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THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA: THREATS TO
INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY AND PEACE
INITIATIVES

Letter dated 10 October 1983 from the Permanent Representative of
India to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward a copy of the Communiqué adopted by the Meeting of Ministers and Heads of Delegations of the Non-Aligned Countries to the thirty-eighth session of the General Assembly, held in New York from October 4 to 7 1983 with the request that it may be circulated among Member States as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 18, 23, 25, 29, 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 49, 50, 52, 53, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 61, 62, 63, 65, 66, 69, 76, 78, 124, 140 and 142, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) N. KRISHNAN
Ambassador/Permanent Representative of India to
the United Nations

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ANNEX

**Meeting of Ministers and Heads of Delegations of
the Non-aligned Countries to the 38th Session
of the UN General Assembly
New York, 4-7 October 1983**

FINAL COMMUNIQUE

The Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegations of Non-aligned Countries to the 38th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations met in New York from 4th to 7th October, 1983 to consider action on issues before the current Session of the General Assembly of special concern to non-aligned countries.

2. The Meeting took note of the Report of the Chairman on the Activities of the Movement of Non-aligned Countries since the Seventh Summit in New Delhi in March 1983 and urged that the efforts to implement the decisions of the Movement be continued.

3. The Meeting assessed the current international political and economic situation, in particular the developments since the Seventh Non-aligned Summit held in New Delhi in March 1983. It was agreed that the New Delhi Summit represented a landmark in the evolution of the Movement. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation reaffirmed the validity of the principles and policies adopted by the Non-aligned Movement which were a major factor contributing to the preservation of world peace.

4. The Meeting stressed the need for non-aligned countries to undertake positive measures for the implementation of the decisions contained in the Political and Economic Declaration and the Programme of Action adopted at the New Delhi Summit. The increasing interest generated worldwide in the activities and positions of non-aligned countries has been an important index of its enhanced role and influence in the world today. The commitment of non-aligned countries to the promotion of peace, to the elimination of colonialism and the consolidation of the national independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of States and to the social and economic upliftment of their peoples, has been recognised as part of the profound change in the structure of contemporary international relations.

5. The Meeting expressed deep concern at the tensions and confrontations between the great powers and renewed the appeal of the non-aligned countries to them to renounce their policies of confrontation and the mistrust between them, and to engage in sincere forward-looking negotiations in a spirit of shared good faith. Reviewing the international situation, the Ministers and Heads of Delegation expressed grave concern over the continuing existence of focal points of aggression and tension particularly in the Middle East, Africa - particularly Southern Africa, South-

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West Asia, South-East Asia, the Caribbean, Central America and the South Atlantic and in certain parts of Europe. Forces hostile to the emancipation of peoples continue to infringe the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of countries and the rights of people under colonial and alien domination to self-determination and independence. New conflicts among States have further aggravated the situation making the maintenance of international peace and security more precarious. The continued intransigence of the developed countries has further aggravated the inequalities and injustices of international economic relations.

6. In this context, the Ministers and Heads of Delegation recalled with satisfaction the response to the Non-aligned proposal urging Heads of State or Government of Member States of the United Nations to participate at the 38th Session of the UN General Assembly and engage in informal consultations in order to undertake a collective appraisal of the major problems facing the world with a view to finding speedy and just solutions to these problems. They expressed satisfaction at the participation of 24 Heads of State or Government at the meetings held and the constructive atmosphere in which the informal discussions were conducted. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation expressed the hope that, as a result of these consultations, a process would be initiated which results in the genuine relaxation of international tensions and the resolution of important problems affecting peace, security, disarmament and development in various parts of the world.

ROLE OF THE MOVEMENT

7. Through the years, the Movement of Non-aligned Countries has continued to play a decisive role in efforts to maintain peace, promote disarmament and the relaxation of international tension and to eliminate focal points of aggression and tension, as well as to encourage the just and peaceful solution of international issues. Generations of peoples and leaders of non-aligned countries have given expression to the legitimate aspirations of these countries to be rid of relations of subjugation and dependence, in whatever form they appear in colonial and post-colonial situations, and to give free expression to their own authentic national traditions and personalities. In articulating their international concerns, they have also striven for the elimination of structures of domination, discrimination, exploitation and inequality and for the establishment of a new system of international relations based on respect for independence, equality and cooperation and the fulfilment of aspirations of security, prosperity and development of all peoples.

8. The quintessence of the policy of non-alignment, based on its original principles and character, consists of the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism,

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apartheid, racism, Zionism and all forms of foreign aggression, occupation, domination, interference or hegemony as well as against great power or bloc policies. In other words, it involves the rejection of all forms of subjugation, dependence, interference or intervention, direct or indirect, and all pressures - political, diplomatic, economic, military and cultural - in international relations. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation reaffirmed the need for strict adherence to the principle of non-intervention and non-interference in the internal and external affairs of States which is one of the basic principles of non-alignment. The violation of this principle is unacceptable and unjustifiable under any circumstances.

9. The Meeting emphasized the principle of peaceful settlement of disputes and conflicts as a fundamental element of the philosophy of peaceful co-existence advocated by non-aligned countries. In this respect the Meeting reiterated the principles and ways for the promotion of peaceful settlement of disputes among non-aligned countries.

10. The resolute rejection of polarisation on bloc basis, of any preconditioning of policies on the basis of adherence to military pacts or alliances; a steadfastness in evaluating international issues on their merits and on the basis of national independence as well as consistent support for the all round emancipation of the peoples of Asia, Africa, Latin America and other regions of the world constitute the most explicit expressions of the policy of non-alignment. Such a policy also rejects attempts to erroneously characterize the struggles of peoples for independence and human dignity as falling within the context of East-West confrontation which denies them the right to determine their own destiny and realize their legitimate aspirations. The safeguarding of the freedom of judgement and action of non-aligned States and their conscious promotion of the principle of peaceful co-existence are motivated by a genuine hope that in spite of the rivalries and inner tensions that bedevil the world, it will move closer towards cooperation and not conflict, towards integration rather than stratification.

11. The Meeting reiterated the commitment of non-aligned countries not to be parties to, or take any action which would facilitate, great power confrontation and rivalry and concepts of spheres of influence in various regions of the world and the strengthening of existing military alliances and interlocking arrangements arising therefrom, particularly through participation in military arrangements or through the provision of military bases and facilities for great power military presence conceived in the context of great power conflicts.

DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

12. The resurgence of cold war animosities, which have been accompanied by the emergence of new power configurations, pose

new and grave threats to global peace and security. Competition for spheres of influence and for expanding relations of domination and exploitation continue to be manifested in wider areas of the world. The arms race, particularly in nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, has escalated to unprecedented levels. There have been renewed efforts at deployment of military forces and the acquisition by great powers of various types of bases and other facilities in the various regions of the world; new chemical weapons and nuclear weapons with increased lethality and greater accuracy are being deployed; there is also the danger of the nuclear confrontation being spread to outer space and efforts are underway to develop and deploy anti-satellite space weapons. These developments not only undermine international security but in their total impact could lead to the increasing "conventionalisation" and legitimisation of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction. Nuclear deterrence is unlike deterrence in the pre-nuclear age. Where the entire civilian populations of the world are held hostage to the strategic interests of one or other nuclear weapon States, such policies represent "nuclear terrorism" rather than deterrence.

13. The persistence of the arms race has produced high budgetary deficits in the industrialised world which have led to a cutback in economic aid to developing countries. Recessionary conditions in the developed world have reduced trade with developing countries, thus affecting the ability of these countries to reduce their high debt burden and aggravating their economic problems. Instability resulting from these conditions has increased the danger of intervention and interference by affluent and powerful States in the developing world thus further endangering international peace and security.

14. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation reiterated the conviction expressed at previous Non-aligned Conferences that international peace and security can only be ensured through general and complete disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, under effective international control. They stressed that urgent measures for disarmament should be negotiated within the framework and under the aegis of the United Nations. In this context, they called upon the Committee on Disarmament as the sole multilateral negotiating body in the field of disarmament to fulfil its mandate and adopt concrete measures of disarmament, in particular nuclear disarmament. In order to prevent effectively the horizontal and vertical proliferation of nuclear weapons, nuclear-weapon States should adopt urgent measures for halting and reversing the nuclear arms race. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation called for an immediate prohibition of the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons by all nuclear weapon States pending the achievement of nuclear disarmament. They further called for a freeze on the production, stockpiling and deployment of nuclear weapons and rejected all theories and concepts pertaining to the possession

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of nuclear weapons and their use under any circumstances. They expressed serious concern that even the limited negotiations on arms reduction and disarmament which were already underway had been stalled and, in some instances, unilaterally suspended. The aggravation of the international situation, far from being a reason for suspension of important negotiations on arms limitation and disarmament should, in fact, justify their more intensive pursuit. The major nuclear weapon States were urged to pursue their negotiations on arms limitation and disarmament with greater vigour and to keep the United Nations informed of the progress achieved in these negotiations.

15. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation also reiterated that the nuclear-weapon States have an obligation to guarantee that non-nuclear-weapon States will not be threatened or attacked with nuclear weapons. They recommended that negotiations should proceed without delay for the conclusion of an agreed international instrument on effective international arrangements to insure all non-nuclear-weapon States, without any discrimination, against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons. They affirmed that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned constituted an important disarmament measure. The establishment of such zones in different parts of the world should be encouraged with the ultimate objective of achieving a world entirely free of nuclear weapons.

16. Despite the urgent call of the international community, efforts for a comprehensive treaty banning the testing of all types of nuclear weapons in all environments for all time have so far failed to produce any result. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation called for an exercise of the political will on the part of the nuclear-weapon States so as to facilitate the speedy finalisation of such a Treaty.

NON-INTERVENTION AND NON-INTERFERENCE

17. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation noted with concern that despite the adoption by the United Nations General Assembly of the Declaration on the Inadmissibility of Intervention and Interference in the Internal Affairs of States contained in resolution 36/103, policies of intervention and interference, pressure and the threat or use of force continued to be pursued against many non-aligned countries, with dangerous consequences for peace and security. They called upon all States to adhere to the Declaration and observe its principles in their dealings with other States.

SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

18. Developments in Southern Africa show that the remnant forces of apartheid, racial discrimination and colonial tyranny

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continue stubbornly to resist the forces of change. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation stressed the determination of the non-aligned countries to unify their effort and muster all their energies in support of the peoples of the region against the oppressive and intimidatory policies of the racist South African regime.

19. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation considered that the policies of apartheid, racial discrimination and aggression being undertaken by the racist South African regime are the main causes of destabilization and threat to peace and security in the region.

20. The Meeting strongly condemned the increased and systematic pattern of military aggression, economic pressure and acts of destabilisation and sabotage launched by South Africa against the neighbouring independent African countries of Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The Ministers noted with satisfaction that these policies of aggression and intimidation of the Pretoria regime had not deterred these States of Southern Africa from their support of and solidarity with forces struggling against the racist regime for their independence, freedom and justice. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation urged the international community to accord them all possible support and assistance to strengthen their defence capability against the illegal regime of South Africa.

21. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation expressed their deep concern over the continuation of the illegal occupation of part of the territory of the People's Republic of Angola by the racist regime. They vehemently condemned the regime of South Africa and urged the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the South African troops from the Angolan soil. They also condemned the recent massive aggression carried out by South African forces against the village of Cangamba in the Province of Moxico, 500 kilometres from the Namibian border. The meeting expressed its full support for the measures taken by the Angolan government in accordance with Article 51 of the United Nations Charter in order to guarantee and safeguard its territorial integrity and national sovereignty.

22. The Meeting denounced the recent air raid perpetrated by South African forces against Matola, an industrial and residential area a little less than 20 kilometres from Maputo, the capital of the People's Republic of Mozambique. It strongly condemned the war of aggression against the People's Republic of Mozambique carried out by the South African racists through the use of armed bandits and mercenaries as an extension of the South African army. It reaffirmed that these constant acts of invasion and aggression and sabotage of the economic and social infrastructure of the People's Republic of Mozambique by the South African regime are aimed at undermining the efforts of the Mozambican people to achieve national reconstruction in

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conditions of peace and security. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation therefore expressed their full support for the people and Government of Mozambique in their struggle for the preservation of their independence and sovereignty.

23. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation expressed their profound indignation over acts of armed aggression perpetrated by the Pretoria regime and its bandits against Lesotho and more recently over the arms and economic blockade of Lesotho. They condemned those acts as being aimed at undermining Lesotho's commitment to give asylum to refugees of apartheid in accordance with international conventions on refugees and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and called for an immediate end to them as well as all other acts of destabilization and intimidation against the Kingdom by South Africa. The Ministers commended the Government of Lesotho for its steadfastness in extending humanitarian assistance to the refugees, despite the constant threats, pressure and attacks by the racist regime.

24. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation condemned the increased military and nuclear collaboration between the racist regime of South Africa and Israel. They considered such collaboration as a threat to the security of Africa and called upon all countries to denounce this collaboration. They also took note of the Declaration adopted at the Vienna Conference on the Alliance between Israel and South Africa.

NAMIBIA

25. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation reaffirmed the inalienable right of the people of Namibia to self-determination and national independence in a united Namibia, including Walvis Bay, the Penguin Islands and other offshore islands. They reiterated their solidarity with and support for the heroic struggle waged under the leadership of SWAPO, their sole, authentic and legitimate representative, for the liberation of their country.

26. The Meeting strongly condemned the racist regime of South Africa for its continued illegal colonial occupation of Namibia against the just demands of the people of the territory for freedom and self-determination, and in flagrant violation and utter defiance of United Nations resolutions and decisions. It further condemned racist South Africa for its continued violent repression of the Namibian people, its massive militarization of the territory, and its arrogant use of Namibia as a springboard for committing unprovoked acts of subversion, aggression and destabilization of neighbouring independent states, particularly Angola, part of whose territory is under occupation of the racist troops.

27. The Meeting expressed its strong indignation at the continued non-implementation of the United Nations Plan for

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Namibia embodied in Security Council resolution 435 (1978). In this regard the Meeting firmly condemned and rejected persistent attempts by the United States and racist South Africa to obstruct the implementation of the United Nations Plan by insisting on "linkage" and "parallelism" between the independence of Namibia and extraneous and irrelevant issues, in particular the withdrawal of Cuban forces from Angola and unequivocally emphasized that such attempts not only retard the decolonization process for Namibia, but also constitute a reprehensible and gross interference in the internal affairs of Angola. The Meeting called upon the United States to desist from further such unwarranted insistence.

28. The Meeting recalled with satisfaction the successful conclusion of the Security Council Meeting on the Namibian question held in May 1983 at the initiative of the Seventh Summit of the Non-aligned Countries held in New Delhi. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation noted in particular that the Foreign Ministers of several non-aligned countries, including many designated by the Summit, personally participated in the debate and reiterated their demand for the immediate and unconditional implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978) without delay, modification or prevarication.

29. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation expressed their firm determination to counter all attempts to undermine the central role of the United Nations Security Council in the implementation of resolution 435(1978) and urged the Security Council to assume fully its responsibilities, including taking urgent action to implement its decisions, if necessary by the adoption of enforcement measures against South Africa under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter.

30. The Meeting condemned the Pretoria regime for establishing a so-called State Council in Namibia to draw up a "Constitution" for the Territory, in violation of Security Council resolution 439(1978) and other relevant United Nations resolutions. It urged member states and the rest of the world community not to accord any recognition to such bogus arrangements made by racist South Africa in order to perpetuate its colonial domination and exploitation in Namibia.

31. The Meeting reiterated the conviction of the Member States that the oppressed Namibian people are fully justified in their resolve to intensify their struggle on all fronts by all means at their disposal, including in particular armed struggle, to wrest their freedom from the racist illegal occupiers. To this end, the Ministers and Heads of Delegation renewed the pledge of the Member States to render sustained and increased assistance to SWAPO to accomplish the task of liberating Namibia.

32. The Meeting reiterated its full support for the United Nations Council for Namibia in its role as the sole legal

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administering authority for the Territory until independence and encouraged the Council to intensify its activities so as to effectively bring about a worldwide isolation of the apartheid regime. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation commended the Council for organising a successful International Conference in Support of the Struggle of the Namibian People for Independence in Paris in April 1983 and expressed wholehearted support for the Declaration and Programme of Action adopted.

SOUTH AFRICA

33. Reviewing the recent developments in South Africa, the Ministers and Heads of Delegation expressed their deep concern over the Pretoria regime's arms build-up, war preparation and militarization of South African society in a desperate attempt to arrest the rising tide of resistance by the oppressed people. In this context, they strongly condemned racist South Africa's policy of Bantustanization and the insidious manoeuvres designed to deprive the indigenous blacks of their birthright as South African citizens.

34. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation commended the timely initiative taken by the patriotic forces to oppose the so-called constitutional dispensation that would give limited parliamentary rights to the so-called coloureds and people of Asian origin, in order to co-opt these sections of the black community by rendering them liable for conscription into the oppressive army for the perpetuation of the apartheid system.

35. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation vigorously denounced the brutal repression, torture, hangings and systematic murder of captured freedom fighters. They vehemently condemned the hanging of three members of the ANC, Jerry Mosololi, Simon Mogoerane and Marcus Motaung, on 9 June 1983 in defiance of the Security Council and international public opinion. They also called for the unconditional release of Nelson Mandela, the PAC Six and all other political prisoners as well as the according of prisoner-of-war status to all captured freedom fighters.

36. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation expressed their solidarity with and unconditional support for the struggle waged by the oppressed people of South Africa under the leadership of the national liberation movements recognised by the Organisation of African Unity. They commended the oppressed people of South Africa for their continuing heroism in the face of repressive fascist violence and oppression unleashed against them. The desperate actions of the regime, including its vicious propaganda campaign against the African National Congress (ANC) for the continued intensification of the armed struggle testified to the effectiveness of the onslaught against apartheid.

37. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation strongly condemned the collusion of certain Western countries, especially the

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current United States Administration with the apartheid regime, the most recent example of collaboration being the granting of the request by seven United States based transnational corporations to provide technical and maintenance services to the South African nuclear power installation - a decision that can only further compound the already serious threat to international peace and security. They renewed their call to the United States and all other Governments to refrain from supplying the Pretoria regime, directly or indirectly, with military nuclear technology and assistance.

38. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation reiterated the call made by the Nineteenth Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity which met at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 6th to 12th June 1983, for the early convening of the Security Council for the purpose of strengthening the arms embargo and imposing comprehensive and mandatory sanctions against racist South Africa under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations.

WESTERN SAHARA

39. Recalling resolution 37/28 and the decision 37/411 of the Thirty-Seventh Session of the UN General Assembly as well as the relevant Declarations of the Movement of Non-aligned Countries, including the Declaration adopted by the Seventh Summit in New Delhi in March 1983, the Meeting welcomed the decisions of the OAU on the question of Western Sahara, in particular the resolution adopted at the Nineteenth Summit Conference and called for their immediate implementation.

CHAD

40. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation expressed their keen concern at the current situation prevailing in Chad. They agreed to give all support notably to the efforts of the OAU with a view to finding a solution to the problem of Chad in conformity with the principles of the Charter of the OAU, the Charter of the United Nations and with the principles of the Movement of Non-aligned Countries.

MAYOTTE

41. With regard to the Comorian island of Mayotte, which is still under French occupation, the Ministers and Heads of Delegation reaffirmed that it is an integral part of the sovereign territory of the Federal Islamic Republic of the Comoros. They also expressed their active solidarity with the people of Comoros in their legitimate efforts to recover that island and preserve the independence, unity and territorial integrity of Comoros. They reaffirmed their support for the overall results of the referendum carried out on 22 December 1974 in the entire territory of Comoros and rejected all proposals for

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a new referendum in Mayotte.

MALAGASY ISLANDS

42. In relation to the Malagasy Islands - Glorieuses, Juan De Nova, Europa and Bassas De India, the Meeting urged the parties concerned to initiate negotiations with a view to settling the question in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter.

INDIAN OCEAN AS A ZONE OF PEACE

43. The Meeting reaffirmed the determination of the non-aligned States to continue their endeavour towards the attainment of the objectives embodied in the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace and as considered at the Meeting of Littoral and Hinterland States of July 1979 as well as at the subsequent meeting of the Ad hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean. It reiterated its conviction that the presence in the Indian Ocean area of any manifestation of great power military presence, foreign bases, military installations and logistical supply facilities, nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction conceived in the context of great power rivalries, constitute a flagrant violation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace.

44. The Meeting viewed with disquiet and concern the continuous escalation of great power military presence in the Indian Ocean area, including the expansion of the existing bases, the search for new base facilities and the establishment of the new military command structures of the great powers against the express wishes of the littoral and hinterland States of the Indian Ocean and other non-aligned countries. These activities endangered the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and peaceful development of the States in the area.

45. The Meeting noted that with the expansion of the UN Ad-Hoc Committee to include the permanent members of the Security Council, and other major maritime users, the non-aligned littoral and hinterland States had expected that the way would be cleared for the early convening of the Conference on the Indian Ocean in Colombo, Sri Lanka. It was therefore a matter of regret that notwithstanding the efforts of the Non-aligned Countries to secure the implementation of the 1971 Declaration on the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, such a Conference on the Indian Ocean could not yet be convened due to the opposition of certain States. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation reaffirmed their determination to make all efforts to ensure that the Conference be held in 1984.

46. Taking note of paragraph 80 of the Declaration of the New Delhi Summit held in March 1983, the Meeting reaffirmed its satisfaction over the initiatives taken by the President of the

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Democratic Republic of Madagascar in suggesting the convening of a Summit Conference on the Indian Ocean to be held at Tananarive.

THE MIDDLE EAST AND PALESTINE

47. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation reaffirmed their total support of and determination to work for the early attainment of the legitimate inalienable rights of the Palestinian people including their right to self-determination and to the establishment of an independent State in Palestine. They reaffirmed that the question of Palestine is at the core of the Middle East problem and the root cause of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The question of Palestine and the Middle East problem form an indivisible whole and cannot be dealt with or resolved separately. In view of this, a partial solution or a solution confined to some aspects of the conflict to the exclusion of others is not possible. Nor is it possible to establish a partial peace. Peace should be just and comprehensive. A just peace in the region can only be based on Israel's total and unconditional withdrawal from all Palestinian and Arab territories occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, in accordance with the principle of inadmissibility of acquisition of territory by force and the restoration of all the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to return to their homes, the right to self-determination without foreign interference and the right to establish their own independent and sovereign State in their national territory on the basis of General Assembly resolution 3236 (XXIX) of 22 November, 1974.

48. Reiterating the decisions of the New Delhi Summit by which it expressed support for and adopted the Arab Peace Plan proclaimed at the Twelfth Arab Summit Conference held at Fez, Morocco, and emphasized that this Plan, being based on international legitimacy and on the principles of right and justice, constitutes a framework for establishing a just and durable peace in the Middle East, the Meeting stressed the need for a concerted international action to ensure its implementation based on the principles enunciated above. No action should be taken inconsistent with these principles which would adversely affect the struggle of the Arab countries for the liberation of their territories and of the Palestinian people for the liberation of their homeland and restoration of their inalienable national rights.

49. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation endorsed the Geneva Declaration and the Programme of Action adopted at the recently concluded International Conference on the Question of Palestine held in Geneva from August 29 to September 7, 1983 and called for the speedy implementation of the recommendations contained in Geneva Declaration issued at the end of that Conference. In particular, they supported the call for an

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International Peace Conference on the Middle East to be convened under the auspices of the United Nations with the participation on an equal footing with equal rights of all parties to the conflict including the PLO as well as the USA and USSR and other concerned States. They further stressed the primary responsibility of the Security Council to create appropriate institutional arrangements in order to guarantee and carry out any accords that may emerge from such an International Peace Conference.

50. The Non-aligned countries reiterated their opposition to and rejection of Israeli practices and policies in the occupied territories, including Jerusalem, particularly the establishment of settlements. All settlements set up or to be set up by Israel in occupied territories are illegal under international law and constitute an obstacle to peace. They should, therefore, be dismantled immediately and no new settlements should be set up and the proliferation of existing settlements should not be allowed. The meeting also expressed its opposition to the persistent violation of the rights of the indigenous Arab population, their forced dispersal and other policies calculated to alter the basic character and status of these territories. These actions are contrary to international law and relevant U.N. resolutions and have been declared as null and void on many occasions and in various forums.

51. The Non-aligned countries re-affirmed their categorical rejection of all Israeli policies aimed at changing the geographical features, the demographic composition or the legal status of the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories. They resolved not to recognise any changes made by Israel in the aforesaid territories and called upon all States not to recognise them and to refrain from any cooperation with Israel that might encourage it to pursue its policies and practices in the occupied Arab and Palestinian territories.

52. The Non-aligned countries reaffirmed their strong condemnation of Israel for its refusal to comply with the resolutions of the United Nations Security Council and General Assembly relating to the occupied Syrian Golan Heights. They also affirmed that Israel's decision to annex these Heights and the measures taken to implement its decisions are null and void and without any legal validity. Such decisions have no legal effect and are not recognised.

53. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation reaffirmed the decision taken by the Heads of State or Government at their meeting in Algiers, urging non-aligned countries to work for a boycott of Israel in the diplomatic, economic, military and cultural fields and in the sphere of maritime and air traffic in accordance with the provisions of Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter. The Foreign Ministers stressed the need to continue to implement the aforementioned decision and urged

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member countries of the Movement to adhere to it and apply it strictly.

54. The meeting expressed concern over the safety and security of the Palestinians, particularly in the occupied Palestinian and other occupied Arab territories. The meeting also condemned the intensification of Israel's aggressive practices, the escalation of its military expansionism, and deplored the support given by the government of the United States of America to such practices and actions particularly their "agreement on mutual cooperation" in the strategic alliance.

55. The meeting re-affirmed that the Palestine Liberation Organization is the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and as such has the right to participate on an independent and equal footing in all international conferences, efforts and deliberations dealing with the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian cause, and to secure the realisation of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people. Such an invitation will confer on the PLO the same rights as those conferred on the other participants. No solution can be considered comprehensive or acceptable without PLO participation in its elaboration and acceptance.

56. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation reiterated their conviction that a just and lasting settlement would ensure the right of all States in the region, including the independent Palestinian state, to existence within secure and internationally recognised boundaries, with justice and security for all the people, the sine qua non of which is the recognition and attainment of the legitimate, inalienable rights of the Palestinian people including the right to return, the right to self determination without foreign interference and the right to establish its own independent state in Palestine.

57. Considering the grave situation confronting Lebanon, the Meeting re-affirmed its position as reflected in para 99 of the Political Declaration of the Seventh Conference of Heads of State/Government held in New Delhi in March 1983 and reiterated its support for the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and unity of Lebanon.

CYPRUS

58. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation reiterated their full solidarity with and support for the people and Government of the Republic of Cyprus and reaffirmed their support for the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity and non-aligned status of the Republic and non-interference in its internal affairs. They demanded the immediate implementation of the relevant UN resolutions and decisions, and of the provisions of Non-aligned Declarations and Communiqués on the Question of Cyprus.

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59. The Ministers welcomed the personal involvement of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in the solution of the problem and urged him to continue and intensify his efforts.

MEDITERRANEAN

60. The Ministers reiterated the position of the Non-aligned Movement in support of the transformation of the Mediterranean into a region of peace, security and cooperation, free from confrontation and conflict. In this connection, they strongly supported the objective of strengthening the security and cooperation in the Mediterranean basin, as reflected in earlier statements of non-aligned countries and in the relevant parts of General Assembly resolutions 36/102 and 37/118. The Ministers reiterated the position taken at the Summit Conference in New Delhi concerning this question, supported its further consideration within the UN and reiterated a call on the non-aligned Mediterranean members to hold a meeting in order to concert views and devise initiatives for cooperation and strengthening security in the Mediterranean region.

EUROPE

61. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation expressed their concern over the intensifying tension in Europe and the growing stockpiling and introduction of new weapons, which aggravates bloc confrontation and endangers international peace and security.

62. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation assessed, as a positive sign, the successful conclusion of the Madrid meeting of the CSCE, and welcomed the role and the constructive contribution of neutral and non-aligned countries in this process and in European relations in general. In this context, they emphasised the importance of the Conference on Confidence Building Measures, Security and Disarmament in Europe, to be held in Stockholm in January 1984.

63. The Meeting reaffirmed the close interconnection between the security problems of Europe and the Mediterranean and supported the view that, with regard to questions relating to security and cooperation in the Mediterranean, non-aligned members in the Mediterranean region should be allowed to participate in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN ISSUES

64. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation recalled the concern expressed at the Seventh Non-aligned Summit in New Delhi at the increasing deterioration of the situation in Central America and the hope expressed at the Summit that a cessation of

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military manoeuvres or demonstrations of force would help reduce tension and facilitate the necessary dialogue for the achievement of political and negotiated solutions of the problems of the region. They noted that the situation had now been further escalated by increased recourse to imperialist policies of interference and intervention through the utilization of neighbouring territories for aggression against other states, the installation of military bases and by covert and overt attempts at the destabilisation of the Nicaraguan Government as well as the pressures, aggressions and economic discrimination against countries in the region. They reiterated the view that the processes of change in Central America should not be attributed to or explained in terms of ideological confrontation between the military blocs. They expressed their opposition to the conduct of military manoeuvres as a means of exerting pressure and urged the United States Government to rescind its decisions to carry out military manoeuvres along the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of Central America.

65. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation welcomed the Cancun Declaration of Peace in Central America issued by the Heads of State of Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela as well as the six-point peace proposal of the Nicaraguan Government which constitutes a positive response to the proposals for a negotiated settlement of the conflict in Central America. They pointed out the necessity of achieving the security of all States in Central America by the signing of treaties of non-aggression and non-interference between the states of the region and other countries involved. They urged the United States Government to respond positively to these proposals and concurrently to take steps to defuse tension in the area so as to enable an early restoration of normalcy in the region.

66. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation, taking into account the gravely deteriorating situation in Central America, welcomed the "Document of Objectives" prepared at the Fourth Joint Meeting held within the process of Contadora from September 7 to 9, 1983, in Panama and subsequently ratified by the five Central American countries. They further appealed for the continuation of a positive political will in the negotiations and for early establishment of the necessary mechanisms that will establish peace and guarantee the international security concerns of regional states making it possible for them to address the urgent task of development. They urged the Contadora Group to continue its commendable efforts.

67. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation stressed the desirability of the countries of the Movement participating actively in the debate on the item "The situation in Central America: Threats to International Peace and Security and Peace Initiatives," in the thirty eighth session of the General Assembly. The meeting also reiterated its firm solidarity with Nicaragua and called for an immediate end to all threats, attacks

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and hostile acts against the people and government of Nicaragua.

68. The Meeting reiterated its concern at the situation in El Salvador and observed that the armed internal conflict had aggravated while imperialist intervention, with the participation of the Honduran army, has increased. For these reasons, the Ministers and Heads of Delegation called upon the Government of the United States to adopt a constructive position to contribute to a peaceful solution of the problem. They acknowledged the need to promote a comprehensive political solution by means of negotiations, with the participation of all representative political forces including the FMLN-FDR.

69. The Meeting demanded the immediate and unconditional lifting of the economic blockade and other forms of pressure against Cuba by the United States and condemned the recent intensification of that blockade in the spheres of finance, credit and commerce. It reiterated the solidarity offered to Cuba by the Movement and its full support to Cuba's just demand for the return of the Guantanamo Naval Base by the United States and for compensation of material losses suffered by the Cuban people.

70. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation reiterated their support for the Puerto Rican peoples' inalienable right to self-determination and independence in conformity with Resolution 1514 (XV).

71. The Meeting reaffirmed solidarity with the Government of Grenada in its efforts to preserve its sovereignty and territorial integrity in the face of political and economic pressures and efforts at destabilisation directed against it.

72. The Meeting reaffirmed solidarity with the Government and people of Suriname in their efforts to preserve their independence and sovereignty. The meeting expressed deep concern at the economic measures of a coercive nature or other acts which have been or are being applied against Suriname and expressed the hope that the future development of Suriname will be in accordance with the interests and well-being of its people, free from any external interference and political or economic pressure.

73. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation reiterated their firm support for the Republic of Argentina's right to have sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands restituted through negotiations. They urged that these negotiations between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom be re-opened with the participation and good offices of the United Nations Secretary General and reaffirmed the need for the parties to take due account of the interests of the population of the Islands. This would ensure a speedy, peaceful and just solution to the question in conformity with principles and decisions of the

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Movement of Non-aligned Countries on the subject and with United Nations General Assembly resolutions 1514(XV), 2065 (XX), 3160(XXVIII), 31/49 and 37/9. The Ministers also reaffirmed that the massive British military naval presence in the area of the Malvinas, South Georgias and South Sandwich Islands and the construction of a permanent and strategic military base in the Malvinas Islands are causes for grave concern to the Latin American Region and adversely affect stability in the area.

74. The Meeting pointed out as a positive act the recent agreement reached between Panama and the United States to eliminate the double wage scale that the Panama Canal Commission had been applying. The meeting urged both parties to continue the efforts to overcome the obstacles which make difficult the compliance of the Panama Canal Treaty in conformity with its spirit and word, and particularly those dispositions of law 96-70 of the United States Congress which are incompatible with said Treaties.

75. The Meeting reiterated its call to the international community to adhere to the Protocol of the Treaty concerning the permanent neutrality of the Panama Canal and advocated respect for the neutrality of the interoceanic route.

76. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation reaffirmed the just and legitimate claim of the Republic of Bolivia to recover a direct and useful outlet to the Pacific Ocean with full sovereignty.

77. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation noted the efforts being made by the Government of Guyana to consolidate its independence and sovereignty. In connection with the claim which Venezuela is advancing to more than two-thirds of the territory of Guyana, the Ministers and Heads of Delegation reiterated their call for a peaceful and just settlement of the controversy based on the principles set forth in paragraphs 134 and 135 of the Communiqué of the Ministerial Meeting of the Bureau held in Havana in June 1982, especially those relating to the inadmissibility of the threat or use of force in the settlement of disputes and respect for independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and in strict compliance with the Geneva Agreement of 1966.

78. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation observed that in accordance with Article IV(2) of that Agreement, the Secretary-General of the United Nations now had the responsibility of choosing one of the means of peaceful settlement provided for in Article 33 of the United Nations Charter. In connection with their call for a peaceful and just settlement of the controversy, the Ministers and Heads of Delegation noted the statement issued by the Secretary-General on August 30, 1983 in which he set forth the commitment of the Governments of Guyana and Venezuela to adopt all measures that may be necessary to foster and maintain

the most favourable climate for the effective application of the Geneva Agreement and to refrain from any action whatsoever which might make more difficult or impede the peaceful settlement of the controversy.

79. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation reiterated their unconditional support for the independence and territorial integrity of Belize and denounced all pressures and threats against its sovereignty.

80. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation noted the existence in Latin America of an area in which nuclear weapons are proscribed by the Treaty of Tlatelolco, signed by twenty two Latin American states, but they considered that it could not be effected until conditions have been created to enable all Latin American states to sign and ratify it, and all nuclear powers to respect it. They reiterated the appeal made by the Seventh Summit to the States that have international responsibility over non-sovereign territories in the region to ratify the Additional Protocol of the Treaty of Tlatelolco so that those territories may receive its benefits.

SOUTH-EAST ASIA

81. Reviewing the situation in South-East Asia, the Ministers and Heads of Delegation expressed grave concern over the continuing conflicts and tensions in the region, particularly as many of the States are members of the Movement of Non-aligned Countries. They reaffirmed their support for the principles of non-interference in the affairs of sovereign States and the inadmissibility of the use of force against sovereign States. They warned that there was a real danger of the tensions in and around Kampuchea escalating over a wider area. They were convinced of the urgent need to de-escalate these tensions through a comprehensive political solution which would provide for the withdrawal of all foreign forces, thus ensuring full respect for the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all States in the region, including Kampuchea.

82. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation reaffirmed the right of the people of Kampuchea to determine their own destiny free from foreign interference, subversion and coercion and expressed the hope that through a process of negotiations and mutual understanding a climate conducive to the exercise of that right would be created. They also agreed that the humanitarian problems resulting from the conflicts in the region required urgent measures which called for the active cooperation of all the parties concerned. They urged all States in the region to undertake a dialogue which would lead to the resolution of differences among themselves and the establishment of durable peace and stability in the area, as well as the elimination of involvement and threats of intervention by outside powers. In this context, they noted with approval the efforts being made for

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the early establishment of a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality in the region and called upon all States to give those efforts their fullest support.

SOUTH-WEST ASIA

83. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation noted with great concern the situation in South-West Asia and agreed that it carries dangerous consequences for the peace and stability of the region. They agreed that the continuation of this situation poses serious implications for international peace and security. In this context, they viewed the situation in Afghanistan with particular concern. They reiterated the urgent call made at the Seventh Summit held in New Delhi in March 1983 for a political settlement on the basis of the withdrawal of foreign troops and full respect for the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-aligned status of Afghanistan and strict observance of the principle of non-intervention and non-interference. They also reaffirmed the right of the Afghan refugees to return to their homes in safety and honour and called for a speedy solution to this vast humanitarian problem. To this end, they urged all concerned to work towards such a settlement, which would ensure that the Afghan people would determine their own destiny free from outside interference and which would enable the Afghan refugees to return to their homes.

84. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation expressed their appreciation for the sincere efforts made in the search for a political settlement of the situation in Afghanistan and extended their support to the constructive steps taken in this regard by the United Nations Secretary General. They regarded the discussions through the intermediary of the Secretary General as a step in the right direction and urged their continuation with a view to promoting an early political settlement of the problem in conformity with the ideals and principles of the Movement of Non-aligned Countries. They called on all States to exercise restraint to avoid further endangering the peace and security of the region, and to take such steps as would lead to the creation of conditions conducive to stable and harmonious relations among the States of the region based on the non-aligned principles of peaceful co-existence, respect for sovereignty, national independence, territorial integrity and non-intervention and non-interference in the internal affairs of States.

KOREA

85. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation reaffirmed their support for the Korean people's desire to reunify their homeland peacefully and their efforts to achieve this goal free of all foreign interference, in conformity with the three principles of independence, peaceful unification and great national unity, set forth in the Joint North-South statement of 4 July 1972.

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86. The Meeting expressed the hope that the fulfilment of the Korean people's desire for peaceful reunification would be enhanced by the withdrawal of all foreign troops from the area.

ANTARCTICA

87. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation recalled the relevant provisions of the Declaration of Seventh Summit held in New Delhi on 7 March 1983, which considered that in view of increasing international interest in the continent, the United Nations should undertake a comprehensive study on Antarctica, taking into account all relevant factors including the Antarctic Treaty, with a view to widening international cooperation on the continent.

88. In this regard, the Ministers and Heads of Delegation urged all Member States of the United Nations to assist in this effort.

ECONOMIC ISSUES

89. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation reviewed the world economic situation since the Seventh Non-aligned Summit held in New Delhi in March, 1983. They expressed deep concern at the continued deterioration in the world economy facing its worst recession in fifty years. This crisis was not merely a cyclical phenomenon but more a symptom of deep-rooted structural imbalances and disequilibrium. The worst victims were the developing countries, in particular the Least Developed among them, with many witnessing a decline in their per capita GDP. Commodity prices had collapsed; balance of payments deficits and the debt burden remained at crushing levels; medium and long term lending to developing countries had declined and concessional flows severely disrupted; access to markets of the developed countries was being increasingly curtailed. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation stressed that no country or group of countries are in a position to pull out single handedly the world economy from the present crisis. No sustained long term recovery is possible unless concerted measures were taken by the international community to reactivate the global economy as a whole, in particular through the accelerated development of developing countries.

90. Developing countries were important contributors to world output and a dynamic force in world financial markets. Inter-dependence between the economies of developed and developing countries was universally recognised. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation, therefore, regretted that the stalemate in the dialogue between the developed and developing countries had persisted.

91. The Seventh Non-aligned Summit had formulated a strategy, consisting of a two-phased approach to the launching of

Global Negotiations, for a comprehensive restructuring of the world economy and the establishment of the New International Economic Order based on justice and equity; a Programme of Immediate Measures in areas of critical importance to developing countries in order to reactivate the world economy; the urgent convening of an International Conference on Money and Finance for Development, with universal participation, for a comprehensive reform of the existing inequitable and outdated international monetary, trade and financial system. The Summit also accorded priority to the strengthening and intensifying of collective self-reliance among non-aligned and other developing countries. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation recalled that the proposals of the Seventh Non-aligned Summit had been welcomed by the Group of 77 at its Ministerial Meeting in Buenos Aires in April 1983.

92. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation regretted that important international meetings held since March 1983, particularly UNCTAD VI, had failed to yield significant results commensurate with the dimensions of the problems faced by the developing countries and the world economy as a whole. This reflected the continuing absence of political will on the part of the industrialised countries to participate in effective action in mutual interest to tackle the serious problems facing international economic cooperation.

93. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation urged the developed countries to respond positively to the spirit of cooperation demonstrated by the developing countries in the proposals of the Seventh Non-aligned Summit. They stressed the need for an early and positive response to the launching of Global Negotiations. They urged the effective adoption and implementation of immediate measures in favour of developing countries in areas of critical importance to them. To this effect they called upon the developed countries to cooperate fully with efforts in all international forums, in particular, at the thirty eighth session of the United Nations General Assembly.

94. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation stressed that the proposal of the Movement of Non-aligned Countries for an International Conference on Money and Finance for Development should be vigorously pursued. This would require intensive preparations. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation noted that there had recently been a growing awareness in the international community of the need for a reform of the international monetary and financial system. Proposals had also been made by some developed countries in this regard. They called for an early consensus, leading to the convening of an International Conference on Money and Finance for Development.

95. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation reiterated the paramount importance of intensifying collective self-reliance among non-aligned and other developing countries, as an integral

part of their efforts to establish the New International Economic Order. In this regard they recalled that renewed impetus had been provided by the Declaration on Collective Self-Reliance among Non-Aligned and other Developing Countries, adopted at the Seventh Summit. They welcomed the recommendations for furthering the implementation of the CPA made by the second IFCC meeting held in Tunis in September, 1983. The Ministers also welcomed the efforts at harmonisation, coordination and implementation of the action programmes of the Movement of the Non-Aligned Countries and the Group of 77 and stressed the need for continued action in this regard.

96. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation emphasised that economic cooperation among non-aligned and other developing countries members of the Group of 77 was not a substitute for cooperation between developed and developing countries and did not relieve the developed countries of their responsibilities and commitments in support of the development efforts of developing countries. They called upon developed countries and the UN system to support the implementation of programmes on economic cooperation among developing countries.

97. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation reviewed the implementation of the Action Programme for Economic Cooperation for Non-aligned Countries. They took note of the positive results of the First Non-aligned Meeting of Experts on Small Island Developing Countries which was held in St. George's, Grenada from 14 to 16 September, 1983. They reiterated the support of the non-aligned countries for the small island developing countries as expressed at the Seventh Non-aligned Summit and urged the international community to support the small island developing countries in their efforts to overcome their peculiar economic difficulties.

98. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation recalled the decisions taken at the Seventh Non-aligned Summit on the valuable proposal of the President of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar on the strengthening of monetary and financial cooperation among the non-aligned countries. In this regard they called for an early implementation of that decision.

99. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation expressed their concern over the deteriorating food situation in many developing countries and particularly in Africa. They called for urgent action on the part of the international community to assist in the eradication of hunger and malnutrition in developing countries through a substantial increase in financial and technological assistance. They urged that steps be taken to guarantee food-deficit developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, minimum food supplies in times of world-wide shortage and to examine the feasibility of the pre-positioning of stocks in strategic locations, as recommended by the World Food Conference.

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100. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation expressed their concern at the slow pace of implementation of the New Substantial Programme of Action in favour of the Least Developed Countries for the 1980's. In this context they urged the immediate and effective implementation of the SNPA.

101. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation rejected all forms of economic aggression, including the use of commercial threats or sanctions and of any other form of blockade or measures of coercion or blackmail by developed countries, against the non-aligned and other developing countries as a means of exerting political pressure in order to interfere with or influence their sovereign decisions.

102. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation reiterated that full and unrestricted access to nuclear technology for peaceful uses under equitable and non-discriminatory conditions is an inalienable right of every State in order to promote the economic and social development of its people. They stressed the importance of promoting international cooperation in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy and the necessity of adopting universally acceptable principles in this field.

UNITED NATIONS

103. The Meeting reaffirmed the firm adherence of the non-aligned countries to the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and fully recognised the need to support and strengthen the world organisation in order to make it an effective instrument of the fulfilment of its central role in the maintenance of international peace and security, in developing and strengthening cooperation among nations, in establishing equitable economic relations between States and in promoting fundamental rights and freedom in the world.

104. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation welcomed the inscription on the agenda of the thirty eighth session of the United Nations General Assembly of the item "Implementation of Resolutions of the United Nations."

MANDATES OF WORKING GROUPS

105. The Ministers and Heads of Delegation further decided to renew the mandates of the Working, Contact and Drafting Groups in respect of various agenda items of the thirty eighth session of the UN General Assembly. They resolved that the non-aligned countries would act in close cooperation with each other on all items of special concern to non-aligned countries on the agenda of the thirty eighth session in accordance with the principles and objectives of the Movement of Non-aligned Countries.
