



UNITED NATIONS  
GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY



Distr.  
GENERAL

A/35/396  
12 August 1980

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Thirty-fifth session  
Item 50 of the provisional agenda\*

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON  
THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Letter dated 9 August 1980 from the Permanent Representative of Ethiopia  
to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of a communication addressed to you by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Socialist Ethiopia, His Excellency Colonel Feleke Gedle-Giorgis, and kindly request you to circulate it as an official document of the General Assembly under item 50 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Mohamed Hamid IBRAHIM  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative

\* A/35/150.

ANNEX

Communication from the Minister for Foreign Affairs  
of Ethiopia to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your urgent attention the following developments which have seriously undermined peace and stability in our region posing a serious threat to the maintenance of international peace and security.

In contemptuous violation of the Charters and Decisions of the United Nations and the O. A. U., as well as the principles of the Non-Aligned Movement, and notwithstanding the great loss of life and the vast destruction of property amounting to billions of dollars that the invading army brought about in the eastern and south eastern Administrative Regions of Ethiopia by its war of aggression waged against Ethiopia in 1977-78, the Government of Somalia still continues to uphold its obsession for territorial expansion and self-aggrandizement at the expense of all its neighbours.

Oblivious to international public opinion, which has emphatically condemned its unprovoked aggression against my country, and unable to learn from the ignominious defeat it suffered at the hands of the revolutionary army of Ethiopia, the Government of Somalia has, over the last several months, been carrying out provocative activities by infiltrating thousands of its regular troops into Ethiopia for the deliberate purpose of sabotage, subversion, destruction and brazen aggression.

Having repulsed the invading army, Ethiopia had exercised maximum restraint by ordering her defence forces to stop at the common boundary. My Government had also laid the clear and just conditions for the restoration of regional peace, stability and harmony, based on the cardinal principles of respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of states as well as the inviolability of state-frontiers, non-use of force and non-interference in the internal affairs of others.

The Government of Somalia has not only failed to respond to our call for peace, but also continued to indulge in numerous fabrications intended to mislead and hoodwink world public opinion and thus pave the way for its latest brazen aggression against Ethiopia.

Its endless but spurious complaint to the United Nations regarding alleged attacks by Ethiopia and its pretensions that it has been flooded by millions of Ethiopian refugees for the purpose of seeking, acquiring and diverting international humanitarian assistance to supply its forces of aggression are the most conspicuous recent examples of its hypocrisy. The Government of Mogadisho and those imperialist powers obsessed solely with the acquisition of military bases for use as springboards of aggression and destabilization are entirely responsible for the dire consequences that these actions pose for the maintenance of international peace and security.

Unable to realize its expansionist objectives through the subversive activities of its previously infiltrated soldiers and agents, the Government in Mogadisho has more recently launched an open aggression against Ethiopia; once again, it has massively deployed its regular forces fully equipped with the latest and most lethal weapons, including several types of missiles, light and heavy artillery, tanks, armoured cars, 106 mm. recoilers anti-tank guns, diverse explosives and mines as well as numerous other weapons of U.S. and NATO origin.

Fully mechanized advance units numbering 14,000, with three infantry divisions in the rearguard, had five times mounted a four-pronged assault on the town of Warder in the Ogaden. Participating in this full-scale invasion were the 3rd, 4th, 5th infantry divisions, six infantry brigades, one commando brigade, one police combat brigade and one mechanized brigade with 60 Italian-made vehicles; four artillery battalions each armed with eighteen 122 mm. artillery pieces had taken part in the aggression.

Engaged by units of the Ethiopian revolutionary army the invading forces suffered 1,326 dead, 2,092 wounded and eighteen officers and men as well as a considerable cache of sophisticated weapons and other lethal military hardware were either destroyed or captured.

The origins of the sophisticated weapons captured from the invading forces clearly demonstrate that the Government in Mogadisho is in full collusion with imperialism which is openly aiding and abetting Somalia's expansionist ambitions to advance its own strategic interests in the area.

The aim and purpose of Somalia's latest desperate attempt is to undermine the consolidation of the Ethiopian Revolution and the progress being made in the field of economic and social development. Ethiopia's peaceful efforts in promoting the spirit of understanding, co-operation and good-neighbourly relations with its other immediate neighbours has further heated-up Somalia's frustration.

Since the defeat of its army in 1978, Siad Barre's regime has also been seriously threatened by internal opposition and strife which have been aggravated by the ill-fated adventures it continues to pursue and by its gross economic mismanagement. Bent on diverting public attention from the mounting domestic problems facing it, Siad Barre's regime has been deliberately sending its opponents on impossible missions of conquest with a clear purpose of having them eliminated in the process.

Being fully cognizant that one objective of the Government of Somalia is to provoke Ethiopia into crossing the common boundary and capitalise on the consequences of such an action, we shall continue to exercise self-restraint. However, the international community must realise that our patience is not boundless. The world community, instead of contenting itself with mere condemnation of Somalia's aggression, should also take a firm stand with the view to deterring their repetition in the future.

The series of escalating aggressions committed by Somalia against Ethiopia poses a serious threat to the maintenance of international peace and security. I have the honour, therefore, to request Your Excellency to circulate the text of this communication to all member states of the Organization.

Highest consideration,

Feleke Gedle-Giorgis  
Minister for Foreign Affairs  
of Socialist Ethiopia

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