuinely independent and non-aligned country. The principles that must underlie a settlement have once more been overwhelmingly endorsed at this year's General Assembly.

The Twelve take note that Soviet leaders have announced their intention to find a political solution in Afghanistan. They believe there should now be an urgent new impetus in the peace negotiations and call on the Soviet Union to:

- (a) Withdraw all its troops by a date in 1988 according to a fixed timetable;
- (b) Agree to the establishment of a transitional government, whose independence could not be contested, to make preparations for a new constitution and a genuine act of self-determination;
- (c) Recognize that the participation of the Afghan resistance is essential to a comprehensive political settlement.

The Twelve remain ready to contribute constructively towards the achievement of an acceptable settlement, which would bring about a significant improvement in international relations.
