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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE
STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-first year

Letter dated 27 July 1976 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of Morocco to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the message addressed by the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Morocco to His Highness Prince Sadruddin Agha Khan, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, on 26 July 1976.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and the text of the message distributed as an official document of the General Assembly, under item 33 of the provisional agenda, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohamed Saleh ZAIMI
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/31/150.

ANNEX

Message dated 26 July 1976 from the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs
of Morocco to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Following the talks which have just taken place at Rabat between His Majesty King Hassan II and His Excellency President Moktar Ould Daddah, a joint communiqué was issued on 23 July 1976.

This document contains, inter alia,

1. An appeal to native Saharans currently in the Tindouf area, and
2. An invitation to the competent international organizations of a humanitarian character to co-operate with the Moroccan and Mauritanian Governments with a view to ensuring the repatriation of such persons.

The relevant passages are quoted below:

"The two Heads of State, fully aware of the great poverty in which a number of native Saharans are living in the Tindouf area, address an urgent appeal to them to return to their respective countries, where they guarantee that they will be welcomed with all the concern which their situation warrants. It is henceforth the duty of these Saharans not to live on international charity in a foreign country, but to return to their homes and families and take part in the development and prosperity of their homelands, beside their Moroccan and Mauritanian brothers, in a climate of freedom and dignity.

"The Kingdom of Morocco and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania have decided to do everything in their power to ensure the repatriation of their nationals, in close co-operation with the competent international organizations of a humanitarian character. They invite those organizations to help them to put an end to the tragic situation of these Saharans, and assure them of their determination to provide all facilities and guarantees which will enable these men, women and children, born in the Sahara, to rejoin the society to which they belong and to live among their own people in peace and freedom."

The importance of the declarations and commitments contained in this text will not escape your notice. They are designed to provide a definitive solution to this problem in optimum conditions. They should meet your concerns and are of a nature that should satisfy them fully.

It is certainly high time to put an end to the isolation and suffering of the people concerned. The sole aims of all action on their behalf should henceforth be their interests, their health, their welfare and their reinstallation among their own people. That is, in any event, a major concern of the Moroccan and Mauritanian Governments.

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The Government of His Majesty the King declares itself to be ready to define, with the competent international organizations, the conditions which will ensure the repatriation of the displaced persons of the Sahara, and to make the practical arrangements for carrying out such an operation, so that it may take place with all the necessary guarantees and in a climate of dignity and freedom. In that connexion, we shall not fail to appreciate any effort that you may wish to make to that end and shall welcome with interest any suggestion relating to this matter that you may wish to make.

Ahmed LARAKI
