



UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL
ASSEMBLY



Distr.
GENERAL

A/36/376
25 September 1981
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC/ENGLISH/
FRENCH/RUSSIAN/
SPANISH

Thirty-sixth session
Agenda item 57

DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF GOOD-NEIGHBOURLINESS
BETWEEN STATES

Report of the Secretary-General

CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
I. INTRODUCTION	3
II. REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS	4
Bangladesh	4
Benin	6
Costa Rica	7
Cuba	8
Dominican Republic	9
Ecuador	10
Equatorial Guinea	14
Ethiopia	15
France	18
German Democratic Republic	19
Greece	20
Iraq	21
Italy	21
Mexico	23
Qatar	24

CONTENTS (continued)

	<u>Page</u>
Romania	27
Rwanda	33
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	34
Spain	35
Tuvalu	37
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	38
United Arab Emirates	42
Yemen	42
Yugoslavia	44
III. REPLIES RECEIVED FROM SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND OTHER UNITED NATIONS ORGANS	48
Economic Commission for Western Asia	48
United Nations Industrial Development Organization	48
United Nations University	49
International Labour Organisation	50
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	51
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	54
International Civil Aviation Organization	58
World Bank	59
International Monetary Fund	59
Universal Postal Union	59
International Atomic Energy Agency	60
General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade	60

I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 14 December 1979, the General Assembly adopted resolution 34/99 entitled "Development and strengthening of good neighbourliness between States", the operation part of which reads as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"...

"1. Calls upon all States, in the interest of the maintenance of international peace and security, to promote good neighbourliness in their relations with other States;

"2. Affirms that good neighbourliness conforms with the purposes of the United Nations and is founded upon the strict observance of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, 1/ as well as the rejection of any acts seeking to establish zones of influence and domination;

"3. Believes it necessary to examine the question of good neighbourliness, in order to strengthen and further develop its content, as well as ways and modalities of enhancing its effectiveness;

"4. Invites Governments to communicate to the Secretary-General their views and suggestions on good neighbourliness, as well as on ways and modalities of enhancing it, with a view to preventing conflicts and to increasing confidence among States, particularly neighbouring ones;

"5. Invites the United Nations organs, bodies and programmes, as well as the specialized agencies, within their fields of competence, to inform the Secretary-General of the aspects of their activities relevant to the development of relations of good neighbourliness between States;

"6. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its thirty-sixth session a report containing the replies and information received in accordance with paragraphs 4 and 5 above;

"7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its thirty-sixth session an item entitled "Development and strengthening of good neighbourliness between States".

1/ General Assembly resolution 2425 (XXV), annex.

2. Pursuant to this resolution, the Secretary-General, on 13 May 1980, addressed a note to the Governments of States Members of the United Nations or members of specialized agencies, transmitting the text of the resolution and requesting their views and suggestions on good-neighbourliness as well as on ways and modalities of enhancing it. Moreover, the Under-Secretary-General for Political and Security Council Affairs, on the same date, addressed a letter to the heads of the specialized agencies, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Food Council, regional commissions, the United Nations Institute for Training and Research and the United Nations University, requesting information about those aspects of their activities which were relevant to the development of relations of good-neighbourliness between States.

3. As at 20 September 1981, replies containing such views, suggestions and information had been received from 24 States and 12 specialized agencies and other United Nations organs. The substantive parts of these communications are reproduced in sections II and III below. Replies which may be received later will be published as addenda to the present report.

II. REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

BANGLADESH

/Original: English/

/17 July 1981/

1. The concept of good-neighbourliness is as old as the history of human civilization itself. Even when the old precepts on international law and the ancient tablets governing the basic relations between and among States were being formulated, the over-riding factor shaping those principles was the conviction of good-neighbourliness among States. This concept, therefore, will continue to remain an important acceptable force in governing relations between independent and sovereign States of the world. The supreme necessity of the acceptance to and respect for the concept of good-neighbourliness is felt today more than ever before as historical experience in the evolution of international relations has shown beyond doubt that security of every nation and the maintenance of international peace and security largely depend on the measures taken by neighbouring States with regard to their mutual relations.

2. The importance of the principle of good-neighbourliness for maintaining international peace and security and for the promotion of friendly relations between States has been emphasized in very clear terms in the Charter of the United Nations, which stipulates that one of the principal ends of the United Nations is to ensure that the peoples of the world can live in peace in a spirit of good-neighbourliness. The importance of this Charter principle was further reaffirmed in the unanimously adopted Declaration on the Principles of

/...

International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations (General Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV), annex).

3. The existence of different neighbouring States with varied political and socio-economic and cultural systems makes it incumbent upon all States to make conscious efforts to establish good-neighbourly relations based on a spirit of understanding and accommodation, equity and justice without interference, covert or overt, in the internal affairs of other States. Any violation of this has, in the past, led to tension and conflict, which has more often than not degenerated into open military conflicts.

4. The cardinal principle of the foreign policy of Bangladesh is based on her constitutional obligation that stipulates that our relations are based on friendship towards all and malice towards none. Guided by this conviction, the Government of Bangladesh has always sought to foster with her neighbours solutions to all problems, potential or outstanding, in a spirit of co-operation and understanding based on the principle of equity and justice. As an extension of this policy outside the barometer of Bangladesh, the Government of Bangladesh has whole-heartedly supported the spirit of détente and general relaxation of international tensions which unfortunately has been disturbed in recent years. While pursuing good-neighbourly relations with neighbours, Bangladesh has at the same time encouraged the gradual evolution of the process of democratization of international relations facilitating the participation of all States, big or small, weak or powerful, militarily significant or not, in all international conferences on a basis of equality. As a member of the Non-aligned Movement, Bangladesh since its very inception has made concerted efforts in such fora as the United Nations, the Islamic Conference, the Commonwealth and the Non-aligned Movement in favour of the cause of peace and international security and the development and intensification of co-operation, economic and political, between all States of the world.

5. Since her independence, Bangladesh has taken sincere and persistent initiatives in promoting all-round relationships with all her neighbours. As a part of this persistent objective of the Government of Bangladesh, the former President, the late Ziaur Rahman, conferred with the Heads of States of all the neighbouring States on all matters of mutual interests. President Ziaur Rahman, through his bilateral talks at the highest level with the leaders of all neighbouring countries, set in motion a spirit whose salubrious impact is all too obvious. The initiative of the late Ziaur Rahman on the South Asian Forum for Co-operation and Development among seven south Asian countries is historical. The first meeting at the highest official level has just been concluded, and several high level committees have been set up to examine further the areas of co-operation in various fields such as agriculture, hydro-electric power, trade, commerce, cultural exchange and co-operation at various other levels. As a result of the active policy of peace and friendship pursued by Bangladesh in every field, Bangladesh has been contributing to the cause of peace and détente, progress and prosperity, co-operation and national independence all over the world.

6. Bangladesh voted for General Assembly resolution 34/99, convinced of the importance of good-neighbourliness which can bring about a climate of confidence and security among States. As the Assembly in resolution 34/99 underlines, the basis for good-neighbourly relations lies in the respect for the principles of national independence and sovereignty, equality under law of all States, non-interference in the internal affairs and non-use of force or threat or use of force in resolving problems. This resolution specifically point out the supreme necessity of resolving problems through pacific means without affecting the territorial integrity and inviolability of frontiers and the respect for the right of peoples to decide their own destiny and to fulfil their Charter obligations without any attempt to establish a sphere of influence or domination. It is a matter of record that each time this fundamental principle of international law has been violated or attempts have been made to act without having regard to these principles, the foundation of the principle of good-neighbourliness has been compromised giving rise to avoidable tension with potential for conflict and the breach of international peace and security.

7. Bangladesh believes that the principle of good-neighbourliness should be further considered with a view to seeking agreement on specific modalities to enhance it and ensure universal and strict adherence to this principle, as the basis for promoting peace, co-operation and mutual respect among all nations.

BENIN

/Original: French/

/16 June 1980/

1. The Benin Government pursues a policy of good-neighbourliness in all its aspects as part of its daily activities. This is borne out by many bilateral instruments concerning co-operation and mutual understanding which Benin has entered into with neighbouring countries.
2. The practice of good-neighbourliness is therefore indispensable for strengthening bonds of confidence among all States, more particularly among neighbouring States.
3. Foremost among the ways and modalities to be used to develop and strengthen it is the observance of the principle of non-interference and non-intervention in the internal affairs of each neighbouring State.
4. This principle must be observed by all. Close and multifaceted co-operation among neighbouring States is another means which may be used.

COSTA RICA

/Original: Spanish/

/26 June 1981/

1. Costa Rica had the honour to co-sponsor the resolution, joining 14 other delegations representing a variety of regions and political outlooks. Accordingly, it fully supported the views set forth in the resolution, particularly that part which states that:

"... owing to geographic proximity, there are particularly favourable opportunities for co-operation and mutual advantage between neighbouring countries in many fields and that these opportunities should be further promoted and encouraged, in view of their positive influence on international relations as a whole" (fourth preambular paragraph).

2. Costa Rica shares the view that the development and strengthening of good-neighbourliness can make a positive contribution to the solution of problems between States, particularly between neighbouring States by eliminating tensions and increasing mutual confidence.

3. For that reason, Costa Rica is firmly convinced that mutual respect among neighbouring States, above all respect for the inviolability of frontiers, and strict observance of the principles of non-interference and non-intervention in the internal affairs of other States are fundamental to - indeed the sine qua non for - generating confidence so that the purposes and principles of the Charter and thus of the above-mentioned resolution may be carried out.

4. Furthermore, it is clear that good relations, friendship and mutual respect must not be used as a pretext - citing principles established in the Charter for example, the principle of self-determination - for justifying acts of interference or intervention which infringe on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of neighbouring States. It must be pointed out that the right to self-determination belongs to the people, not to the Government. Governments must serve their peoples and must refrain from resorting to such actions to impose régimes by force on peoples of neighbouring States, legitimizing such conduct by saying that it is a token of friendship or good-neighbourliness. What is happening in the world today testifies to that ever-spreading and increasingly violent trend.

5. This brings to mind the comment made by Benito Juárez to the effect that respect for the rights of others makes for peace. Observance of this principle, among neighbouring States in particular, would be a great step forward towards the development and strengthening of good-neighbourliness among States and thus towards the strengthening of international security.

CUBA

/Original: Spanish/

/18 March 1981/

1. The Government of the Republic of Cuba considers that the strengthening of the principle of good-neighbourliness between States would make a commendable contribution to the solution of problems between States, particularly neighbouring States, and to the building up and development of mutual trust.
2. Strict observance of good-neighbourliness between States helps to strengthen friendly relations and co-operation among States, and to strengthen international security, in accordance with objectives of the Charter of the United Nations.
3. One of the first steps to be taken in order to strengthen the principle of good-neighbourliness between States is to put an end to the imperialist Powers' practice of interfering in the internal affairs of States, exerting destabilizing pressures on legitimately constituted Governments, fomenting local conflicts and engaging in acts of hostility and military, political or economic aggression against countries which have assumed responsibility for their own internal and external affairs.
4. By the same token, to strengthen the principle of good-neighbourliness between States ways must be found of dismantling all foreign military bases and of putting an end to intimidating military exercises and manoeuvres, which constitute a means of coercion and blackmail and are used to impose hegemonistic policies.
5. All these practices, which violate the principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, constitute a grave threat to international peace and security and foster distrust by aggravating the international climate.
6. In the view of the Government of the Republic of Cuba, the development and strengthening of good-neighbourliness between States requires the consistent application of the principle of peaceful coexistence between States and a display of the political will and the desire to take measures to strengthen détente and peace.
7. The development of good-neighbourliness also requires the fullest understanding of the legitimate interests shared by all peoples in connexion with the protection of the environment, the creation of the necessary conditions for the maintenance of health, concern for plant and animal health, knowledge of the cultures of neighbouring peoples and preventive measures against potential natural and other disasters. It is impossible to safeguard these interests without a spirit of co-operation between neighbouring States and at the regional level.
8. Constantly violating the sovereignty of States by espionage flights is not a sign of good-neighbourliness; maintaining military bases against the will of the peoples and Governments on which they are imposed is not a sign of good-neighbourliness; unilaterally maintaining criminal and unjustified economic

/...

blockades and threatening to impose full-scale naval blockades is not a sign of good-neighbourliness. In short, the aggressive hard-line policy now being advocated by the United States Government against the States of Central America and the Caribbean is not a sign of good-neighbourliness.

9. Similarly, good-neighbourliness cannot be promoted throughout the world unless there is a cessation of political, economic and military relations with régimes such as those in South Africa and Israel, which enable South Africa to maintain the hateful system of apartheid and Israel to deny the rights of the Palestinian people and to occupy the territories of neighbouring countries.

10. In the view of the Government of the Republic of Cuba, strict compliance with these principles and a cessation of the above-mentioned practices, which endanger international peace and security and impede the role the United Nations can play in this field, are prerequisites for the development and strengthening of good-neighbourliness between States.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

/Original: Spanish/
/8 May 1981/

1. The Government of the Dominican Republic unswervingly observes the principle of self-determination of peoples - which principle guarantees the independence or autonomy of such peoples - and that of good-neighbourliness proclaimed in the Charter of the United Nations and in the founding Charter of the Organization of American States. It also unreservedly supports the principle of non-intervention.

2. It is the policy of the Dominican Government to advocate reaffirmation of the ties of friendship, co-operation, collaboration and understanding between the Dominican people and neighbouring States in the Caribbean. Support for the goals of the cultural, economic and social development and exchange programmes of our region is also an irreversible policy of the Dominican Government and one which has the Government's unreserved backing.

3. This has greatly benefited the Government and people of the Dominican Republic which has entered into significant international agreements that enable it to carry out programmes of social and economic development. The Government is particularly interested in safeguarding those elements which constitute the basis of democracy, equality and harmony among neighbouring States and other States in the Americas and also among all the States which make up the United Nations family.

ECUADOR

[Original: Spanish]

[1 June 1981]

1. The Government of Ecuador attaches particular importance to all proposals which are under consideration in the United Nations the general aim of which is to strengthen international peace and security and to encourage maximum use of the Organization and its machinery for the maintenance or restoration of peace on the basis of justice and respect for the principles established in the Charter of the United Nations and in other international instruments fostering peaceful coexistence.
2. The work of the Special Committee on Enhancing the Effectiveness of the Principle of Non-Use of Force in International Relations, the work being done in preparation for the drafting of a Declaration on the Preparation of Societies for Life in Peace (General Assembly resolution 33/73) and another on the peaceful settlement of disputes and, of course, the invitation to Governments to communicate to the Secretary-General their views and suggestions on good-neighbourliness, as well as on ways and modalities of enhancing it, with a view to preventing conflicts and to increasing confidence among States, particularly neighbouring ones, in accordance with resolution 34/99, all have profound significance at the present time of tensions and vicissitudes of all kinds in the field of collective security if not of direct threats to or aggression against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States.
3. The above-mentioned activities are very closely interrelated; their aim is not only to strengthen the principle of non-use of force in international relations but to make sure that the principle is observed in practice for this would have a positive effect on the development of relations of good-neighbourliness among States and at the same time would strengthen the principle of resorting solely to peaceful means for the settlement of disputes, a vital principle which calls for the most effective contribution of States and of the United Nations.
4. It is very important that States which are geographically contiguous should entertain relations of good-neighbourliness and it becomes crucially important when that physical proximity has been marked throughout history by situations of border conflicts in which one State has sought to impose its will by force notwithstanding the fundamental principles of justice and law which are recognized not only in the region but throughout the world.
5. In order to strengthen good-neighbourliness, international peace and security, these border situations must be settled as a matter of priority and must be settled by peaceful means alone. The settlement of these problems of territorial proximity is also essential to the development and strengthening of co-operation in other areas.

6. The Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations (resolution 2625 (XXV)) constitutes a firm foundation on which to develop the various initiatives undertaken in the United Nations in an effort to consolidate international peaceful coexistence in its various forms.

7. This resolution is very valuable as a means of gaining a deeper understanding of the principles and postulates of the Charter of the United Nations; it is of assistance in the interpretation and implementation of those fundamental principles and at the same time it is a sure guide for orienting the relations of States along unobstructed paths of peace.

8. Relations of good-neighbourliness are nothing more than relations of friendship and co-operation among those States which are most closely bound by geographic proximity or by the fact that they belong to regional systems which operate according to certain principles and thus behave, in practice, as though they were neighbours, particularly at the present time when fast means of transport and developments in electronic communications have made the world a much smaller place in which events that occur in each and every one of our States are immediately known.

9. At the same time, this good-neighbourliness cannot come about between States, particularly between adjacent States, unless there is a clear and unswerving determination to respect scrupulously the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to implement them in accordance with the above-mentioned resolution 2625 (XXV). In truth, no good-neighbourliness is possible if contiguous States, notwithstanding official declarations of support for the principle of non-use of force or the threat thereof in international relations, engage in such actions, build up their arsenals disproportionately and behave in such a manner as to inspire fear rather than friendship, in a manner that does not build confidence and results instead in attitudes on the part of the peoples that are incompatible with the guiding principles of peaceful coexistence among nations.

10. All pacifism - and in the case of Ecuador pacifism is part of its nature - requires the practice of good-neighbourliness if it is to grow stronger and this involves steady co-operation in the various areas and the certainty that a neighbouring State will not at any time resort to the threat or use of force in international relations. Condemnation of the use of force has been voiced in a series of treaties starting with the General Treaty for the Renunciation of War, signed in Paris, in 1928, and culminating in the Charter of the United Nations whose fundamental rule on the subject can be found in Article 2, paragraph 4.

11. Ecuador endorses and scrupulously observes the principle of the non-use of force or the threat thereof in its international relations and it maintains categorically that all international disputes can and must be solved by peaceful means. It has adhered unswervingly to this policy, as demonstrated most recently in connexion with the military aggression against its territory, an act of aggression which threatened peaceful coexistence in the entire continent.

12. In fact, it was at Ecuador's request that the nineteenth Meeting of Consultation of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Organization of American States was convened, in February 1981, in order to adopt appropriate measures to defuse the situation, in accordance with the principles which govern the inter-American organization and which coincide in this respect with those of the United Nations, since the continuation of the situation would have constituted a serious threat to peace in America. That meeting made a real contribution to settling the conflict by peaceful means as did the mediation efforts which were undertaken in a friendly manner by Argentina, Brazil, Chile and the United States of America.

13. Clearly, it is not possible to strengthen the principle of good-neighbourliness among States without observing other principles which constitute the basis of good-neighbourliness. These include, necessarily, the principles of respect for the sovereignty and independence of States and therefore, at the same time, respect for the territorial integrity of States, as set forth in Article 2, paragraph 4, of the Charter of the United Nations, and the obligation to settle disputes by peaceful means in accordance with Article 2, paragraph 3.

14. If States adhere firmly to those principles, international co-operation in the economic, social, cultural, educational, technological and other fields will become viable and fruitful. Co-operation will, in turn, pave the way for broader understanding which will foster harmonious development of neighbouring countries. Such co-operation will place the arms build-up on shaky and untenable ground as a national or international policy of States since the arms build-up has an immediate impact on good-neighbourliness because of the overt or covert threat that it poses for the security of contiguous States.

15. For all these reasons the Government of Ecuador believes that good-neighbourliness results only from an international behaviour which creates confidence and which contributes to peaceful coexistence.

16. At the same time it is obvious that relations of good-neighbourliness can be strengthened if, on the basis of respect for the principles of regional and universal international law, States provide an opportunity for integrationist processes which require a more complex and disciplined type of co-operation and one in which the common good is a prime concern.

17. Integration in various spheres presupposes good-neighbourly relations; at the same time, it can be a means of fostering and strengthening good-neighbourliness provided that States act in a spirit of justice and understanding for individual and common problems and provided that the integrationist process seeks to solve those problems equitably.

18. Co-operation among neighbouring States, perhaps even more so than co-operation between more distant States, must be carried out in respect for the principles of the New International Economic Order. This means that good-neighbourliness will grow stronger if international relations are based more on international social justice, which implies the abandoning of policies of economic coercion, of establishment of spheres of influence, of colonialism and of neo-colonialism.

19. Good-neighbourly relations involve, in addition to the above-mentioned principles, respect for the principle of the equality of all States before the law, the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of other States, the principle of self-determination of peoples and the principles of the protection and promotion of human rights. In addition to the principles mentioned above, all these principles play an important role in good-neighbourly relations because, in fact, geographical proximity intensifies relations between bordering States and puts to the test, with growing frequency, respect for the guiding principles of international life.

20. Good-neighbourliness is something more than mere peaceful coexistence; it presupposes a kind of peaceful coexistence in which States do not simply exist side by side in isolation, but rather are called on to participate actively in co-operation to promote economic, social and cultural development and, in addition, to educate their peoples and make them aware of the overriding necessity to live together in peace.

21. Good-neighbourly relations require a kind of mutual respect among States, discernible through the information and communication media, which, because of their immediate impact on neighbouring peoples must be based on high standards of accuracy and objectivity, stripped of asperity and unnecessary conflicts which may generate frictions which are not desirable in the international sphere. It bears emphasizing that the media should be used prudently and in a friendly manner, without, however, infringing on the free expression of ideas.

22. This type of good-neighbourliness conduct must be based not only on international legal principles but on criteria of good-neighbourliness that have their origin not in international instruments but rather in a judicious appraisal of social and political problems among neighbours; this falls squarely on the shoulders of statesmen and political leaders and is dependent on their having a broad vision which enables them to lead their peoples along an unequivocally pacifist path.

23. If Ecuador's attitude has been and continues to be pacifist, the country's Basic Charter defines the legal basis for this attitude by stipulating in article 3 that "the Ecuadorian State respects the principles of international law; it proclaims the juridical equality of States, it advocates the solution of disputes between nations by peaceful means and the association of States with a view to economic and social co-operation between and integration of their peoples, particularly the peoples of Latin America, who are united by bonds of solidarity and interdependence which stem from their shared origin and culture".

24. Good-neighbourliness, if it takes the form outlined above, cannot but encourage States to participate in movements of international solidarity, whether or not such bonds already exist. Such movements, devoid of any intent to interfere in the internal affairs of other States, should promote "faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small" and also establish "conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other

sources of international law can be maintained", as is so aptly stated in the Preamble to the Charter of the United Nations, since only thus will it be possible to practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours, which is one of the reasons for which the United Nations was established.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

[Original: Spanish]

[31 July 1981]

1. Neighbourliness is natural geographic proximity on the basis of which neighbouring countries develop, promote and strengthen the relations of friendship and co-operation existing between them.
2. The Government of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea believes that the peoples of the United Nations are determined to practise tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours. Accordingly, it stands prepared, as in the past, actively to support good-neighbourly relations.
3. In accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in Accordance with the Charter of the United Nations (General Assembly resolution 2526 (XXV)), the fundamental purposes of the United Nations include the maintenance of international peace and security and the development of friendly relations and co-operation among nations.
4. The Government of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea suggests that all States should be prepared to contribute, through their mutual relations, to the strengthening of world peace and the promotion of justice with a view to establishing mutual understanding and reciprocal consultation on all matters concerning the maintenance of good-neighbourly relations, and should oppose all forms of aggression, in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations.
5. The Government of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea believes that the establishment and maintenance of good-neighbourliness and viable political, economic, social, cultural and technical co-operation between neighbouring countries will help to maintain international peace and security.
6. The Government of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea believes that, with a view to attaining and preserving friendly relations of good-neighbourliness, Governments should respect the national sovereignty of neighbouring States and should refrain from any interference in their internal affairs.
7. Bearing in mind that good-neighbourliness is one of the purposes of the Charter of the United Nations, all countries, in particular neighbouring countries,

should settle all conflicts arising between them by peaceful means, primarily through negotiation, without the intervention of third countries, and arbitration, and should undertake to refrain from the threat or use of force in their relations.

8. In fulfilment of these principles, the Republic of Equatorial Guinea signed agreements on good-neighbourliness with the Gabonese Republic on 28 June 1973 and with the United Republic of Cameroon on 26 January 1980 and is negotiating similar agreements with other neighbouring countries, such as the Federal Republic of Nigeria and the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe.

ETHIOPIA

[Original: English]

[4 September 1981]

1. Good-neighbourliness stems from the recognition of the existence of a mutuality of interests between peoples living near one another. The concept has steadily developed over the centuries and reached an important stage with the advent of sovereign independent States. The rapid development of transport and communication, the ever-increasing contacts, exchanges and interdependence between States in social, economic, cultural, scientific and other fields have rendered the concept of good-neighbourliness more relevant, pointing to the need for a detailed elaboration of both the concept and the modalities by which it can be protected and promoted.

2. That good-neighbourliness is of profound importance for the maintenance of international peace and security is emphatically underlined in the Charter of the United Nations which, in the very preamble, proclaims the determination of the peoples of the United Nations "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war ... and for these ends ... to practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours". Indeed, as a practical expression of this proclamation, the United Nations has adopted a number of decisions, including the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security (General Assembly resolution 2734 (XXVI)), which, inter alia, states that "every State has the duty to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity and political independence of any other State, ... and that every State has the duty to refrain from organizing, instigating, assisting or participating in acts of civil strife or terrorist acts in another State" (para. 5).

3. Regrettably, however, imperialist policies of force and diktat, of domination, of exploitation of the resources of others, colonialist nostalgia, racism, the production, stock-piling and deployment of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction, the frantic search for military bases and the expansion of existing ones, the deployment of intervention forces, irredentism, expansionist aggressions and interference in the internal affairs of States have brought about negative developments militating against the desire of peoples in several regions of the world to live together in peace with one another as good neighbours.

/...

4. These negative developments have further aggravated existing crises and led to the eruption of new ones, thus causing immense destruction to life and property as well as the displacement of millions of people throughout the world. General Assembly resolution 34/99 on good-neighbourliness between States is, therefore, both propitious and opportune in that it focuses attention on developments in various parts of the world with adverse effects on international peace and security.

5. The development and strengthening of the policy of good-neighbourliness, which is essential for the realization of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, will very much depend on the pursuit of constructive national policies which recognize the equality, independence and interdependence of all nations. It is when all nations give continuous evidence of their adherence to the cardinal principles of the United Nations and honour their international obligations, when the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference in the internal affairs of States are fully respected and when all nations, especially neighbouring ones, realize and seek the benefits of co-operation and avoid confrontation, that good-neighbourliness can be firmly established and become the mainstay of international peace and security.

6. To this end, Socialist Ethiopia has pursued with vigour and determination the promotion of the principles of peaceful coexistence, friendly relations and co-operation with its neighbours. It is steadfast in its conviction that the pursuit of such a policy constitutes not only an effective means for preventing the outbreak of unnecessary and costly wars, but also opens far-reaching avenues for mutually beneficial co-operation, self-reliance, growth and development.

7. It is this conviction that provides one of the basic foundations for Ethiopia's foreign policy. The Programme of the National Democratic Revolution of Ethiopia clearly states that the country's foreign policy is guided by the well-known principles of non-alignment, i.e. respect for peace, justice and equality, national independence, national unity and non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries. The Programme further underlines Ethiopia's scrupulous respect for the principles of the charters of the United Nations and of the Organization of African Unity, and declares, *inter alia*, that "all measures to strengthen ties and collaboration with sister African States, in particular with neighbouring ones, will be undertaken. No effort shall be spared to foster the spirit of good-neighbourliness and mutual respect among States".

8. Indeed, intensive efforts have been exerted and measures have been undertaken with the countries of the region covering a wide range of areas of mutual interest, including, among others, economic, trade, cultural, scientific and technical co-operation as well as transport and communications, and security in border areas. The regular contacts and consultations between Ethiopia and practically all of her neighbours at the summit, ministerial, technical and, indeed, at all levels have resulted in the enhancement of the spirit of good-neighbourliness, the building and promotion of mutual confidence, the consolidation of the resolve of the Governments and peoples of north-eastern Africa to establish a durable peace in the region and to create the necessary atmosphere for peaceful co-operation on the basis of the principles of mutual respect for the sovereignty, territorial

integrity, inviolability of state frontiers, peaceful settlement of disputes and non-interference in the internal affairs of other States, in conformity with the charters and decisions of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations as well as the principles and decisions of the Non-Aligned Movement.

9. The common policy objectives between Ethiopia and her neighbours are institutionalized and translated into effective action by the establishment of bilateral and trilateral joint conferences and commissions, including ministerial consultative committees which meet regularly to review progress achieved in the advancement of their common objectives as well as to appraise the state of their good-neighbourly relations and to give further guidelines to the various subsidiary joint bodies entrusted with specific tasks. The States participating in these common endeavours not only have an open-door policy but also encourage and welcome any State of the region wishing to join them in their constructive joint efforts and to contribute to the common good of all.

10. In his report on the activities of the Organization of African Unity to the eighteenth Assembly of Heads of State and Government, which took place at Nairobi, Kenya, in June 1981, the outgoing Chairman, H.E. Dr. Siaka Stevens, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone, lauded the efforts of Ethiopia, the Sudan and Kenya to build bridges of co-operation and to foster good-neighbourly relations and emphasized the significance of the Tripartite Joint Ministerial Consultative Committee established by the three neighbouring States as an example worthy of emulation. President Stevens further stressed that these developments bear testimony to the fact that, given goodwill and perseverance among all the parties concerned, there is no problem which is incapable of a mutually satisfactory solution in Africa and, in this connexion, characterized Djibouti's expressed desire to join the community as encouraging.

11. The eighteenth Assembly of the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, in turn, reaffirmed the fundamental norms and principles that should govern relations between neighbouring States by endorsing the report submitted to it by the OAU Good Offices Committee on the Normalizing of Relations between Ethiopia and Somalia. The norms and principles enunciated in the recommendations of the OAU Good Offices Committee and unequivocally endorsed by the Nairobi summit are those already enshrined in the Charter and relevant resolutions of the Organization of African Unity: recognition of territorial integrity, non-interference in domestic affairs, peaceful settlement of disputes, prohibition of subversion and inviolability of borders as attained at the time of independence.

12. Consistent with its policy of peace and co-operation, Ethiopia has placed on record its acceptance of the recommendations of the Good Offices Committee endorsed by the eighteenth Summit Conference of the OAU as the minimum conditions necessary for the maintenance of regional peace and stability. This position of principle naturally flows from the fact that Ethiopia regards her boundaries with her neighbours not as a line of separation or confrontation but rather as avenues for fruitful co-operation in a wide range of areas to the mutual benefit of the neighbouring countries and peoples as well as for the maintenance of peace, security and stability in the region.

13. Ethiopia is firmly convinced that geographic proximity provides vast opportunities for co-operation in a variety of fields and that these opportunities should be fully utilized not only in view of the immediate and concrete benefits they bring about for the peoples of the neighbouring countries but also in view of the need to consciously cultivate habits of continuous consultations over a wide range of topics to ensure the continuity of programmes for harmonized actions and to provide the incentive for further co-operation between the countries concerned, thus contributing effectively to the maintenance of regional peace and security as well as releasing positive influence on international relations as a whole. The aspiration to promote good-neighbourly relations and the establishment of the institutional and organizational structure by means of which developing neighbouring countries seek to maximize co-operation and to regulate their relations with one another would further be greatly enhanced by increased technical and financial assistance to be earmarked specifically for such joint ventures from the international community.

14. For these reasons, Ethiopia believes that a detailed elaboration of the concept of good-neighbourliness and the crystallization of various norms and modalities by which the principles must be upheld and promoted would provide a useful instrument for the enhancement of regional co-operation and the maintenance of international peace and security.

FRANCE

[Original: French]

[2 September 1981]

1. The French Government has taken note with great interest of the Romanian Government's initiative concerning the development and strengthening of good-neighbourliness between States.
2. While not convinced that the notion of "good-neighbourliness" corresponds to any concept in international law, the French Government believes that it is important for good relations to develop between neighbouring States. Any efforts directed to this end are consonant with the preamble to the Charter of the United Nations and with the Declaration on Principles of International Law Concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations (General Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV)).
3. Regarding the possible follow-up to resolution 34/99, the French Government suggests that the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly should begin by enumerating the specific legal and practical difficulties posed by the fact of being neighbours and the solutions tried, together with the particular opportunities for co-operation between States and populations which are afforded by the fact of their being neighbours. It would then be possible to decide on the areas in which further action could, if necessary, be taken.

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

[Original: English]

[18 September 1981]

1. The German Democratic Republic has been working unswervingly and persistently for preserving peace, halting the arms race and defending détente. It strives to live in good-neighbourliness and peace with all States and peoples. Erich Honecker, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and Chairman of the Council of State of the German Democratic Republic, stated at the tenth Party Congress: "The peoples of the world should not have to go about their daily business under the threat of war, but in a secure atmosphere of peace, which should finally become their normal way of life".

2. A condition for that is the good will of all States to respect and to implement the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to pursue an active policy of peaceful coexistence. This is an objective to which the German Democratic Republic attaches particular importance in the present circumstances where the international situation is being aggravated by imperialist and hegemonistic forces. New and additional efforts are necessary to avert the threat of war, for war is the crassest negation of good-neighbourly conduct.

3. But also the arms race entails a great many burdens on the peaceful living together of peoples and States, and undermines the possibilities of business-like understanding and mutual support.

4. Therefore, the German Democratic Republic unreservedly commends the proposals which the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics presented at the twenty-sixth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union for the continuation of a constructive dialogue, the cessation of the arms race, the peaceful solution of international conflicts, and the strengthening of confidence among States. If these proposals were carried out, they would have a beneficial effect in achieving a more healthy international climate and in furthering the development of good-neighbourly relations, and would thus be an effective contribution to the implementation of resolution 34/99.

5. The German Democratic Republic maintains exemplary relations of good-neighbourliness with the socialist sister nations and works purposefully for the expansion of these fruitful ties on the basis of the friendship treaties concluded and in keeping with the principles of socialist internationalism. The German Democratic Republic believes that the development of good-neighbourly relations between States having different social systems, relations that are based upon the principles of peaceful coexistence, as well as mutually beneficial co-operation on an equal footing are of great importance. To the extent that the principles of the United Nations Charter will be applied to international relations, good-neighbourliness between States will also increasingly develop. This is the German Democratic Republic's policy in its relationships with other States.

6. The German Democratic Republic is developing a system of multifaceted co-operation with African, Asian and Latin American countries. It displays active solidarity with all peoples fighting for their national and social liberation and supports the efforts for the establishment of a new international economic order on the basis of equal rights. As peaceful coexistence requires it, the German Democratic Republic endeavours consistently to expand its relations with capitalist States. It feels that the intensification of contacts and the conclusion of agreements with a view to promoting co-operation in the interest of peace and for mutual benefit are important steps to surmount the politics of confrontation.

7. The German Democratic Republic considers that action of the United Nations to strengthen and expand chiefly the legal foundations of peaceful coexistence policies - an objective to which this country is decidedly committed - is an important step by which the Organization can not only consolidate détente, limit armaments, advance towards disarmament and encourage co-operation in the solution of the global problems of humanity, but also make an effective contribution to the development of relations of good-neighbourliness. What is essential is to reduce confrontation and to create a climate of mutual trust by an immediate resumption of the severed dialogue and by a more fruitful conduct of ongoing negotiations. The German Democratic Republic's own active contribution to the creation of such a climate consists in fulfilling its responsibility for ever preventing a war originating on German soil.

8. Together with the other States of the socialist community and through its constructive policy, the German Democratic Republic will, also in the future, fulfil this obligation.

GREECE

[Original: French]

[14 September 1981]

1. Greece has always been deeply attached to good-neighbourly relations, and takes care to reaffirm this attachment whenever the opportunity arises. It voted for General Assembly resolution 34/99, for example. But it believes that actually applying the principle is quite as important as reaffirming it, and this assumes that the following prerequisites are met:

(a) Every country's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity must be scrupulously respected. In particular, this means refraining from any act which might be considered as a violation of or threat to violate frontiers, on the understanding that these include not just land areas but also sea and air space as defined in international bilateral or multilateral treaties and by the law of nations.

(b) Any act which might reasonably be interpreted by the country concerned as a threat to its national interests must be avoided.

/...

(c) Disputes between neighbouring countries must be settled on the basis of international contractual or customary law. In this regard, Greece does not favour bilateral negotiations alone, but also any other - particularly arbitral and judicial - procedures which may lead to the peaceful settlement of disputes.

2. Greece further considers that proposals to establish demilitarized zones, reduce or freeze military spending, or create areas of "no man's land" or free trade border areas must be considered in the context of each individual case and made subject to every country's unchallengeable right to defend itself. Only then can such measures make a positive contribution to mutual trust and harmonious relations between neighbours.

3. The Greek Government considers, finally, that the sphere of application of the principle of good-neighbourliness could usefully be extended to cover the problems raised by shared rivers, pollution, border incidents, and the demarcation of frontiers.

IRAQ

[Original: English]

[20 June 1980]

Iraq attaches great importance to the development and strengthening of good-neighbourliness between States and support it in and outside the United Nations, embodied in the National Charter declared by His Excellency President Saddam Hussain.

ITALY

[Original: English]

[30 June 1981]

1. Italy is fully aware of the essential importance of relations of good-neighbourliness to ensure the development of international co-operation and general conditions of peace and security. Accordingly, Italy has always based the conduct of its foreign policy on the fundamental desire to maintain friendly relations with neighbouring States.

2. This position has proven to be of particular relevance in defining relations with Yugoslavia and in establishing in a substantive and gradual manner a climate conducive to an enhanced co-operation and a more general trust between the two countries. This climate has enabled them to achieve, inter alia, the signing of the Osimo agreements in 1977 and the definition of the terms for the solution of a complex dispute regarding borders, thus establishing the basis for more advanced and innovative forms of collaboration between the two countries.

3. The friendliness, range and intensity of relations between Italy and Yugoslavia constitute, for Italy, a source of genuine satisfaction. As is widely recognized at the international level, their effects extend beyond the strict context of bilateral relations. They are in fact a reality which assumes substantive and positive significance in the interests of European regional stability, as is reflected in declarations recently made by leading officials in the Yugoslav Government.

4. The Osimo agreements have indeed made possible a number of significant achievements which constitute valid instruments for strengthening relations of good-neighbourliness in the sense indicated in General Assembly resolution 34/99, originally proposed by Romania. These achievements may be summarized as follows:

(a) Agreements aimed at regulating and facilitating the movement of persons inhabiting the zones contiguous to the border: it should be recalled in this regard that the number of passage points open along the border between Italy and Yugoslavia is far greater, proportionately, than those open along Italy's borders with other neighbouring States. This situation has given rise to an intensive movement of persons in both directions, so much so that the expression "open border" has been used, not inappropriately, to describe that boundary.

(b) Agreements to facilitate movement across the border of goods intended for local consumption.

(c) Agreements aimed at defining the legal status of Italian citizens' agricultural property in Yugoslav territory.

(d) Understandings in the fields of hydroeconomics, the legal régime of watercourses and the prevention of pollution in the Adriatic Sea.

5. Negotiations are also in progress for the establishment of a joint system of protection against hailstorms in the area of Gorizia.

6. In addition to these understandings and agreements at the governmental level should also be mentioned the increasingly frequent meetings between representatives of local government offices of the two countries which contribute, within the limits of their competence, to facilitate the course of co-operation jointly pursued by Italy and Yugoslavia.

7. Recent developments in Italy's relations with Malta may also be cited among examples likely to exert a positive influence on international relations as a whole through the strengthening of relations of good-neighbourliness.

8. The Italo-Maltese agreements concluded on 15 September 1980 confirm our country's enduring will to support Malta in ensuring for it the achievement and respect of a status of neutrality, which corresponds to the substantive interests of both countries as a valid means to contribute to stability and peace in the Mediterranean.

9. The agreement with the Government of Malta fits into the framework of the policy that Italy has constantly followed in order to provide meaningful and effective contributions to the strengthening of friendly relations among Mediterranean countries - a policy whose implementation we trust will be supported by all peace-loving States.

MEXICO

[Original: Spanish]

[1 July 1981]

1. General Assembly resolution 34/99 to which these views relate, refers to the determination of the peoples of the United Nations to "practice tolerance" and "live together in peace with one another as good neighbours".
2. In the context of the Charter, this means that saving the world from the scourge of war, reaffirming fundamental human rights, the dignity and worth of the human person, the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, maintaining justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law, as well as, promoting social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom are not achieved by means of a single act, nor are they subject to time-limits; they represent a process and an attitude in international relations.
3. To live together in peace with one another as good neighbours means, day-to-day relations, recognizing and respecting the rights of other countries in a climate of mutual trust.
4. Thus, it may be inferred that, in accordance with the concept of good-neighbourliness, no action adversely or unjustifiably affecting any country may be carried out, nor may any advantage be sought or obtained from it in reciprocal dealings because of its political, economic and social situation.
5. To live together in peace with one another as good neighbours does not necessarily imply geographical proximity, but in international relations such proximity makes it especially important and urgent to observe the principles of international conduct embodied in the very Charter of the United Nations, as well as those recognized by international law.
6. With a view to promoting a favourable climate in this respect, attention may be drawn, inter alia, to the following measures:
 - (a) It might be helpful to establish consultative machinery for the consideration of common problems or, at least, to make provision for the parties concerned to have recourse to such machinery, when necessary.

/...

(b) To avoid tension in times of peace, it would be advisable, in the military sphere to give notice of troop movements or of important manoeuvres to be carried out, whether in frontier areas or at strategic points, and to allow the participation of observers.

(c) In accordance with a general principle, the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the nationals of any country should be respected, whether or not they are migrants.

(d) The promotion of economic, scientific and technical co-operation on an equal basis and with due consideration for levels of development is essential for the attainment of good-neighbourliness.

(e) Cultural exchanges should be envisaged as a means of achieving greater understanding between peoples.

QATAR

[Original: Arabic]

[25 June 1981]

1. In acknowledging the importance of good-neighbourly relations between neighbouring States, the State of Qatar believes that such relations should be strengthened in order to enhance confidence and develop mutually beneficial co-operation between States in various fields, thereby contributing to the maintenance of international peace and security.
2. It believes that good-neighbourliness between States helps to avoid problems and settle disputes that may arise between them, in conformity with the lofty principles and objectives which have been adopted by nations as a basis for the advancement of mankind, and which are embodied in the Charter of their Supreme Organization.
3. In pursuance of United Nations General Assembly resolutions regarding the development and consolidation of good-neighbourly relations and the ways and means of enhancing them, and pursuant to General Assembly resolution 34/99 of 14 December 1979, which refers in particular to inviting Governments of Member States to set forth their views regarding good-neighbourliness and their suggestions for ways and means of enhancing it with a view to preventing disputes and increasing confidence among States, the State of Qatar wishes to set forth its views on this extremely vital subject as follows:
4. The State of Qatar considers that the achievement of good-neighbourly relations requires primarily that neighbouring States believe that good relations between them are the best means for ensuring their security and stability, and providing the necessary conditions for their prosperity and progress. All States should strive to achieve this objective in order to serve their higher interests

and help to foster a spirit of friendship and co-operation, thereby strengthening peace throughout the world. It also believes that the achievement of this noble goal requires a commitment to the following principles:

- (a) Mutual respect for sovereignty over land, and marine and air spaces.
- (b) Non-interference in the internal affairs of States, particularly in the political, ideological, social and economic spheres.
- (c) Avoiding the causes of problems, due care being taken to settle disputes by peaceful means and to refrain from any threat or use of force for that purpose.
- (d) Promoting mutual confidence and developing co-operation in various fields.
- (e) Compliance with the general provisions of international law, and the principles, objectives and resolutions of the United Nations pertaining to peaceful relations between States and the need to practise tolerance and live together in peace.

5. These are the general principles which should guide the conduct of neighbouring States in seeking to achieve good-neighbourly relations. The State of Qatar considers that the scientific methods conducive to this end are many and vary according to time and place, national and ideological considerations and the historical bonds between neighbouring States. However, the chief means are the following:

- (a) The conclusion of agreements between neighbouring States designed to strengthen the broadest possible co-operation in the various fields.
- (b) The promotion of arrangements for co-operation between neighbouring States in the event of emergencies or natural disasters.
- (c) The conclusion of agreements on mutual assistance between judicial authorities in the conduct of proceedings executing judgments and decisions so that justice can be served.
- (d) The conclusion of agreements on extradition.
- (e) The conclusion of agreements on the delimitation of frontiers, and for the settlement of disputes arising therefrom, in accordance with the established rules of international law, due consideration being given to the submission of such disputes to the competent international bodies or agreed arbitration tribunals, so that justice might take its course with respect to this issue of vital importance to good-neighbourly relations between States.
- (f) Action to promote common and mutually advantageous benefits and to organize international easements in respect to rivers, roads and other joint international facilities.

(g) The holding of meetings between officials and representatives of popular and professional organizations from neighbouring countries for the purpose of exchanging views on matters of common interest and dispelling any coolness that may affect their relations.

(h) Efforts to ensure that the media in each State do not conduct campaigns hostile to neighbouring States, their peoples and Governments, and that they show due respect for their rulers and legitimate institutions.

(i) Action by States to prevent the establishment within their borders of movements having the aim of fomenting sedition or unrest in neighbouring States or threatening their territorial or national integrity.

(j) Last but not least, the conclusion of a global convention to be formulated in the light of the results of the General Assembly's examination of the question of the development and strengthening of good-neighbourliness, including ways of maintaining and developing good-neighbourly relations. Obviously, this does not preclude the conclusion of special bilateral and multilateral agreements between neighbouring States providing for commitments or methods other than those incorporated in the global convention, as may be required by the special nature of the bonds between neighbouring states. Such special agreements may even reinforce a general international convention and contribute to the achievement of its goals.

6. In this connexion, the State of Qatar is pleased to report that it has excellent relations with its neighbouring States, based on a common faith in the necessity of abiding by the principle of good-neighbourliness and their commitment to all its requirements. In keeping with this trend, Qatar's policy of good-neighbourliness has culminated in its recent participation with five neighbouring Arab States in the establishment of the Gulf Arab States Co-operation Council. The other members of the Council are the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and the Sultanate of Oman. The Emir of Qatar and the Heads of State of the five countries signed the Charter of the Council on 25 May 1981 in Abu Dhabi, capital of the United Arab Emirates.

7. The establishment of the Gulf Arab States Co-operation Council, given its goals and objectives, is an ideal form of good relations between neighbouring States. The council itself is an organ that can strengthen these relations and nurture them towards integration, which is the most tangible expression of good relations between States.

ROMANIA

[Original: French]

[6 April 1981]

I.

1. The history of international relations and the current developments of events point to the fact that the peace and security of every nation depend in large measure on the state of its relations with its neighbours.
2. The concepts of neighbourliness and good-neighbourliness are among the most ancient in international relations and international law. In our day, they are just as timely and will remain so as long as there are sovereign and independent States in the world.
3. The exceptional importance of good-neighbourliness for the maintenance of international peace and security and the promotion of extensive relations between States is established by the Charter of the United Nations, which stipulates, as one of the fundamental aims of the United Nations, the determination of peoples to live together "in peace with one another as good neighbours".
4. Long co-existence in adjacent territories has led not only to the establishment of the traditional bonds of friendship and collaboration between neighbouring States, but also to a series of problems which, not having been solved in time in a spirit of justice and fairness, without any interference on the part of other States, have given rise to situations of tension and conflicts and have degenerated into open military confrontations.
5. Colonial domination has left many independent neighbouring States a legacy of particularly complex problems, including some of a territorial nature, hampering their peaceful collaboration and generating states of tension and even armed conflicts, some of which have had the most serious consequences for international peace and security. The imperialist policy of force and diktat, the division of the world into spheres of influence, and the policy of military blocs and interference in the internal affairs of States have provoked dissension and suspicion among neighbouring States for the purposes of exploitation and domination of peoples. Such policies are one of the factors that poison relations between neighbouring States, particularly those belonging to opposing political and military groupings. It is quite evident that a number of armed conflicts now in progress in the world originated from the persistence or emergence of states of tension and conflicts between neighbouring States and from political and military confrontation between them.
6. The Romanian Government is convinced that the constant enhancement of good-neighbourly relations between States and the solution in that same spirit of all the problems involved in living together represent an effective way to prevent international conflicts and deal peacefully with sources of tension and war, and

can under present conditions help to bring back and preserve a policy of peace, détente, national independence and collaboration. At the same time, the establishment of good-neighbourly relations between States favours the democratization of international relations and makes it easier for all countries to take part in international life on equal terms, just as it gives increasing importance to the role of small and medium-sized States and of developing and non-aligned countries, which are vitally interested in the strengthening of international peace and security and the development and intensification of co-operation among all the peoples of the world.

II.

7. The development of friendly relations and mutual understanding and of broad collaboration on many levels with all its neighbouring States is a fundamental element of the foreign policy of Romania.
8. The treaties of friendship, co-operation and mutual assistance concluded by Romania with neighbouring States and the solemn declarations and joint communiqués signed with them at the highest level by Romania have established good-neighbourliness as a fundamental objective of their mutual relations.
9. The fruitful results of the meetings and frequent, systematic exchanges of views between Nicolae Ceausescu, President of the Socialist Republic of Romania, and the leaders of neighbouring States, and the opportunities that have arisen for considering a broad spectrum of bilateral or other problems of international life, underscore the extremely important political function of a direct and open dialogue at the highest level in bringing about closer relations between neighbouring States, in devising new and concrete forms and means of mutually advantageous collaboration and in strengthening mutual friendship, understanding, esteem and respect between neighbouring States and peoples.
10. Such meetings, and indeed any of the many continuing contacts at other levels between those in a position of responsibility, as well as the establishment of joint working bodies, have enabled Romania at all times to utilize and profit from the ever-increasing possibilities for collaboration with its neighbours in various fields of general interest, especially political, economic, cultural, technical and scientific fields, as well as in areas dictated by geographic proximity. Examples include the joint building of hydroelectric and industrial installations, the exploitation of natural resources situated in border areas, research into climatic conditions and joint defence against their harmful effects, the protection of crops, and contacts among the inhabitants of border areas. The many cultural and scientific bonds and the continual exchange of spiritual values have themselves also helped to deepen mutual knowledge and respect, to strengthen the friendship between Romania and its neighbours and to enrich their national cultures. The relations of the Romanian people with neighbouring peoples, each with long and rich traditions, have undergone a continual diversification and development.
11. Referring to the pride of place within Romania's foreign policy assigned to the strengthening of relations with neighbouring socialist countries, the Twelfth

Congress of the Romanian Communist Party, held in 1979, once again reasserted the firm determination of the Romanian people "to do everything, now and in the future, to broaden relations of good-neighbourliness, collaboration and solidarity with those countries".

12. The good-neighbourly relations of Romania with neighbouring States are based on a rigorous respect for the principles of international law and are in full accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations. By consistently pursuing an active policy of peace, understanding, friendship and increased collaboration in all fields with neighbouring countries, Romania is making its contribution to the cause of peace and détente, national independence, progress and co-operation throughout the world.

13. Convinced of the importance of good-neighbourliness in establishing a climate of trust and security among States and in developing their peaceful collaboration, Romania proposed to the General Assembly that actions should be taken on the regional level with a view to improving good-neighbourly relations among European States; that proposal led to the unanimous adoption in 1965 of resolution 2129 (XX).

14. Over the years, Romania has supported proposals made by other States with a view to establishing a favourable atmosphere for the improvement of good-neighbourly relations between countries throughout the world.

15. Another initiative by Romania led the General Assembly to adopt by consensus in 1979 its resolution 34/99, which stressed the need to develop and strengthen good-neighbourliness between States, and considered that the generalization of the long practice and certain norms of good-neighbourliness was likely to strengthen friendly relations and co-operation among States.

III.

16. According to resolution 34/99, good-neighbourliness between States is founded upon the strict observance of the principles of sovereignty and independence, equal rights, non-interference in internal affairs, refraining from the threat or use of force, settlement by peaceful means of all disputes between States, territorial integrity and the inviolability of boundaries, respect for the right of peoples to self-determination, fulfilment in good faith of obligations assumed at the international level, and the rejection of any acts seeking to establish zones of influence and domination.

17. Whenever the fundamental principles of international law are violated, whenever force or the threat of force is used, whenever various forms and means of coercion are resorted to in settling problems between neighbours, the very basis of good-neighbourliness - the sine qua non of its existence - is jeopardized, resulting in the heightening of existing tensions and conflicts or the emergence of new ones and in the appearance of very serious threats to international peace and security.

18. The breadth and diversity of relations between neighbours, and the permanent contact between them, particularly in the light of the increased interdependence resulting from the application of scientific and technological progress to development, call not only for the strict observance of the basic principles of international law - which is of cardinal importance - but also for the application of the norms of conduct specific to relations of good-neighbourliness.

19. State practice, as built up over the years through the constructive solution of the problems arising from common borders, underground links and shared waterways (rivers, lakes or seas), the joint exploitation of natural resources or the establishment of economic and industrial targets, the protection of the environment and the impact of certain atmospheric phenomena, have helped to crystallize a number of norms which are characteristic of good-neighbourliness but which, at the same time, are to some extent generally applicable.

20. The diversity and the dynamic development of relations between neighbouring States are giving rise to a growing number of very complex problems. This trend, which will be intensified in the future owing to the development and proliferation of activities with a potential impact beyond national frontiers, calls for the elaboration and implementation of certain norms specific to good-neighbourliness. Consistent promotion of such norms and enrichment of the content of good-neighbourliness are part of the general effort to ensure that all relations between States are conducted on the basis of strict respect for the fundamental principles of international law and their progressive development, and would be conducive to a better guarantee of peace and security in the world.

21. In the view of the Romanian Government, particular importance should be attached to the following norms: the obligations of neighbours to settle all problems in their relations exclusively by means of direct consultation and negotiation in a spirit of complete equality, friendship and mutual respect; their obligation to co-operate with and assist one another in the normal functioning of economic life, in overcoming difficulties stemming from natural disasters, and in resolving all other matters of common interest in the same way; the obligation to prevent the mass media from being used for propaganda campaigns directed against neighbouring States; the obligation not to encourage or support by means of armed force the actions of groups rebelling against the legitimate Governments of sovereign and independent neighbouring States; and, in general, their obligation not to utilize their own territory - or permit it to be utilized - in a manner that might affect their neighbours.

22. Together with action to consolidate norms of this nature, the further review of State practice should result in the identification of other norms that would lend themselves to general application. The utilization of scientific and technological advances for peaceful purposes and the prospects which such advances open for the economic and social development of peoples create new problems and situations for neighbouring States, and these, in turn, call for the elaboration of new rules of conduct.

IV.

23. With regard to specific ways and modalities of strengthening and developing good-neighbourliness, the Romanian Government would like to make the following suggestions:

(a) Concern for the promotion of good neighbourly relations between States should be expressed, in the first instance, through a reaffirmation of the commitment of the United Nations to good-neighbourliness, as one of the fundamental purposes of the Charter of the United Nations, and the declared willingness of States to be guided by the spirit of the Charter in their relations with one another.

(1) The General Assembly should also reaffirm that respect for the fundamental principles of international law is of paramount importance to the promotion of a policy of good-neighbourliness and should recommend that all States steadfastly apply the specific norms of good-neighbourliness in their relations with one another.

(2) It is also necessary to affirm the obligation of all States to respect the good-neighbourly relations established between other States, not to encourage or commit acts designed to sow discord between neighbours, not to encourage dissension and conflicts, particularly between small and medium-sized neighbouring countries, and not to interfere in their internal affairs or influence the way in which they wish to conduct their good-neighbourly relations.

(3) In addition, it is necessary to reaffirm that good-neighbourly relations between two or more States must be conducted in a manner consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations and must not lead to the violation of the sovereignty and independence of other States, in disregard of their right to peace and security on an equal footing. Good-neighbourliness must encourage the economic and social development efforts of States and promote broad co-operation among all States irrespective of their level of development or social and economic system.

(4) It should further be stated that the policy of opposed military blocs and the monopolistic practices designed to hamper economic, technical and scientific co-operation among States are contrary to good-neighbourly relations and to the main purposes and goals of such relations.

(b) States might also be urged to consider, in the light of their individual circumstances, the possibility of concluding with neighbouring States treaties of friendship and other documents of a political and legal nature, which express their determination not to use or threaten to use force in their mutual relations, to renounce all interference in the internal affairs of other States and to settle all disputes through the political channel of negotiation. Similarly, it might be desirable to recommend that joint consultative and negotiating bodies should be established to deal on a permanent basis with specific problems in relations with neighbouring States. Such bodies, combined with the said treaties, would create

the legal and institutional framework needed to develop good-neighbourly relations, would help to prevent conflicts and stimulate co-operation, and would ultimately strengthen international peace and security.

(c) The United Nations should intensify its efforts to arouse and promote interest among States in the creation of zones of peace and co-operation in various regions of the world. The Romanian Government wishes to reiterate, in this context, the current interest of its proposal to transform the Balkans into a zone of peace, multifaceted co-operation, understanding and good-neighbourliness. At the same time, Romania has supported and continues to support the proposals made by other States concerning the establishment of such zones in other parts of Europe and in other regions of the world.

(d) Another means of reinforcing good-neighbourly relations would be by implementing measures to increase confidence between States and to promote military disengagement.

(1) The initiation and implementation of such measures, particularly by States belonging to opposed political and military alliances, would have a positive influence on the reduction of military confrontation and on the disarmament process; such measures would help to improve the political climate at the regional and international levels and would promote the resumption and continuation of détente.

(2) In this connexion, it might be possible to create demilitarized zones on the frontiers between States, to abandon military manoeuvres in the vicinity of frontiers, to give notice of other military manoeuvres or large-scale troop movements taking place in the territory of the respective States, to display moderation in deciding levels of military expenditure and to freeze such expenditure until agreements on the reduction of military budgets are concluded.

(e) By studying the practice of all States with regard to their good-neighbourly relations, the United Nations could identify and better define specific means which States have used in settling various problems in their relations. Such practice - that is to say, the specific norms and practical measures used to strengthen good-neighbourly relations - could form the subject-matter of a coherent corpus or some other appropriate document which would serve as a code of conduct capable of assisting States in the future in the solution of important problems of their mutual relations.

(f) On the basis of the provisions of the Charter, which, as was stated at the outset, expresses the determination of States to live in peace with one another as good neighbours, the study of good-neighbourliness should establish to what extent the general practice of States has led to the crystallization of good-neighbourliness as a principle of international law and should proceed with the initiation of the process of codifying the principle.

24. The Romanian Government is convinced that such a process and the positive results which would ensue, thanks to the joint effort of all States, would bring about the development of friendship between neighbours, would promote the economic and social progress of all peoples and, finally, would strengthen international peace and security.

RWANDA

[Original: French]

[4 May 1981]

1. With the advent of the Second Republic in July 1973, the policy of good-neighbourliness became an invariable element of the foreign policy of the Rwandese Government. The Manifesto of the National Revolutionary Movement for Development, the country's sole political group, bringing together the entire population of Rwanda, declares that "the foreign policy supported by the Movement is one of openness, good-neighbourliness, non-alignment and positive neutrality".
2. By the same token, the preamble of the new constitution of the Rwandese Republic, which was adopted by referendum and entered into force on 20 December 1978, states that "the people of Rwanda are determined to contribute to the maintenance of peaceful coexistence among nations, to the strengthening of co-operation among peoples and to the building of African unity". That unequivocal commitment forms the keystone of the Second Republic's foreign policy.
3. The Head of State has spared no effort to initiate and consolidate the policy of good-neighbourliness. The President of the Rwandese Republic, in his many addresses to the nation and when meeting colleagues from neighbouring States, frequently stresses the need to preserve at all costs and to improve friendly relations between neighbouring countries.
4. This policy of good-neighbourliness has not only resulted in the re-establishment of a climate of peace and security in the region but has also led to the foundation of regional bodies for economic co-operation such as the Economic Community of Countries of the Great Lakes (CEPGL), which comprises Rwanda, Burundi and Zaire, and the Organization for the Physical Planning and Development of the Kagera Basin, which includes Rwanda, Burundi and the United Republic of Tanzania.
5. The Rwandese Government firmly believes that the policy of good-neighbourliness is the best guarantee of peace and security and is a prerequisite for the promotion and development of co-operation between States.
6. The Rwandese Government is also convinced that all countries must promote the policy of good-neighbourliness, which is, in its view, one of the best ways of avoiding wars, whether hot or cold, and of settling disputes between neighbouring States.

7. As regards ways and means of strengthening the policy of good-neighbourliness, the following strategy should be adopted: Every country should make good-neighbourliness one of the basic tenets of its foreign policy and increase public awareness of its importance. Leaders and their peoples must be convinced that this policy is the correct one, and outmoded ideas based on a narrow nationalism must be dispelled to make way for the recognition of the merits of interdependence and the settlement of disputes through negotiation.

8. The policy of good-neighbourliness is impossible unless both sides know each other well. Therefore the heads of neighbouring States must enter into a dialogue through reciprocal visits or the dispatch of special envoys. Thus one may hope to dispell distrust and to lay down the basis of a policy of peace, security and co-operation between States, especially neighbouring States.

9. It is also desirable to promote meetings between local or regional officials from different sides of the frontier, since it is they who are best qualified to find or suggest solutions to everyday problems facing people in border areas, it being understood that disputes beyond their competence must be brought before the higher authorities in their respective countries.

10. The conclusion of agreements or the establishment of regional bodies should be considered as the culmination of this policy of good-neighbourliness. They are a tangible manifestation of the spirit of interdependence of States in mutually advantageous projects.

11. These are the opinions and suggestions of the Rwandese Government concerning the development and strengthening of good-neighbourliness among States.

SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

[Original: English]

[25 March 1981]

With reference to ways and modalities of enhancing confidence among States and particularly neighbouring ones, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines suggests that there should be strict observance of the following principles:

(a) Respect for one another's borders and for non-interference in one another's internal affairs. This would be extended to mean the avoidance of encroachment on the territorial jurisdiction of another State;

(b) The avoidance of making in any manner whatsoever inflammatory and deliberately distorted statements about events in another State;

(c) Avoidance of taking in the host country embarassing actions against nationals of another State in a manner calculated to provoke or annoy the authorities of that other State;

(d) The need for resolving disputes through conciliation at Foreign Ministries' level;

(e) The need to show willingness to make conciliatory approaches in an effort to reduce tension and remove barriers of hostility.

SPAIN

[Original: Spanish]

[18 June 1981]

1. Because of its very breadth, the expression "good-neighbourliness" is, from the purely legal standpoint, rather vague inasmuch as the situations which it covers are in substance distinct and in some ways dissimilar. In any event, it is an idea which has taken root in international law and, as such, appears both in the Preamble and Article 74 of the Charter of the United Nations. In the Preamble, the practice of tolerance and living together in peace with one another as good neighbours is one of the means laid down in the Charter for accomplishing the aims of the United Nations. Article 74 specifies that the policy of States Members of the Organization in respect of Non-Self-Governing Territories must be based on the general principle of good-neighbourliness.

2. However, the breadth and even the vagueness of the idea of "good-neighbourliness" are not an obstacle to undertaking the task of strengthening and developing that idea; on the contrary, they are an incentive to doing so as soon as possible. The Spanish Government wishes to assist in this endeavour first, by setting forth its general observations on "good-neighbourliness", secondly, enumerating the main situations to which it is relevant and lastly by identifying the fundamental legal principles which, in its opinion, should be applicable in that regard.

3. Good-neighbourly relations play a fundamental - and, doubtless, a growing - role in contemporary international relations. The maintenance of international peace and security, and the re-establishment of peace and security, whenever they have been disrupted, depend to a large extent on friendly relations between nations, based on tolerance and good-neighbourliness. Consequently, there is a need to take steps to strengthen and develop good-neighbourly relations, and to examine the methods and modalities of enhancing the role of good-neighbourliness and its effectiveness in the behaviour of States.

4. The task of promoting good-neighbourliness and creating and encouraging favourable opportunities for the mutual co-operation and benefit of neighbouring countries, continues to be as urgent, necessary and important today as it was when it was emphasized in General Assembly resolutions 1236 (XII) of 14 December 1957, 1301 (XIII) of 10 December 1958 and 2129 (XX) of 21 December 1965. Hence the relevance of resolution 34/99 of 14 December 1979, on which the General Assembly requested Governments to state their views and suggestions.

5. Efforts to improve peaceful relations and good-neighbourliness between States should encompass, among others, legal, political, economic, technical, scientific and cultural matters. However, the Spanish Government believes that there are situations that exist today to which the idea of good-neighbourliness is relevant and which, as a matter of priority, require understanding and co-operation between States. An enumeration of such situations which is indicative and therefore not exhaustive, follows:

(a) Co-operation in combating international terrorism.

6. The Spanish Government wishes to point out the importance which it attaches to good-neighbourly relations to combat international terrorism, which, as was recently emphasized by the Inter-American Juridical Committee, constitutes an attack on the individual, the society in which he lives, the State to which he belongs and the international community of which the State is a part. Furthermore, the Spanish Government wishes to point out that terrorism, irrespective of its causes or characteristics, constitutes a flagrant and serious violation of human rights.

7. In applying the concept of good-neighbourliness in the field of international terrorism, States must, on the one hand, not permit activities to be undertaken within their territories with a view to the commission of acts of terrorism in the territory of neighbouring States and, on the other hand, intensify international co-operation with neighbouring States, especially in legislative, judicial, administrative and law enforcement fields, with a view to eradicating terrorism. All of the foregoing should be carried out through the conclusion of bilateral agreements or participation in multilateral treaties.

(b) Co-operation in the protection of the environment.

8. The importance which international law attaches today to the protection of the environment is well known. So too are the possibilities for causing harm from the territory of one State to the environment of another through a wide range of sources of pollution. States therefore have a duty to co-operate in protecting the environments of other States, it being understood that anti-pollution efforts must also extend to ocean space, whether under the sovereignty or jurisdiction of a coastal State or common space such as the high seas.

(c) Co-operation with regard to frontier matters.

9. All types of relations are particularly intense between frontier areas and bordering States have the obligation to co-operate to create conditions favourable to such relations. These conditions must cover a wide range of issues, such as public health, the control of animal diseases, the prevention and suppression of smuggling and other forms of tax fraud and, most particularly, the protection of the interests of migrant workers, to whom the greatest assistance and guarantees should be given.

(d) Co-operation with regard to international public facilities.

10. The interests of communications between border areas or the broader interests of international communications can be promoted through the installation or construction of international public facilities and works, such as railway stations, airports, joint police and customs posts, and bridges. This is a field in which action would no doubt promote good-neighbourliness and in which States should co-operate and accord each other the fullest possible assistance.

11. In the view of the Spanish Government, there are two fundamental legal principles which should govern good-neighbourly relations. The first is the obligation of States to co-operate with each other. The second is the principle of good faith. The combination of these two principles leads to the following conclusion: as regards good-neighbourliness, States have a duty to co-operate in good faith.

12. It should be noted that both principles appear in the "Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations" (General Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970). That Declaration sets forth the duty of States to co-operate with one another, inter alia, for the maintenance of international peace and security. General Assembly resolution 34/99, on which the Spanish Government is now commenting, specifically calls upon all States to promote good-neighbourliness with other States "in the interest of the maintenance of international peace and security". Both the letter and the spirit of the two General Assembly resolutions therefore indicate that the promotion of good neighbourliness requires co-operation between States.

13. The principle of good faith in the fulfilment of international obligations also appears in the 1970 Declaration. Since, in accordance with that Declaration, there is an international duty to co-operate, since all the principles of that Declaration are interrelated and since each must be interpreted in the light of all the others, it is obvious that co-operation in promoting good-neighbourliness between States must be guided by the principle of good faith.

TUVALU

[Original: English]

[19 June 1980]

The Government of Tuvalu fully supports the principle of good-neighbourliness and considers that to help to prevent conflicts mutual respect should be shown for the sovereignty of, institutions in, and lawful processes existing in each country.

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

[Original: Russian]

[17 September 1981]

1. The strengthening of peace and international security and the development of co-operation and good-neighbourliness between all States has always been the overriding thrust of the Soviet State's foreign policy. The comprehensive, constructive proposals advanced at the Twenty-sixth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) for radically improving the international situation are intended to serve these noble goals. Their implementation would not only help to avert the threat of war and enhance international security, but would promote fruitful co-operation by all States to deal with the peaceful tasks which confront every people and all mankind.

2. Good-neighbourly relations and co-operation are inseparable elements of the "peaceful coexistence" between States which was propounded by V. I. Lenin at the dawn of the Soviet State's existence.

3. Today, Lenin's ideas on "peaceful coexistence" have been translated into the language of international law. The more than 150 States which make up the membership of the United Nations have solemnly declared in the Charter their determination "to practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours". The ideas of good-neighbourliness have been reflected in such important international documents as the Declaration on the Inadmissibility of Intervention in the Domestic Affairs of States and the Protection of Their Independence and Sovereignty, the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security and the Declaration on the Deepening and Consolidation of International Détente, all of which were drawn up and adopted at the initiative of the USSR and other socialist countries. The further development and strengthening of good-neighbourly relations would without doubt be substantially encouraged by the formulation and conclusion of a world treaty on the non-use of force in international relations, and the Soviet Union has submitted a draft for such a treaty.

4. The Socialist countries' committed approach to the development of good-neighbourly relations with the European States was again confirmed in the Declaration on Peace, Security and Co-operation in Europe, signed in 1972 by the USSR and the socialist countries of Europe, which states, in part:
"Good-neighbourly relations between the European States must evolve from the principles of independence and national sovereignty, equal rights, non-interference in internal affairs, and mutual benefit. This attitude must become standard policy in relations between the States of Europe and a constant factor in the lives of all European peoples, and must also lead to the development of good-neighbourly relations and mutual understanding between States in different parts of Europe. We must strive for a transformation in relations between the European States such as

will make it possible to transcend the division of the continent into military-political groupings".

5. The Soviet Union supports the campaign by the peoples of Europe for a peaceful continent and, as L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, said in his greeting to the participants in the "peace march 1981", it advocates turning the entire European continent into a zone of peace, security and good-neighbourliness.

6. The Soviet Union's strong ties of friendship with the socialist countries are a major factor in the strengthening of good-neighbourly relations in Europe and throughout the world. Relations between the States of the socialist community are of a new type which derives from the essence of these countries' social structure.

7. Treaties of friendship, co-operation and mutual assistance play a large part in the development of good-neighbourly relations between the USSR and the socialist countries, providing for an extensive network of mutual relations based on the well-tested principles of socialist internationalism, unity, friendship, comradesly solidarity and mutual assistance. A major feature of such treaties is a commitment to strengthen good-neighbourly relations and friendship, which answers to the vital interests of the people in the countries concerned. In the 1970 Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance between the USSR and Czechoslovakia, both parties undertook "jointly to strive for an improvement in the situation and for peace in Europe, the strengthening and development of co-operation between European States, and the establishment of good-neighbourly relations among them".

8. A treaty with Bulgaria concluded in 1967 states that "The two Parties shall take steps to establish good-neighbourly relations and develop mutual understanding and co-operation on the Balkan Peninsula and in the Black Sea region".

9. In a 1979 joint Soviet-Hungarian declaration on the further development of fraternal friendship and comprehensive co-operation, the parties advocated the strengthening of peace, good-neighbourliness and co-operation in the Balkans.

10. Under the Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance between the USSR and Romania, both parties gave a commitment to "take steps to establish good-neighbourly relations and develop mutual understanding and collaboration on the Balkan Peninsula and in the Black Sea region".

11. The Soviet Union constantly strives to consolidate the foundations of good-neighbourliness in its bilateral relations with all European States.

12. Finnish-Soviet relations are developing on a sound footing of friendship and good-neighbourliness. In the 1970 Protocol between the USSR and the Republic of Finland for the extension of the validity of the 1948 Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance, the parties expressed their sincere wish to develop and strengthen still further the relations of friendship, good-neighbourliness and mutual trust between the two countries.

13. In the joint declaration made on 6 May 1978 by the Soviet Union and the Federal Republic of Germany, the parties declared their determination to strive to make good-neighbourliness and growing co-operation a lasting treasure for future generations.
14. In the programme for the further development of co-operation between the USSR and France for détente and peace, signed in April 1979, the two parties expressed their conviction that "the policy of détente is the only way to ensure peace and establish good-neighbourly relations, concord and co-operation between the States".
15. A Greek-Soviet declaration of 2 October 1979 points out the need to pursue a policy of friendship, good-neighbourliness, peaceful coexistence and mutually advantageous co-operation.
16. In April 1972 the USSR and the Republic of Turkey signed a declaration on the principles of good-neighbourly relations, in which the Parties expressed the desire to develop "relations of good-neighbourliness and co-operation founded on genuine trust". The wish of the two countries to enhance yet further their good-neighbourly relations, and the friendly co-operation which was developing in accordance with the principles of equality, mutual respect, non-interference in each other's internal affairs and mutual benefit, was later reaffirmed in the Political Document on the Principles of Good-Neighbourliness and Friendly Co-operation between the USSR and Turkey, signed on 23 June 1978. The stipulation in both the Declaration and the Political Document that the two States will in their relations with each other adhere to the principle of refusing to make their territory available for the commission of aggression or disruptive activities against other States, represents a major contribution to the development and strengthening of good-neighbourly relations.
17. The Soviet Union earnestly seeks friendly, good-neighbourly relations with the countries of Asia. A clear indication of this is provided by the 1971 Soviet-Indian Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Co-operation, in which the parties undertake "to continue to develop and strengthen the relations of sincere friendship, good-neighbourliness and comprehensive co-operation existing between them" on the basis of such generally recognized principles as respect for each other's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-interference in internal affairs, equality, and mutual benefit.
18. Relations between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan are evolving in a spirit of good-neighbourliness and mutual respect and understanding. A Treaty of Friendship, Good-Neighbourliness and Co-operation between the USSR and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan was concluded in 1978, reaffirming the countries' fidelity to the purposes and principles of the Soviet-Afghan Treaties of 1921 and 1931, which laid the foundations for friendly and good-neighbourly relations between the Soviet and Afghan peoples.
19. The Soviet Union's policy towards Iran is one of genuine friendship and good-neighbourliness, as was stated in the telegram of greetings sent in April 1979 by L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and President of

the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, to Ayatollah Khomeini in connexion with the proclamation of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

20. The Soviet Union believes it is very important to improve the political climate in Asia and the Pacific Ocean region and turn the area into a zone of peace and good-neighbourliness; it supports the proposal by the Mongolian People's Republic for a convention on mutual non-aggression and non-use of force in relations between the States of Asia and the Pacific Ocean.

21. The principle of good-neighbourliness is also embodied in the Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance between the USSR and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea which was signed in 1961. This states in particular that "the strenghtening of friendship, good-neighbourliness and co-operation between the Soviet Union and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is in accordance with the vital interests of the people of both States".

22. The USSR, in its constant strivings to establish good-neighbourly relations with the People's Republic of China, has repeatedly made appropriate proposals to the Chinese Government, which have unfortunately not yet, met with a positive response. It was officially announced at the Twenty-sixth CPSU Congress that these proposals remain valid" as, too, our feelings of respect and friendship towards the Chinese people remain unchanged".

23. Setting great store by the principle of good-neighbourliness in its relations with Japan, the Soviet Union in February 1978 referred to Japan a draft treaty of good-neighbourliness and co-operation between the two States. This document stipulates that the Contracting Parties would "develop and strengthen good-neighbourly relations and mutually advantageous co-operation founded on peaceful coexistence".

24. The policy of peaceful coexistence among States with different social systems and the establishment on that basis of genuine good-neighbourly relations, are assuming particular importance in view of the new deterioration in the international situation, the growing tension in relations between States and the intensification of the arms race. The emergence of genuinely good-neighbourly and friendly relations between States is incompatible with certain countries' policy of heightening international tension, threatening and interfering in the affairs of others, and suppressing the liberation struggle.

25. For its part, the Soviet Union consistently and actively supports the development of relations of good-neighbourliness and co-operation between all States, irrespective of their social systems; the preservation of détente and the halting of the arms race; and the strengthening of international peace and the security of States and peoples.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

[Original: Arabic]

[2 April 1981]

1. The United Arab Emirates enjoys good relations with all its neighbours, and there are no problems between it and its neighbours. The United Arab Emirates has joined the Council of Co-operation of Arab Gulf States, and its membership in this Council is aimed at enhancing co-operation between these neighbouring States and strengthening co-ordination and good-neighbourliness.

2. We therefore believe that good relations with our neighbour the Islamic Republic of Iran are essential. While we confirm our sovereignty over our three islands, the Greater Tunb, the Lesser Tunb and the island of Abu Musa, we are striving by peaceful and friendly means to settle this issue in a way which accords with the goals of resolution 34/99 adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 14 December 1979. We have every hope that the Islamic Republic of Iran will respond favourably to our call for a settlement of this issue in the same spirit and with the same goal.

YEMEN

[Original: Arabic]

[24 February 1981]

1. The Yemen Arab Republic has long pursued a peaceful policy based on the principles of good-neighbourliness, co-operation, mutual respect of sovereignty and independence and non-intervention in internal affairs.

2. It has been Yemen's wish that this should be its policy with the various States of the world. If we recall the treaty of friendship and trade which Yemen signed with the Soviet Union in 1928, we find that it comprises some of these principles.

3. Since Yemen lives in the middle of an area where customs, values, culture and language blend and are unified through the Islamic religion and common descent, it considers that one of its most pressing duties is to strive vigorously to establish the best and most solid relations with all its neighbours near and relatively far, regardless of their different social and political systems, with the exception of the Zionist entity, which is based on the usurpation of the Palestinians' land and which pursues a hostile colonialist policy against the inhabitants of the Palestinian land and the neighbouring Arab States.

4. In view of the intermingling of interests among the peoples of the neighbouring regions because of the rapid development of means of transport, the influx and outflow of manpower, the growth of the movement of trade and the

importance of economic integration among the States of the region, the Yemen Arab Republic proposes the establishment of a political framework favourable to the interests of all and based on the following principles:

- (a) Respect for national sovereignty and independence;
- (b) Non-intervention in internal affairs;
- (c) Rejection of the politics of political hegemony and tutelage;
- (d) Respect for national options in social and economic construction and political orientation;
- (e) Refusal of involvement in military alliances or foreign forces, which would undermine stability and peace in the region;
- (f) Pursuit of an independent foreign policy aimed at removing the region from the spectre of regional and international polarization;
- (g) Concentration on economic integration and co-ordination in the field of economic plans as a means to political rapprochement and co-operation.

5. In order to prevent political and armed struggles, account must be taken of commitment to the principles of the solution of disputes and misunderstanding through political and diplomatic channels and through periodic or ongoing consultations, non-use of force or threat of force as a means of imposing a solution by armed force or under its influence, because that would bring the region to a state of tension and instability that would lead to the intervention of outside international forces. The importance of commitment to the principle of the solution of disputes by peaceful means is increased by the fact that the region to which we belong is a politically, militarily and economically strategic area and any negative currents affect the entire international situation, particularly in the economic field.

6. The Yemen Arab Republic has striven to consolidate and strengthen its relations with all its neighbours in the Arabian peninsula and the Arabian gulf. For example, the Yemen Arab Republic has persevered since the declaration of the independence of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, in seeking the best ways to restore the unity of the Yemeni homeland by peaceful means and through co-operation in the economic, educational, cultural and information fields. The two Yemens are now endeavouring with determination and zeal to implement the charters and agreements of Yemeni unity which were signed in 1972, 1979 and 1980 through the eight unity commissions which are laying down concepts for the future of the unified State.

7. The two Yemens have realized some important achievements, including the linking of the areas of the parties by viable roads, which facilitates contacts between citizens of the two countries. The two Governments finance this road. In June 1980, the two Governments signed agreements on co-operation in the field of

economic and social development and in the field of exploration of mineral resources, on co-ordination of economic plans so as to contribute to and expedite the process of economic integration between the two countries, and on the preparation of a joint geological map of the two countries.

8. Officials in the two Yemens have signed the following agreements, which will shortly enter on the stage of implementation and execution:

(a) Agreement providing for freedom of travel and movement for citizens of the two Yemens;

(b) Agreement establishing a joint tourism enterprise;

(c) Agreement establishing a joint enterprise for land transport;

(d) Agreement establishing a joint enterprise for maritime transport;

(e) Agreement on co-operation in the cultural and information field; because of the positive effect of information and cultural media on the inculcation of awareness in the masses, authors in the two Yemens come under a single trade union system in the Union of Yemeni Authors and Writers: journalists are also united under a single system in the Union of Yemeni Journalists.

9. From the above it may be seen that the Yemen Arab Republic is sparing no effort in following a peaceful, positive and neutral policy which aims, at the Yemeni level, at a serious endeavour to restore Yemeni unity and, at the regional level, at the creation of a propitious climate for political, economic and international co-operation so that the stability and peace may prevail throughout the world.

YUGOSLAVIA

[Original: English]

[24 August 1981]

1. The Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia fully supports the consideration of the development and strengthening of good-neighbourliness between States by the General Assembly, and considers that this will contribute to the promotion of good-neighbourly relations and co-operation, as well as to the solving of problems among States in general and particularly between neighbouring ones. The deliberations of the General Assembly will also represent a beneficial reaffirmation of the objectives and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, particularly those relating to the peaceful settlement of disputes among States.

2. The development and strengthening of good-neighbourly relations today, as well as in the past, are most directly connected with the efforts exerted towards the

/...

promotion of international co-operation and democratization in international relations. Peace, security and progress of each and every people, which depend in great measure on relations with its neighbours, are endangered by persistence and emergence of conflicts between States, particularly neighbouring ones. This has been particularly emphasized in the Charter of the United Nations, which underlined the resolve of peoples to "practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours". The generalization of the long practice and certain norms of good-neighbourliness is likely to strengthen friendly relations and co-operation among States. Good-neighbourliness rejects all acts seeking to establish zones of influence, domination or subjugation. Together with the principles of the United Nations Charter, the provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, especially the principles of peaceful settlement of disputes, non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries, and non-intervention, are of great importance for the development of good-neighbourliness. The consequences of frequent disputes and conflicts between neighbouring countries in many cases may also jeopardize the security of other countries in the region and beyond, and create situations leading to interference and power rivalry. Therefore, the strengthening of good-neighbourly relations is in the interest of all States, since it contributes to the creation of conditions favourable to peaceful and safe development.

3. The situation in the world today, more than ever before, calls for an ever greater co-operation among all subjects of international community. The development and strengthening of good-neighbourly relations is one of the most important factors in establishing links between peoples and countries, which is realized, first of all, through the policy of peaceful coexistence and by peaceful solution of all problems.

4. The past developments have left numerous problems of different character - national, economic, cultural, etc. - in relations between neighbouring countries. Strengthening of confidence between neighbours and continuous dialogue concerning these problems enormously contribute to their solution, preventing them from turning into conflict situations.

5. The Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has always paid great attention to the promotion of good-neighbourly relations and to the development of comprehensive co-operation with all its neighbours. The policy of good-neighbourliness, which implies consistent observance of the principles of the United Nations Charter, and the mutual respect for the principles of independence, equality, sovereignty, territorial integrity, inviolability of borders and non-interference in the internal affairs has been the continuous course in foreign policy of Yugoslavia. Such a policy, based on the provisions of the Constitution of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and on the constitutions of socialist republics and socialist autonomous provinces, stems from the essence of the socio-political system of Yugoslavia - as a socialist, self-managing and federal community of peoples and nationalities with equal rights - and represents an application of the principles of the policy of non-alignment to the development of co-operation with neighbouring countries.

6. The Government of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia considers that by adhering to the principles of active and peaceful coexistence, through discussions on a principled and constructive basis, and through the development of the policy of good-neighbourliness, problems between neighbours, which in many regions of the world today create sources of crises, instability and armed conflicts, jeopardizing peace, security and progress, can be solved. Convinced that difficulties or open questions that exist among neighbours can be gradually solved only by adherence to the policy of good-neighbourliness the Government of Yugoslavia is of the view that there are no such problems which could not be settled through patient political dialogue on the basis of equality and mutual respect.

7. The consistency of the Yugoslav policy of good-neighbourliness has contributed to Yugoslavia's very good relations with most of its neighbours, and to the fact that these relations and co-operation are being constantly enriched and promoted. Yugoslavia is developing good-neighbourly relations in all fields of mutual interest: in political relations, economic co-operation, scientific, technological and cultural co-operation, border co-operation, tourism, communications, etc. Mutually beneficial results have been realized in all these spheres.

8. Yugoslavia has achieved remarkably friendly relations and co-operation with its neighbours. Yugoslav borders are open, with very strong circulation of people and exchange of material and cultural goods, in spite of existing differences of political and social systems, and the fact that some countries belong to various military blocs and alliances. An equal, consistent policy of good-neighbourliness, mutual respect, non-interference, co-operation and friendship is maintained with all neighbours.

9. Numerous high level contacts with neighbouring countries are the reflection of the widely existing interest and readiness for further development and promotion of mutual relations and co-operation. At the same time, they are the evidence of genuine progress and of the development of these relations. The developed contacts and co-operation with socio-political organizations (political parties, trade unions, youth and other organizations) contribute enormously to the promotion, intensity and variety of co-operation.

10. Significant results have been achieved in the development of economic relations with neighbouring countries. Border co-operation is also successfully developing. Long-term economic agreements have been signed in various spheres of co-operation: commerce, payments, industrial co-operation, hydro-economy, transport, tourism, etc. Intergovernmental joint committees for economic co-operation have been established. The participation of neighbouring countries in the total Yugoslav foreign trade amounts to 20 per cent. These results lead us to the conclusion that these relations will be further improved in future. The abolishment of visa requirements, the reduction of the formalities on the borders to the minimum and the opening of greater number of border passes enormously contribute to the development of economic relations, particularly tourism and border traffic.

11. Development of cultural, educational and scientific co-operation among neighbouring countries has great significance for the promotion of relations in general, and particularly for better mutual understanding and strengthening of the climate of confidence and co-operation. Yugoslavia maintains fruitful co-operation with most neighbouring countries, and the prospects are that it will be further enriched and developed in the coming period.

12. In relations with its neighbours, as in relations with all other countries, Yugoslavia adheres to the principle that differences in socio-political systems and foreign policy orientations should not represent obstacles for the successful development of good-neighbourly relations and co-operation.

13. National minorities have a particular significance for the development of good-neighbourly relations. National minorities should constitute bridges of friendship, better mutual understanding and co-operation among all countries and peoples in the world, and between neighbours in particular. Therefore, complete equality and opportunities for broad expression and development of their national identities should be a generally adopted practice in all those countries where communities of other peoples and nationalities live. The principle of the solution of the question of the status and free and over-all development of national minorities calls for a resolute opposition to their assimilation. The attitude towards national minorities reflects the degree of democracy and the development of democratic and equitable relations in a society. The preconditions for the successful solution of the problem of the status and the rights of national minorities are also strengthened by the promotion of good-neighbourly relations.

14. Yugoslavia's orientation to the policy of "open borders" and the removal of various limitations, for example visa requirements which stand in the way of free exchange of peoples and goods, is of a lasting character. Such an orientation of Yugoslavia conforms with the provisions of the Final Document of the Conference of Security and Co-operation in Europe in Helsinki and of the Charter of the United Nations. It is a well-known fact that Yugoslav borders are considered among the most open ones in the world.

15. Bearing in mind global trends and tendencies in international relations, as well as the significance of the Balkans and the Mediterranean for European security in general, Yugoslavia is seeking, by developing good bilateral and multilateral relations with its neighbours, to contribute to the promotion of regional co-operation and to the strengthening of the stability in this part of Europe, and therefore in the world.

16. The policy of good-neighbourliness of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the efficient implementation of the Final Document from Helsinki found its full expression in Osimo Agreements between Italy and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

17. The Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as President Tito often stressed, did not have and does not have any territorial claims against any of its neighbours. Yugoslavia respects the principle of the inviolability of borders.

Wishing to maintain good and friendly relations with all its neighbours, Yugoslavia wishes also to meet with the same response from each of them.

18. The Government of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia considers that the results of deliberations on the question of the development and strengthening of good-neighbourliness between States at the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly should result in adoption of a decision of the General Assembly in which the principles of good-neighbourliness will be reaffirmed, and in which the Member States will be called upon to strictly adhere to them and, on the basis of those principles, to resolve open questions with their neighbours and to promote mutually beneficial co-operation.

III. REPLIES RECEIVED FROM SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND OTHER
UNITED NATIONS ORGANS

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA

[Original: English]

[19 September 1980]

The Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA) was established in 1974 to promote the economic and social development of the region and be instrumental in co-ordinating such development. Accordingly, ECWA, by the nature of its activities, helps indirectly in furthering good-neighbourliness in its region. There are no specific activities that could be cited in this respect, but the totality of the functions of ECWA, being the promotion of regional economic and social co-operation, contributes to the development of relations of good-neighbourliness among its members.

UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

[Original: English]

[23 June 1980]

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization does indeed contribute to the development and strengthening of good-neighbourliness between States in developing countries through its activities related to the promotion of economic and technical co-operation among developing countries and the development of regional projects. Our most recent activities in these fields are illustrated in the annual report of the Executive Director, 1979.

UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY

[Original: English]

[6 August 1981]

1. Article I of the Charter of the United Nations University provides that the University "shall be an international community of scholars, engaged in research, post-graduate training and dissemination of knowledge in furtherance of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations", whose work is to be devoted to "research into the pressing global problems of human survival, development and welfare that are the concern of the United Nations and its agencies, with due attention to the social sciences and the humanities as well as natural sciences, pure and applied". Article I of the Charter further provides that "the University shall include, among other subjects, coexistence between peoples having different cultures, languages and social systems; peaceful relations between States and the maintenance of peace and security; human rights; economic and social change and development; the environment and the proper use of resources; basic scientific research and the application of the results of science and technology in the interests of development; and universal human values related to the improvement of the quality of life".

2. In its initial years, the University concentrated in its work on three programme areas: world hunger, the use and management of natural resources, and human and social development. Collaborative research and advanced training networks have been developed throughout the world, involving several hundred scholars and scientists and some 120 institutions in over 60 countries.

3. Since last October, the University has begun a wide range of consultations and discussions concerning the preparation of a medium-term perspective for its future work during the next six years. At its seventeenth session in June 1981, the Council of the University agreed that the work of the University in the medium-term should be concerned with the following five major themes:

- (a) Peace, Security, Conflict Resolution and Global Transformation;
- (b) The Global Economy;
- (c) Hunger, Poverty, Resources and the Environment;
- (d) Human and Social Development and Coexistence of Peoples, Cultures, and Social Systems;
- (e) Science, Technology and their Social and Ethical Implications.

4. Within these five themes, work under themes 1 and 3 in particular is expected to contribute to the development of good-neighbourliness between States. The planning and implementation of the various activities within these themes will involve many scholars and scientists from all regions of the world, representing

different political, social, and cultural systems and values. The results of this collaborative work will be disseminated widely among academic communities, Governments, and the United Nations system. The other themes, listed above, are also expected to contribute to the development of good-neighbourliness among States in so far as scholarly and scientific collaboration in the fields of international economics, energy, resources, and science and technology will contribute to the solution of the global problems that beset the world of today.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION

[Original: English]

[10 June 1981]

1. The Constitution of the International Labour Organisation, which originally - and significantly - formed part of the peace settlement which put an end to the First World War closely linked the purposes for which this Organisation was established to the preservation of peace and good-neighbourliness in the following terms:

"Whereas universal and lasting peace can be established only if it is based on social justice; and whereas conditions of labour exist involving such injustice, hardship and privation to large numbers of people as to produce unrest so great that the peace and harmony of the world is imperilled ... The High Contracting Parties, moved by sentiments of justice and humanity as well as by the desire to secure the permanent peace of the world ... agree to the following Constitution of the International Labour Organisation".

Friendly, peaceful relations between States require more than the mere absence of open warfare; they require on a world scale the equivalent of good government within a State, one ingredient of which is just laws. In this respect ILO has pioneered and consistently developed a body of international social legislation in the form of international labour conventions, based on the recognition, again enshrined in the Constitution that "failure of any nation to adopt humane conditions of labour is an obstacle in the way of other nations which desire to improve conditions in their own countries".

2. Orderly, impartial procedures in dealing with the frictions which may arise in regard to respect for international obligations are also an ingredient of good relations between States, and in this regard the procedures developed by the International Labour Organisation for reporting, inquiry into the facts, conciliation and settlement of complaints contribute to the promotion of friendly relations.

3. Without dialogue and consensus there can be neither social justice nor peace. The tripartite structure of the Organisation which associates employers and workers in the decision-making process on a footing of equality with governments is also an instrument of dialogue and consensus.

4. Finally, and no less importantly, the Declaration of Philadelphia which is part of the Constitution of the Organisation, states that "poverty anywhere constitutes a danger to prosperity everywhere". Poverty is also a threat to peace and good-neighbourliness, and the struggle against poverty, unemployment and social injustice which the Organisation has waged through standard-setting, research and technical co-operation is also a contribution to good-neighbourliness.

5. The award to the International Labour Organisation of the Nobel Peace Prize on the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary, in 1979, bears testimony to its contribution to peace and good-neighbourliness.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

[Original: English]

[3 May 1981]

1. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has over the years been providing active support and technical assistance to its member countries in their efforts towards collective self-reliance and mutual economic and technical co-operation in the fields of food, agriculture, fisheries and forestry. This continuing policy finds its basis in the constitution of the Organization which, in its Preamble, calls for the promotion of the common welfare by furthering collective action for the purpose, inter alia, of "contributing toward an expanding world economy and ensuring humanity's freedom from hunger".

2. This policy and relevant FAO programmes and activities are fully in line with General Assembly resolution 34/99 in which the Assembly pointed out the positive influence on international relations as a whole of activities relevant to the development of relations of good-neighbourliness between States. It is also the view of FAO that economic co-operation in food and agriculture among neighbouring countries is not only a contribution to the elimination of malnutrition and hunger but also a contribution to peace, as these evils are at the root of most situations of conflict.

3. The following sections give an overview of current FAO activities and programmes which, although not always directed exclusively at neighbouring countries, have a direct effect on the promotion of economic co-operation among countries linked by geographic proximity.

4. Support to economic co-operation groupings is provided under the FAO regular programme through studies and seminars, often undertaken by its Joint Agriculture Divisions in co-operation with the United Nations regional commissions and, under the field programme, through direct technical assistance to regional and subregional co-operation schemes, usually as inter-country projects funded by the United Nations Development Programme. FAO has a long record of assistance in economic co-operation to regional groupings in Latin America, the Near East, Africa, Asia and the Pacific area.

5. In order to help in the expansion of their mutual trade in agricultural commodities, FAO assists countries on request in the preparation of and participation in national outlook conferences and policy studies, including trade forecasts, and trade policy advice designed to further economic co-operation in countries.
6. The FAO/Bankers Programme provides a forum for co-operation and exchange of information and experience between its members. Membership of the Programme is open to national development finance institutions which support investment in the agricultural and rural sectors. The main aim of the Programme is to assist such institutions in the identification and preparation of viable investment projects in the agricultural sector. In addition, emphasis in 1978-1979 was placed on training of the staff members of these institutions in the formulation of investment projects and on promoting economic and technical co-operation between the members. Efforts are being intensified to promote project financing among developing country institutions, either directly or in association with developed country sources.
7. The FAO Investment Centre co-operates actively with developing country funds such as the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, the Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development, the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development and the Corporación Andina de Fomento. The FAO input consists mainly of helping governments and national development institutions to formulate investment projects for consideration of financing by these Funds.
8. The FAO Scheme for Agricultural Credit Development (SACRED) has continued to promote economic co-operation between credit institutions, central and development banks of developing countries. Three Regional Agricultural Credit Associations, whose membership is open to governments, central banks, co-operative and agricultural development banks, are being supported technically, and their main purpose is to foster inter-country economic co-operation. This co-operation is taking the form of subregional training programmes and exchange of national experts between countries.
9. In food and agricultural production, FAO acts as a catalyst and promotes such co-operative technical and economic programmes as would contribute to raising food and agricultural output at the regional and subregional levels and to expanding economic co-operation. More than 22 developing countries collaborate in the Near East and North Africa Field food crop production and improvement project. An inter-country project for the improvement of production of traditional tropical root crops in the Pacific region, is now operational. The project is serving more than 11 countries and trust territories. A regional project on development of food legumes and coarse grains involving 14 Asian countries, will soon be in operation. The scope of the project is to increase the production of food legumes and cereals in the participating countries through the organization and co-ordination of a network of 22 national research and development institutes concerned. A research co-operative programme on improvement of olive production, started five years ago, will be further developed to include olive-producing countries or countries wishing to develop that production in the Mediterranean area and the Near East.

10. FAO networks on industrial crops already exist for sunflowers and soybeans and will be initiated for improvement of coconut production in Asia and the Pacific, and for sunflower, safflower and sesame crops in tropical Latin American countries. The primary objective of these FAO networks is to provide improved varieties and planting material and to exchange information, and thus to stimulate productivity and the income of the small farmers.
11. FAO has regional programmes in the fields of seed improvement, forestry, plant protection and control of locusts and grain-eating birds.
12. FAO stresses the urgent need to foster the collective self-reliance of developing countries in the vital sector of food security. There are indications that governments of developing countries increasingly recognize the need for joint action on food security. The governments of the countries of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) agreed in 1979 to establish an ASEAN Food Security Reserve. A further collective initiative is a proposal to set up a regional food reserve for the Sahel on which FAO undertook a pre-feasibility study at the request of the Permanent Inter-State Committee on Drought Control in the Sahel.
13. The activities of FAO in the field of fisheries are directed specifically to the promotion of inter-country collaboration, on a regional basis where appropriate. The importance of these activities has been recently reinforced by the new régime of the sea, specifically the extension of legal jurisdiction by many coastal countries.
14. FAO training courses in field water management at national level in the Asia and Far East region are actively supported by lecturers from neighbouring countries. Likewise, countries have opened their national training facilities to nationals from other countries, as for example, the Karaj Institute in Iran, established with FAO/UNDP assistance, is receiving trainees from neighbouring countries and FAO projects.
15. FAO co-operates with UNIDO in areas of common interest in the field of agro-industrial development.
16. FAO, through its field programme, continues to participate and support a number of joint activities of riparian countries for the assessment, planning and development of their common water resources. Examples of ongoing projects are the Lake Chad Basin Commission, the Senegal Basin Commission, the Mano River Union and the hydrological re-appraisal of the Arab Peninsula.
17. FAO facilitates and fosters co-operation among countries by providing planning tools and mechanisms, by arranging inter-country regional seminars and study tours on economic and technical subjects, by regular dissemination of information, and by promoting transfer of technology through regional networks of research institutions. Activities in the field include the issuance of farm schemes, marketing guides, manuals on food quality control, seminars on improved production of oilseeds and grain legumes, arrangements for transfer of technology in agricultural engineering and appropriate mechanization through regional research

networks. In the field of fisheries, activities such as regional seminars on fisheries management, fisheries development and fish processing and technology are undertaken.

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

[Original: English]

[30 April 1981]

1. Good relations between States, in particular between neighbouring States, are promoted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) through the various forms of international co-operation in which the organization engages pursuant to its Constitution.
2. The Preamble to the UNESCO Constitution states that "Ignorance of each other's ways and lives has been a common cause throughout the history of mankind of that suspicion and mistrust between peoples of the world through which their differences have all too often broken into war". It further declares that "a peace based exclusively upon the political and economic arrangements of governments would not be a peace which could secure the unanimous, lasting and sincere support of the peoples of the world and that peace must therefore be founded, if it is not to fail, upon the intellectual and moral solidarity of mankind".
3. The Constitution under the part on purpose and functions states "The purpose of the Organization is to contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among the nations through education, science and culture in order to further universal peace, respect for justice, for the rule of law and for human rights and fundamental freedoms which are affirmed for the people of the world, without distinction of race, sex, language or religion by the Charter of the United Nations".
4. Two forms of this co-operation may be considered as particularly relevant to the development of relations of good-neighbourliness between States: intergovernmental programmes and national commissions.

A. Intergovernmental Programmes

1. Intergovernmental Programme on Man and Biosphere (MAB)

5. MAB is a nationally based international programme of scientific co-operation among 30 countries. The programme is directed towards the quest for practical solutions to the concrete problems of the management of natural resources, land development, and rural and urban planning. It is an operational programme, with field projects planned and undertaken by countries, particularly through pilot projects. The basis for meaningful international co-operation within the programme lies in the diversity of situations and conditions that exist in the biosphere and complementarity of national approaches and efforts to solve priority programmes.

6. The integration and co-ordination of nationally administered projects and tackled at a regional scale, where problems are closer to reality and where countries share somewhat similar bio-climatic conditions and socio-economic conditions. Within this programme, region is defined principally in ecological terms. MAB gives particular attention to the development of pilot projects in regions where problems are most acute namely the humid tropics and arid and semi-arid lands. Each of these networks includes sub-networks in particular geographic regions. Thus, sub-networks are located in Latin America, Africa and South-East Asia, and in southern and central Asia.

2. Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme (IHP)

7. This programme carries out its activities through eight main projects which enable 30 member States to co-operate, develop techniques, investigate and improve methodology and hold meetings to study the effects of urbanization and industrialization. It tries through its national commissions to create awareness of the importance of water resources in socio-economic development, and urges member States to take increased part in the transfer of knowledge between regions by opening a dialogue with international development agencies and by establishing direct bilateral co-operation with sister committees in developing countries.

3. Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)

8. This Commission, which has 103 member States, undertakes regional scientific investigations in many of the major oceanic areas.

9. The Commission is engaged in research and monitoring of marine pollution, regionally and globally, and contributes actively to increasing the potential of member States to participate actively in marine research at the regional and global levels. The training, education of experts from member States and development of programmes in relation to climate changes, living resources and non-living resources are the major lines of work on which the Commission focuses.

4. Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport

10. This Committee urges its 30 member States to disseminate and put into application the International Charter of Physical Education and Sport (resolution 1/S.4/2), which was adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO at its twentieth session, on 21 November 1978. This Charter gives importance to development of physical education as a part of life-long education and provides guidance for the development of national policies and a means of stimulating the various forms of collaboration among member States. In the Charter particular stress is laid on the development of sportsmanship or fair play, which should be inculcated from childhood onwards. Following its objectives, UNESCO encourages the member States to hold regional meetings and seminars, symposia and workshops, to set up courses of study and production of teaching materials in physical education and sport for all in various geographic regions, and to foster bilateral and multilateral exchanges among all member States, especially those belonging to the same geographic sub-region or region.

5. Intergovernmental Council for the General Information Programme

11. This Council, made up of 30 member States, carries out activities aimed at the formulation of information policies and plans, the dissemination of methods, norms and standards for information handling, the development of infrastructures and of specialized information systems in the field of education training of specialists in and users of information and support to national efforts in the development of information systems and services.

12. At meetings within the framework of this programme, particularly at UNISIST II Meeting, the Director-General was requested to create favourable conditions for world-wide co-operation in information systems, networks and services and to make special efforts to assist the development and strengthening of national and international information systems.

6. International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC)

13. This programme was established at the twenty-first session of the General Conference of UNESCO, in October 1981, to meet the wishes of those member States whose capacity to communicate is still inadequate. Thirty-five States are members of IPDC. The aim of IPDC is to increase co-operation and assistance for the development of communication infrastructures and to reduce the gap between various countries in the field of communication, and to assist in the efforts for the establishment of a new, more equitable, just and more effective world information and communication order.

7. International Bureau of Education (IBE)

14. The IBE is composed of 26 member States. Its activities are directed towards the establishment of a world-wide network for educational information exchange. For this purpose it operates a documentation centre, which is a co-ordinating unit in that network. It also provides technical support to regional and sub-regional networks of educational innovation for development. To improve the efficiency of the network's services it participates in activities and programmes that are sponsored by the national and regional networks, encourages and supports the organization, at the regional level of workshops, training courses, and other activities aimed at improving information about education.

15. In all of the seven intergovernmental programmes described above, innumerable opportunities arise for co-operation between neighbouring States and the experience of these programmes is very encouraging for the development of relations of good-neighbourliness in the spirit of General Assembly resolution 34/99.

16. An example of a joint project among countries in the same region could be the major project of MAB, which comprises four networks of pilot projects, located in Latin America, and the Caribbean, in Africa (Sahelian countries and Eastern and Southern Africa), in the Arab States and in Asia and the Pacific. These networks cover the different priority problems involved in the development of arid lands (complementary nature of pastoral and agricultural activities, reafforestation with

drought resistant trees, in order to combat desertification and form renewable energy sources, ecological and socio-economic effects of irrigation, oasis cultivation, etc.).

B. National Commissions

17. According to article VII of UNESCO's Constitution "each Member State shall make such arrangements as suit its particular conditions for the purpose of associating its principal bodies interested in educational, scientific and cultural matters with the work of the Organization, preferably by the formation of a National Commission broadly representative of the Government and such bodies". National Commissions have been established in 141 member States and often serve as a channel for relations of good-neighbourliness, particularly through regional and inter-regional meetings and joint activities.

18. Regional conferences organized by the National Commissions every fourth year permit the exchange of information, experience and ideas among the National Commissions of the region. Apart from these regular meetings, sub-regional and inter-regional meetings bring together the representatives of National Commissions. For example, inter-regional meetings of Secretaries-General of the National Commissions, called "Ljubljana Meetings", which date back to 1971, bring together the Secretaries of various regions to examine the development of communication and co-operation, permitting exchange of experience between National Commissions coming from different regions and help to promote co-operation among member States at sub-regional, regional and inter-regional levels. During the last two years the following regional and inter-regional meetings were organized:

(a) Fourth Meeting of the General Secretaries of National Commissions of Europe, held in Krems (Austria), in June 1979;

(b) Regional Meeting of the National Commissions in the Asia and Oceania Region, held in Manila (Philippines), in September 1979;

(c) First Regional Meeting of National Commissions of the Arab States in the Gulf Region, held in Kuwait, in December 1979;

(d) Regional Meeting of National Commissions of Europe, held in Bonn (Federal Republic of Germany) in March 1980;

(e) Second Regional Meeting of National Commissions of Arab States in the Gulf Region, held in Riyadh (Saudi Arabia), in May 1980;

(f) Meeting of Secretaries-General of the National Commissions of Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Bogotá (Colombia), in August 1980;

(g) Inter-Regional Meeting of National Commissions, held in October 1979, in Dar-es-Salaam (Tanzania);

(h) Inter-Regional Meeting of representatives of National Commissions, held in April 1980, in Montreux (Switzerland).

19. It is through the regional meetings and, more particularly, joint projects that relations of good-neighbourliness are developed. The multilateral consultations on secondary school history books serve as an example of a joint project among neighbouring countries. This project, undertaken by the Finnish National Commission, brings together regularly the representatives of the National Commissions of the following six neighbouring countries: Finland, the German Democratic Republic, Italy, Norway, Poland and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. This group, while making a critical examination of the content of history textbooks which have been formulated by a group of experts, gives particular importance to the promotion of international understanding.

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

[Original: English]

[3 July 1981]

International civil aviation is itself a tool for the promotion of good-neighbourliness and the objectives of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) include fostering the planning and development of international air transport so as to ensure the safe and orderly growth of international civil aviation throughout the world and to meet the needs of the peoples of the world for safe, regular, efficient and economical air transport. The following activities of ICAO contribute particularly to the improvement of good relations among neighbouring States:

(a) The establishment of regional training centres: Through the pooling of training equipment, personnel and services, these centres serve neighbouring countries and permit a considerable saving of resources. Several of these Centres have been put into operation with ICAO assistance, financed through UNDP or trust fund schemes.

(b) ICAO encourages joint ownership and operation of international air services. By resolution A16-33 the Council of ICAO is directed to give assistance, when requested, to States that take the initiative in developing co-operative arrangements directly among themselves or whose airlines develop such arrangements. It also collects and disseminates to States information on co-operative agreements and arrangements which range from the establishment of multinational airlines to agreements on standardization of equipment and pooling of maintenance services.

WORLD BANK

[Original: English]

[9 June 1980]

Although this subject does not fall directly within the Bank's sphere of competence, we believe that, indirectly, the Bank's contribution to the economic development and welfare of its developing member countries, in particular, its financial and technical assistance in the implementation of regional programmes, enhances the prospects for improved relations among neighbouring States. For example, the Bank has helped finance a number of regional projects within the former East African Community, and, following its dissolution, has played a key role in the search for a satisfactory solution of the problem. In the Sahel region, where the problem of riverblindness has seriously hampered agricultural development in a number of neighbouring States, the Bank has joined with other institutions and the government concerned in implementing a long-term programme to eradicate this disease. More recently the Bank has organized the Caribbean Group for Co-operation in Economic Development to mobilize financial and technical assistance on a regional basis. To the extent, therefore, that such Bank activities forge economic co-operation among countries, we believe that the impact on good-neighbourly relations is favorable.

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

[Original: English]

[2 May 1980]

In accordance with Article 1 of its Articles of Agreement, the International Monetary Fund encourages monetary, financial and economic co-operation among its member countries. This includes a variety of regional payments arrangements and other forms of monetary co-operation which in many cases involve neighboring countries.

UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

[Original: French]

[10 April 1981]

The main aim of the Universal Postal Union is to develop communications among peoples through the efficient operation of postal services and to contribute to international co-operation in the cultural, social and economic spheres. Moreover, the Union has since its inception contributed to the strengthening of good-neighbourliness between States with regard to postal services by promoting the formation of regional postal unions and special postal arrangements. In other words, the achievement of the aims of General Assembly resolution 34/99, with

regard to bringing individuals, peoples and States closer together, is an integral part of the activities pursued by our Organization since its foundation.

INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

[Original: English]

[22 May 1981]

1. The Agency undertakes certain activities relating to this subject within the objective set forth in the Agency's statute, namely, "to accelerate and enlarge the contribution of atomic energy to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world". For instance, the IAEA concluded the "Nordic Mutual Emergency Assistance Agreement in Connection with Radiation Accidents" (INFCIRC 49, INFCIRC 49/Add.1). In accordance with the Agreement, the Governments of Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden may use the assistance provided by each other or by the IAEA in the event of an accident involving damage from ionizing radiation.
2. It is also of relevance that the next meeting of the Board of Governors of the Agency in June will consider a proposal by the United States of America for an international convention on nuclear safety co-operation and emergency assistance in the event of a nuclear accident.
3. The United Nations can be assured of the International Atomic Energy Agency's continued co-operation and effort towards assisting it in the task of the development of relations of good-neighbourliness between States.

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

[Original: English]

[1 April 1981]

Virtually all the activities of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) can be regarded as relevant to the development of relations of good-neighbourliness between States. As a multilateral agreement laying down mutual rights and obligations in the field of trade, it establishes contractual and friendly relations in this area between its signatory States. A great part of the work of GATT is concerned with the conciliation and settlement of trade disputes, and in this respect also helps to maintain good-neighbourly relations. A long series of trade negotiations in the framework of GATT, of which the Tokyo Round of multilateral trade negotiations (1973-1979) was the most recent, has been directed to the progressive opening-up of markets for trade, and thus again to the strengthening of international relations. And finally, a major part of the activities of GATT in recent years has been directed towards helping developing countries to participate more fully in the international trading system, and thus to reducing tensions in the economic field and contributing to the development of relations of good-neighbourliness between all States involved.