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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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Item 40 of the preliminary list*

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-third year

THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Letter dated 16 June 1988 from the Permanent Representative
of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the English and French texts of the declaration on Lebanon made by the Foreign Ministers of the Twelve States members of the European Community on 13 June 1988 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 40 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Alexander COUNT YORK
Ambassador

* A/43/50.

ANNEX

Declaration made on 13 June 1988 by the Foreign Ministers of the
Twelve States members of the European Community on Lebanon

The Twelve follow with concern the critical situation in Lebanon, which urgently requires a political solution after 13 years of war and suffering. The proper functioning and strengthening of Lebanon's constitutional bodies is a pre-condition for such a solution.

The Twelve therefore believe that the orderly and constitutional conduct of the forthcoming presidential election will be of decisive importance for the future of the Lebanese Republic. They call upon all parties involved to support the preparation and good conduct of the election.

The Twelve are convinced that lasting peace can only be achieved by national conciliation and a just solution of the internal problems, taking into account the legitimate interests of all the different communities of the country. This implies that all should be prepared to make mutual concessions. To this end the Twelve appeal to all parties to work together constructively for an early political solution to the Lebanese crisis and its regional implications.

The Twelve furthermore stress the need to intensify efforts aimed at restoration of the sovereignty, unity, independence and territorial integrity of Lebanon. The full independence and sovereignty of Lebanon must be respected, and it must solve its problems without foreign involvement or interference.

The Twelve underline their support for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon and call upon all parties to ensure that these forces are allowed to fulfil their mandate without hindrance.

The Twelve once more condemn the fact that hostages are still being held in the Lebanon, and call for their immediate release.
